

SITKA SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

February 6, 2019 – 6:00 p.m.

Sitka School District

Superintendent: Dr. Mary Wegner

CALL TO ORDER

The Sitka School Board meeting was called to order by President Jennifer McNichol at 6:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present were, President Jennifer McNichol, Vice-President Elias Erickson, Clerk Eric Van Cise, Dionne Brady-Howard, and Amy Morrison. Student Representative Joseph Pate was absent and excused.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA

Mr. Erickson moved, Mr. Van Cise seconded to approve the board agenda as presented. Motion carried.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Emily Demmert advocated for a full time librarian in every school.

Catherine Prussian, a member of Families for School Libraries, spoke about the advocacy efforts taking place to lobby for a library in every school.

REPORT ON SCHOOL CLIMATE AND CONNECTEDNESS SURVEY

Superintendent Wegner gave a report on the School Climate and Connectedness Survey.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Ms. Morrison reported that the Sitka High School Basketball team is traveling to Homer for a tournament. She also noted that the SHS Robotics team went to the State tournament in Anchorage.

Ms. Brady-Howard met with Pacific High School Principal, Mandy Summer. She noted that PHS will expand their garden in 2019 and use a mobile green house (Moby) on loan from Sustainable Southeast Partnership. Ms. Brady-Howard was also enthused about a canoe/paddle class at PHS that will expand students' knowledge about traditional Tlingit canoe building. Ms. Brady-Howard noted that PHS will be taking part in the Urban Rural Exchange with Shaktoolik.

Mr. Van Cise commended Roxann Gagner for her guidance of the Culinary Program at Blatchley Middle School. Mr. Van Cise reported he has had multiple meetings with members of the public about the current FY20 budget process. Mr. Van Cise congratulated Eric Mathes, the Science and Math Teacher at Pacific High School, on the book he wrote about Python Coding.

Mr. Erickson applauded the collaborative efforts of Baranof Elementary Staff and the community to raise funds to support the

BES salt water fish tank. Mr. Erickson informed the Board that he will be traveling to Juneau this weekend with President McNichol to take part in the AASB Legislative Fly-in. Mr. Erickson also reminded everyone about the Sitka Jazz Festival February 7-9th at the Performing Arts Center.

President McNichol met with Principal Casey Demmert at Keet Gooshi Heen Elementary School. Mr. Demmert reported that MAPS testing is complete and good feedback was received from the staff. Also, the MTSS positive behavior intervention system is up and going at the school.

President McNichol met with Sealaska Vice-president for Governmental Affairs Derrick Frederickson to discuss how Sealaska can support education for the children of Southeast Alaska.

President McNichol stated that during the Legislative Fly-in she and Mr. Erickson will be addressing Governor Dunleavy's FY19 Supplemental Budget proposal that would result in an \$187,000 loss in the Sitka School District's current budget.

Lastly, President McNichol reminded everyone that Mt. Edgecumbe High School and Sitka High School will be hosting the Region Five Basket Ball Tournament in March. All are encouraged to consider hosting traveling team members in their homes.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- **BUDGET UPDATE – CASSEE OLIN**

Business Manager Cassee Olin was unable to attend the meeting. Superintendent Wegner encouraged the board to email Ms. Olin with any questions about the current Budget Report.

- **ENROLLMENT UPDATE – MARY WEGNER**

Superintendent Wegner informed the board that student enrollment is currently 1,214 a slight upward trend from the official October count of 1,207.17.

- **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT –MARY WEGNER**

Superintendent Wegner thanked the SHS Student Council for sharing their input with the School Board at tonight's work session.

Superintendent Wegner thanked Cass Pook for her decades of service to the Sitka School District and to the state through her work as a Board Member for the Association of Alaska School Boards.

Superintendent Wegner expressed her appreciation to Rebecca Himschoot, who served on the Alaska State Board of Education. She was an extraordinary representative of the Sitka School District and made a positive difference in the state.

Superintendent Wegner thanked the Friends of the Performing Arts (FOPA) for their donation of \$10,000. FOPA has been and continues to be a valued partner to Sitka School District

Superintendent Wegner extended a special thank you to Sitka High School staff, Police, Fire, Troopers and EMS First Responders during the recent bomb hoax.

Lastly, Superintendent Wegner noted that her full report is on the web site for everyone to read in its entirety.

CONSENT AGENDA

- **APPROVAL OF JANUARY 9, 2019 MINUTES** Mr. Van Cise moved, Mr. Erickson seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- **APPROVAL OF THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL CALENDAR** Mr. Erickson moved, Ms. Morrison seconded to approve the 2019-2020 School Calendar as presented. There was a short discussion. Motion carried.
- **APPROVAL OF THE MODEL UNITED NATIONS TEAM TRAVEL TO ANCHORAGE** Mr. Erickson moved, Ms. Morrison seconded to approve the Model United Nations Team Travel to Anchorage. Owen Fulton presented the plan to take the Model United Nations Team to Anchorage. There was a short discussion. Motion carried.
- **DISCUSSION OF THE FY20 BUDGET SURVEY** The Board discussed the proposed FY20 Budget Survey. A short discussion took place and refinements to the survey were suggested.

CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

There was no correspondence.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **AASB LEGISLATIVE FLY-IN, FEBRUARY 9-12, 2019 – JUNEAU**
- **BUDGET MEETINGS**
 - February 20, 2019 3:45 p.m. – Keet Gooshi Heen Multi-purpose room
 - February 25, 2019 6:00 p.m. – Community Budget Hearing SHS Library
 - March 11, 2019 6:00 p.m. – Works Session – SHS Library
 - April 1, 2019 – 6:00 p.m. – Work Session – SHS Library

- April 4, 2019 6:00 p.m. – Assembly School District Budget Special Meeting – Harrigan Centennial Hall
- April 17, 2019 6:00 p.m. – Final Budget Hearing & Final Budget Approval – SHS Library

- **NEXT REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, MARCH 6, 2019**
- **ACSA LEGISLATIVE FLY-IN MARCH 24-27, 2019 – JUNEAU, AK**

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS UNION NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. Erickson moved, Ms. Morrison seconded to go into Executive Session in accordance with and under the provisions of AS 44.62.310(c)(1) & (4), the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the district. The matters to be discussed are Sitka Education Association and Sitka Educational Support Professional Association negotiations. Superintendent Wegner, Co-assistant Superintendent Phil Burdick and Business Manager Cassee Olin are invited. Motion carried

REGULAR SESSION

Mr. Erickson moved, Ms. Morrison seconded to return to regular session. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Jennifer McNichol, President

Eric Van Cise, Clerk