

SITKA SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

February 7, 2017 - 6:00 p.m.

Sitka School District

Superintendent: Mary Wegner

CALL TO ORDER

The Sitka School Board meeting was called to order by President, Cass Pook at 6:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present were, President Cass Pook, Vice-President Jennifer McNichol, Clerk Eric VanCise, Tom Conley, Dionne Brady-Howard and Student Representative Elias Erickson.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA

Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. Van Cise seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

RECOGNITIONS

- RECOGNIZE SITKA HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLERS

Ms. McNichol presented awards to the wrestlers who qualified for state and those who placed. The board thanked the parents and the students for their dedication.

- RECOGNIZE KGH/BMS GEOGRAPHY BEE WINNERS

Mr. Van Cise presented awards to the Keet Gooshi Heen Geography Bee. Finnian Murphy was the first place winner and Zoe Trafton was the runner-up. He also presented awards to Matthew Rice as the first place winner and Fiona Ferguson was the runner up at Blatchley Middle School Geography Bee.

- RECOGNIZE BMS SPELLING BEE WINNERS

Mr. Van Cise presented awards to the Blatchley Middle School spelling bee winner Elsie Yocum and second place to Adelaide Poulson.

- SITKA SCHOOL BOARD APPRECIATION

Superintendent Wegner read a proclamation from Governor Bill Walker proclaiming February 2017 School Board Recognition Month. In addition to reading the proclamation she presented awards and chocolates to the Sitka School Board.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Ed Gray, parent, congratulated Dionne Brady-Howard for her appointment on the board. He expressed his appreciation to the students who spoke to the board on concerns regarding the math program at Sitka High School. He encouraged the board to change the math program to a regular math program.

Lauren Havens, Sitkans Against Family Violence, encouraged and invited the board, community and students to attend the Choose Respect event that will be occurring on March 23rd at noon.

REPORTS

- PRESENTATION ON

Matthew Turner, community schools contractor gave an overview

**COMMUNITY
SCHOOLS – MATTHEW
TURNER**

of community schools. He requested continual financial and support for community schools. He also explained how the financial system is working. Mr. Turner explained some of the challenges of running the program. Lastly, he gave many examples of the good things that are happening with the community schools program, including Friday night family skate night. The board thanked Mr. Turner for his time and commitment.

- **PRESENTATION ON
TOBACCO 21**

Doug Osborne, Sitka Community Hospital health educator, gave a presentation on the Tobacco 21 proposal. This proposal is to promote the community to consider raising the age to purchase tobacco to 21. He showed slides explaining the benefits of increasing the age from 19-21. There were questions and comments from the board. Ms. McNichol stated that she would be writing a resolution to support Tobacco 21.

- **CLERK’S REPORT**

Mr. Van Cise presented Woonsocket awards to Connie McCarty for her help filling in as the Blatchley Middle School Counselor/PE teacher. He also present awards to the staff who helped out with the in service on January 13th. They teachers who presented during the in service were Jennifer Davis, Rob Parsons, Laura Rogers, Keri Gray, Kelly Buxton, Stefanie Peterson, Jody Smothers-Marcello, Jeff Hole and Hillary Seeland.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Ms. McNichol stated that she appreciated the staff attending the budget hearings but was disappointed with the number of people who attended. She also commented on attending the Jazz Festival and expressed her appreciation for the work that goes into the festival. Lastly she stated that the activities committee would be meeting in the near future.

Mr. Van Cise expressed his appreciation to the Vocational Education program staff support and their input.

Mr. Conley stated that the policy committee met in January and he explained the new process. He also mentioned that there was a technology committee meeting last week and they did a survey and only had 36 responses. Mr. Conley expressed his dissatisfaction on the selection of Betsy DeVos as the Education Secretary. Lastly, Mr. Conley thanked Ms. McNichol for attending the AASB Fly-In on his behalf.

Mr. Erickson thanked Mike Kernin, Blatchley Middle School music director for all of his effort and work that he puts into the Sitka Jazz Festival.

Ms. Brady-Howard expressed her appreciation to Blatchley Middle School. She also stated that she is on the education evaluation

committee and was thankful that the other committee members are flexible so that she will be able to attend the meetings. She also stated that the First Alaskans Group will be in town to discuss the CRESEL Grant. She also agreed with Mr. Conley that she will continue to advocate for public education.

Ms. Pook thanked Superintendent Wegner for her great work on the budget. She stated that it is nice to see thorough reports on the happenings in the district. Ms. Pook informed the board that she had been in Bethel for work and was able to see the Sitka High Girls basketball team play. Lastly, she thanked Mr. Conley for his years of attending and traveling to Juneau for the legislative fly-in's and meeting with the legislators.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- **BUDGET UPDATE – CASSEE OLIN**
- **ENROLLMENT UPDATE- MARY WEGNER**
- **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – MARY WEGNER**

Cassee Olin, Business Manager, updated the board on the budget. There were few questions from the board.

Superintendent Wegner informed the board that the enrollment is remaining steady as it usually does during this time of year.

Superintendent Wegner congratulated the spelling bee, geography bee and wrestlers for their accomplishments.

Superintendent Wegner thanked all the individuals who dedicated their Saturday to attend the strategic planning session. She also thanked the board for their passion and dedications to our students and staff.

Superintendent Wegner informed the board that she attended the SERRC Board meeting and the PASSAGES grant meeting, which were required for her to attend.

Superintendent Wegner announced that Blatchley Middle School will be closed over spring break to replace electrical boards and do repairs on the pool.

Lastly, Superintendent Wegner reminded the board to read over her written report for more happenings in the district.

CONSENT AGENDA

- **APPROVAL OF JANUARY 10, 2017 MINUTES**
- **APPROVAL OF**

Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. Van Cise seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried

JANUARY 31, 2017
MINUTES

President Pook requested a 10 minute recess.

NEW BUSINESS

- **APPROVAL OF LONG TERM SUBSTITUTE** Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. Van Cise seconded to approve Hanna McCarty as the long term substitute teacher for Jessica Christianson.

A roll call vote was required.

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
McNichol	
Van Cise	
Conley	
Brady-Howard	
Erickson	

Motion carried.

- **APPROVAL OF FY18 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES** Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. Van Cise seconded to approve the FY 18 Legislative Priorities as presented. There was a brief discussion and then the motion carried.

- **APPROVAL OF MISSION STATEMENT** Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. Van Cise seconded to approve the Sitka School District Mission Statement: "Sitka Schools: Discovering potential, nurturing growth, and inspiring lifelong curiosity." There was a brief discussion. Motion carried.

- **APPROVAL OF BP 4111 CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION – FIRST READING** Ms. McNichol moved BP 4111 Recruitment and Selection from committee in first reading. Motion carried.

- **APPROVAL OF BP4112.4 HEALTH EXAMINATIONS – FIRST READING** Ms. McNichol moved BP 4112.4 Health Examinations from committee in first reading. Motion carried.

- **APPROVAL OF BP4131 CERTIFICATED STAFF** Ms. McNichol moved BP 4131 Staff Development and Professional Learning from committee in first reading. Motion carried.

**DEVELOPMENT AND
PROFESSIONAL
LEARNING – FIRST
READING**

- **APPROVAL OF
BP5128 ALASKA
PERFORMANCE
SCHOLARSHIP
PROGRAMS – FIRST
READING** Ms. McNichol moved BP 5128 Alaska Scholarship Program from committee in first reading. Motion carried.
- **APPROVAL OF BP
5141.4 CHILD ABUSE
REPORTING – FIRST
READING** Ms. McNichol moved BP 5141.4 Child Abuse reporting from committee in first reading. Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. Van Cise seconded some wording changes to make the policy easier to understand. There was a brief discussion regarding the proposed changes and motion carried.
- **APPROVAL OF
BP5141.52 SUICIDE
PREVENTION –
FIRST READING** Ms. McNichol moved BP 5141.52 Suicide Prevention from committee in first reading. Mr. Erickson requested that the policy be sent back to the policy committee due to his research on the Jason Project which encourages training for parents and guardians of students. The board agreed to request that the policy committee review this policy to possibly add wording to include training for parents/guardians.
- **DISCUSSION OF
BOARD EMAIL
COMMUNICATIONS
WITH PUBLIC/STAFF** Mr. Van Cise requested clarification on how information that is sent to the board via email from public or staff receive a response in a timely manner, since the board is not supposed to respond to concerns but channel information through the correct channels. There was a discussion on the possibilities of working out this situation so that the board will be aware that expressed concerns are dealt with. Superintendent Wegner stated that she would work with President Pook on a process for communication that the board receives and how it will be responded too.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **BUDGET
HEARING/WORK
SESSIONS**
 - Budget Work Session – March 28, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. – DO Board Room
 - Final Budget Hearing and Budget Approval – April 18, 2017 – 6:00 p.m. – DO Board Room
- **AASB FLY-IN –
FEBRUARY 11-14, 2017**
- **PERFORMING ART
CENTER TOUR -TBA**

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Van Cise moved, Mr. Erickson seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m. Motion carried.

Cathleen Pook, President

Eric Van Cise, Clerk