

SITKA SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

September 12, 2018 – 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 6:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present were, Jennifer McNichol, President; Eric Van Cise, Clerk; Dionne Brady-Howard, Elias Erickson, and Student Representative Joseph Pate.

Cass Pook was absent and excused.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA

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

SWEAR IN STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE – JOSEPH PATE

Superintendent Wegner swore in the new student representative, Joseph Pate.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Carolyn Macintyre expressed her concerns about student safety in Sitka schools, and strongly recommended that a policy be put in place to quickly and efficiently address any threat posed to students.

Lyle Sparrowgrove gave a historical overview of the Sitka High School Math program in response to the August 29, 2018 Agenda report on the current SHS curriculum.

REPORTS

- **STEPS GRANT**

Mandy Evans, STEPS Grant director, gave an overview of the 5-year Supporting Transitions and Educational Promise in Southeast Alaska (STEPS) grant.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mr. Erickson reported that September 17th is picture day at Baranof Elementary School. Mr. Erickson also commented that the “Fish to Schools” program is unique to Sitka and he wanted to thank all the fishermen who have donated fish.

Mr. Van Cise the School board liaison to Keet Gooshi Heen Elementary reported he will be meeting soon with the principal, Casey Demmert.

Mr. Pate reported that Ms. Gray who oversees the Student council at Sitka High School will be taking a group of students to

Skagway to attend the Alaska Student Body Government Annual conference.

Dionne Brady-Howard had nothing to report.

President McNichol reported that she attended a meeting with representatives of the Crossett fund. President McNichol stated that through the Crossett fund there are opportunities to apply for grants that are in line with the district's goals.

President McNichol reported she has had a number of the Sitka High school staff approach her with concerns about the status of custodial services in the building. Staff is feeling like there has been a drop off in the level of service, and they have some strong concerns about the long term maintenance of the building and how it's affecting the staff.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- **BUDGET UPDATE – CASSEE OLIN** Cassee Olin, Business Manager gave an overview of the budget update.
- **ENROLLMENT UPDATE – MARY WEGNER** Superintendent Wegner informed the board that student enrollment is holding steady at 1,233.5.
- **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT –MARY WEGNER**

Superintendent Wegner welcomed the new Student Representative, Joseph Pate to the School Board.

Superintendent Wegner reported that Sitka Afterschool, a partnership between Sitkans Against Family Violence, Sitka Community Schools, Sitka Sound Science Center, Sitka School District's STEPS Grant, Sitka Tribe of Alaska, Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium, and Youth Advocates of Sitka are working individually and collaboratively to try to fill the void left by the loss of our \$380,000 21st Century Afterschool Learning Center grant. Sitka Afterschool will not be able to meet all of the need; however, it can fill a portion of the need to provide safe, academic, and enrichment activities for K-8 students most in need of support during the afterschool time frame. There is still a need for up to \$18,000 to provide healthy afterschool snacks to our students. Anyone wishing to make a donation can contact Sitka Community Schools.

Superintendent Wegner reported that the PowerSchool implementation is slow but steady. Superintendent Wegner thanked all staff and especially the office staff for their patience as we learn how to use the new student information system and get it configured for efficiency. Superintendent Wegner also thank Sarah Ferrency who has been spearheading the work and

coordination to implement the new system.

Superintendent Wegner reported that the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development's Teachers Retirement System was audited, and we were selected to be a district to audit the State's accounting practices. Superintendent Wegner thanked the Business Office who has been dealing with our own 2018 financial audit as well as the State's Teacher Retirement audit at the same time.

Superintendent Wegner reported that the Performance Evaluation for Alaska's Schools (PEAKS) and the Alaska Science Assessment were administered in the spring of 2018. The results are back and parents of students tested will be receiving their child's results in the mail near the end of September. The PEAKS data is a critical component of a school's accountability rating, and is scheduled to be released on October 23rd.

Superintendent Wegner is looking forward to hosting a lunch discussion between the Sitka School Board and the Alaska State School Board tomorrow. The lunch will be held at the SEACC building, and Pacific High school students will be preparing the meal.

CONSENT AGENDA

- **APPROVAL OF AUGUST 29, 2018 MINUTES**

Elias Erickson moved, Erick Van Cise seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- **APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2018-03 SUPPORT FOR SB 185 REEMPLOYMENT OF RETIRED TEACHER OR ADMINISTRATOR**

There was a short discussion about the resolution to support SB 185.

Erick Van Cise moved, Elias Erickson seconded to approve the resolution as presented.

A roll call vote was requested by President McNichol.

Yes No

Erickson
Van Cise
Pate
Brady-Howard
McNichol

Motion carried.

- **DISCUSSION OF THE DATE FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING IN OCTOBER TO SWEAR IN NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND THE ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS**

After a short discussion October 15, 2018 was set for the Special School Board meeting to swear in new board members and the election of board officers.

OLD BUSINESS

- **APPROVAL OF AASB RESOLUTIONS**

Dionne Brady-Howard moved, Elias Erickson seconded to approve the AASB resolutions.

Each of the board members gave an overview of the changes in the resolutions as follows:

Governance - Mr. Erickson

Funding – Mr. Van Cise

Child Advocacy – Ms. McNichol

Personnel – Ms. Brady-Howard

Education Programs – Ms. Pook

President McNichol moved and Elias Erickson seconded to move that the following changes to the AASB resolutions 3.11 - “instruction may” to “instruction should”. 3.12 - update the data referred to in the resolution to the current national YRBS 2017 data. 3.25- Add a sentence that reads, “AASB also supports the prohibition of students being exempted from this education by parents/guardians except under exceptional circumstances”.

Motion passes.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **SCHOOL BOARD MEETING SEPTEMBER 12, 2018**
- **WORK SESSION WITH THE STATE SCHOOL BOARD SEPTEMBER 13, 2018**
- **AASB FALL BOARDMANSHIP**

**ACADEMY SEPTEMBER
15-16 – FAIRBANKS**

- **SCHOOL BOARD GOAL
SETTING OCTOBER 5-6,
2018**
- **AASB ANNUAL MEETING
– NOVEMBER 8-11, 2018 –
ANCHORAGE**
- **SCHOOL BOARD
ANNUAL MEETING WITH
THE AUDITOR –
NOVEMBER 9, 2018**

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Jennifer McNichol, President

Eric Van Cise, Clerk