

SITKA SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

October 4, 2016 6:00 p.m.

Sitka School District

Superintendent: Mary Wegner

CALL TO ORDER

The Sitka School Board meeting was called to order by Vice-President, Cass Pook at 6:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members present were, Vice-President Cass Pook, Clerk Eric VanCise, Tom Conley and Jennifer McNichol.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA

Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. VanCise seconded to approve the proposed agenda with removal of Swear in New Board Member and move item 10.e. Approval of Revision of BP 5127 Graduation Ceremonies and Activities in second reading for discussion. Motion carried.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Ed Gray, parent, followed up with the board on the correspondence that he sent to the board regarding the bathroom policy and transgender use of bathrooms. He also expressed his gratification with his work with the legislature and the change in the health curriculum and how it is presented.

Lyle Sparrowgrove, principal thanked the community of Sitka and many other volunteers for their time with making the South East Cross Country meet a success. He specifically thanked Mike Vieira, Cole Venneberg (substitute Activities Director), and Sondra Lundvick.

REPORTS

- **CLERK'S REPORT**

Mr. VanCise read Woocheen notes for Alexander Allison and Amanda DuVall.

RECOGNITIONS

- **RECOGNIZE THE NATIONAL MERIT SEMI-FINALISTS – MAKAYLA MURPHY AND COLIN BACIOCCO**

Mr. VanCise presented certificates to Makayla Murphy and Colin Baciocco for their success as being semi-finalists for the National Merit scholarship.

- **RECOGNIZE THE SITKA HIGH SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY TEAMS**

Ms. McNichol presented certificates to the Sitka High School cross country boys and girls teams for their success at the Region V meet with the boys getting first place and second place at the State tournament and the girls getting 2nd place at Region V and then

getting 8th place at the State tournament.

CONSENT AGENDA

- APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2016 MINUTES
- APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2016
- APPROVAL OF NEW TEACHERS CONTRACTS
- APPROVAL OF REVISION OF BP 5141.3 HEALTH EXAMINATION – SECOND READING – AASB
- APPROVAL OF REVISION OF 5127 GRADUATION CEREMONIES AND ACTIVITIES – SECOND READING – AASB
- APPROVAL OF REVISION OF BP 5141.3 MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION – SECOND READING – PC
- APPROVAL OF BP 6142.6 VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS – SECOND READING - PC

Mr. Conley moved, Ms. McNichol seconded to approve the consent agenda with the removal of Approval of Revision of BP 5127 Graduation Ceremonies and Activities – Second Reading. Motion carried.

Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. VanCise seconded to approve revision of BP 5127 Graduation Ceremonies and Activities in second reading. After a discussion the motion was amended by Ms. McNichol and seconded by Mr. VanCise to delete “or earn a certificate of completion” in the second paragraph. Motion carried on the amendment and on the original motion without any objection.

NEW BUSINESS

- APPROVAL OF HEALTH CURRICULUM K-12
- APPROVAL OF HEALTH PERSONNEL

Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. Conley seconded to approve the attached K-12 Health Curriculum. There were comments from the audience in support of the curriculum. There were also comments from the board. Motion carried.

Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. VanCise seconded to approve the health personnel to teach the Health Curriculum to students in the Sitka School District. There were comments from Christine Pate, parent

in support of the Sitka's Against Family Violence teaching the health curriculum in the district. There were questions from board members. Motion carried.

- **APPROVAL OF 2016-17 BOARD GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. VanCise seconded to approve the 2016-17 Board Goals as presented. See goals below.

2016-17 Goals:

- Close the achievement gap for all demographics.
- Improve to the positive response rates on the School Climate and Connectedness Survey in the areas of respectful climate, school safety, and student and parent involvement.

Motion carried.

- **DISCUSSION ON POLICY COMMITTEE**

Superintendent Wegner explained how to possibly restructure the policy committee so that it would be more efficient. She recommended that the policy committee meet 2 times a year, once in the fall after each member goes over a section of the policy manual and get together to recommend changes and then again in the spring to review the recommended changes from AASB. The board was willing to try out this new method.

- **DISCUSS SPECIAL BOARD MEETING FOR NEW BOARD MEMBER SWEARING IN AND ELECTIONS**

Each board member agreed to meet on October 12th to swear in the new board members and appoint new officers.

BUDGET UPDATE

The board had a few questions regarding the budget. Superintendent Wegner answered the questions because business manager Cassee Olin was attending a conference.

ENROLLMENT UPDATE

Superintendent Wegner stated that enrollment is staying pretty steady and is not expecting to get to the number the board budgeted for but said that she is not concerned at this time.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Wegner congratulated the Boys and Girls Cross Country teams for their success at regions and state. She also expressed her congratulations to Makayla Murphy and Colin Baciocco for being selected as a National Merit Semi-Finalist.

Superintendent Wegner also informed the board that Susan Ross has been hired as the Assistant Principal of Co-Curricular Activities at Sitka High School and are currently working on the transition. Jody Smothers Marcello was recently named as an

American Geographical Society's Geography Teacher Fellow, which is an honor only given to 50 teachers from around the country.

Superintendent Wegner also announced that the Carl Perkins grant has been reauthorized.

Superintendent Wegner informed the board about the superintendents conference she had attended in Palmer. She explained that there were a number of speakers but one in particular was very impactful, Dr. JoAnn Sternke, superintendent from Pewaukee School District. She discussed how the district was able to achieve a 99% graduation rate by identifying and living a mission at all levels. She explained that this presentation will have an impact on how the Strategic Planning session will be heading.

Superintendent Wegner also was able to attend a required preschool planning meeting for a grant that the district has received.

Superintendent Wegner stated that Department of Education Commissioner of Education stopped by the Sitka School District and toured the campus and commented that, "It was a fantastic visit!"

Superintendent Wegner explained that there are several things that are happening in the district this month in the district including the 20 day count period that sets our funding from the State. She also reminded the board that schools will dismissed early for Alaska Day. Also that next month in November the administration will be bringing back the graduation requirement policy. Lastly she stated that October is principal appreciation month.

Future items that Superintendent Wegner explained to the board is the Strategic Planning would be happening in November. There will be a work session on School Climate and Connectedness. She also updated the board on her travel to Anchorage for the Alaska State Council on the Arts annual meeting and her travel to Baltimore for the League of Innovative Schools.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **AASB Fall Annual Conference, November 10-13, 2016 - Anchorage**

The board discussed the upcoming meetings and conferences.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Conley moved, Ms. McNichol seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m. Motion carried.

Cathleen Pook, President

Eric Van Cise, Clerk