

SITKA SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

November 8, 2016 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 6:02 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

Mr. Conley moved, Ms. McNichol seconded to approve the proposed agenda as presented.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

No persons to be heard.

REPORTS

- **FRIENDS OF PERFORMING ARTS REPORT**

Roger Schmidt, Sitka Fine Arts Camp Director, gave an overview of the mission of Friends of Performing Arts (FOPA), which is a group to fundraise for the Performing Arts Center (PAC). He explained that the FOPA group started selling seats for engraving a plaque on a seat. They are also regrouping to continue to raise money for the PAC. There were questions and comments from board members.

- **STRATEGIC PLAN REPORT – MARY WEGNER**

Superintendent Wegner presented what the process will be for the Strategic Planning for the 2016-17 school year. The process will be finding a mission statement to go along with the vision of the district.

- **CLERK'S REPORT**

Mr. VanCise presented Wooncheen letters to Pacific High School staff for the wonderful field trip and supporting the children at Pacific High. He also presented a Wooncheen letter to Karl Jordan for having his students create 32 plywood hearts for SAIL's Have a Heart fundraiser. The Board thanked them for their support of kids and the community.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mr. VanCise discussed the meeting at the ANB Hall that was facilitated by First Alaskan Institute. He stated that there was good discussion and positive direction during the meeting.

Mr. Erickson stated that he was excited to attend the AASB conference and that he encouraged everyone to vote.

Ms. Brady-Howard also spoke positively about the First Alaskans Institute discussion at the ANB Hall. She stated that there were some simple ideas and methods that could be implemented at little to no cost. She also believed that the conversations were genuine.

Ms. McNichol informed the board that she had met with the Sitka High School Administration to speak about the Activities Committee. She welcomed Susan Ross and is pleased to be working with her on this committee. Ms. McNichol also stated that there has been an improvement with the Schoology concerns and that parent/teacher conferences had a 38% attendance rate as opposed to the 34% in previous times. She also spoke about an article that she had forwarded onto the board members on school climate and how it applies to the district.

Mr. Conley stated that he reported in October at the Assembly meeting. He also informed the board that he attended the technology committee meeting. Lastly, Mr. Conley gave a brief update on his attendance at the Baranof Elementary School parent advisory committee.

President Pook explained to the board that she had been at her daughter's wedding. She also stated that she enjoyed the Strategic Planning presentation.

CONSENT AGENDA

- **APPROVAL OF
OCTOBER 4, 2016
MINUTES**

Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. Erickson seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- **APPROVAL OF
OCTOBER 12, 2016**

Yes No
McNichol

- **APPROVAL OF NEW
TEACHERS CONTRACT**

Erickson
Conley
VanCise
Brady-Howard
Pook

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- **APPROVAL OF
REVISION OF BP
6146.1 HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATION
REQUIREMENTS –
FIRST READING**

Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. VanCise seconded to approve revision BP 6146.1 High School Graduation Requirements in first reading. Motion carried.

- APPROVAL OF REVISION OF BP 6144 CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES – FIRST READING**

Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. Conley seconded to approve BP 6144 Controversial Issues. There were questions and comments from the board. Ms. Brady-Howard moved, Mr. Conley seconded to add the wording “and shall ensure” and delete “as long as” making the sentence read “The teacher shall not suppress any student’s view on the issue ~~as long as~~ and shall ensure its expression is not malicious or abusive toward others”.
- APPROVAL OF LONG TERM SUBSTITUTE TEACHER**

Mr. VanCise moved, Mr. Erickson seconded to approve Connie McCarty as the long term substitute for the counseling/physical education position at Blatchley Middle School.

Yes No
 VanCise
 Erickson
 McNichol
 Conley
 Brady-Howard
 Pook

Motion carried.
- APPROVAL OF CHARGES FOR BOARD POLICY COMMITTEE**

Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. Conley seconded to approve the written charge for the policy committee. Motion carried.
- APPROVAL OF CHARGE FOR THE WOOCHEEN STUDENT SUCCESS COMMITTEE**

Ms. McNichol moved, Mr. Conley seconded to approve the written charge of the Woonch.een Student Success Committee. Motion carried.
- APPROVAL OF CHARGE FOR THE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE**

Mr. Conley moved, Mr. VanCise seconded to approve a written charge for the Activities Committee. President Pook asked Ms. McNichol for clarification. Ms. McNichol explained that there was no current recommendation for the Activities Committee but she has spoken with the Sitka High School administration and they have suggestions. Ms. McNichol requested that this item be tabled until the December 5th board meeting. Ms. Brady-Howard moved, Ms. McNichol seconded to table the written charge for the activities committee until the December 5th board meeting. Motion carried.
- DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATIVE**

President Pook asked Mr. Conley to comment and explain the Legislative Priorities. He explained the priorities and then

PRIORITIES

Superintendent Wegner requested that the board give direction to administration to create new priorities for FY18 fiscal year.

BUDGET UPDATE

Cassee Olin, business manager explained the budget to the board. She also informed them that the budget would be revised in December or January to reflect changes to the budget.

ENROLLMENT UPDATE

Superintendent Wegner stated that the enrollment count dates had ended on October 28th, 2016 and we would have official numbers at the December meeting. She also explained that the numbers are down from what was budgeted, but was asking the board not to worry about what will need to be cut at this time.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Wegner thanked all of the families and staff for a successful parent teacher conference. She also thanked he staff and counselors at Sitka High School for hosting the college fair in October. Next she thanked Friends of the Performing Arts council for reactivating the board to help support the Performing Arts Center. Lastly, she thanked members who attended the discussion facilitated by First Alaskans Institute as part of the district's work to continue with Culturally Responsive Embedded Social Emotional Learning skills.

Superintendent Wegner informed the board that maintenance Director, Mark Bautista had the domestic drinking water tested for all of our buildings. The results showed that our water in all of our schools is safe.

Superintendent Wegner informed the board that she attended that Alaska State Council on the Arts annual meeting in October. She also explained that she also attended a League of Innovative Schools meeting in Baltimore for the fall meeting.

Superintendent Wegner announced that the intersection of Halibut Point Road and Peterson has been approved for improvements.

Superintendent Wegner will be attending a Civics Education Legislative Task Force in November to share our district practices and educational opportunities regarding Civics Education.

Superintendent Wegner also announced that the board will be meeting with the auditors in Anchorage when the school board will be attending the Association of Alaska School Boards annual conference.

Superintendent Wegner explained to the board that the new budget process will start this year after two years of planning. There will be a work session in November so that administration can explain

the process to the board.

Superintendent Wegner stated that Strategic Planning would be held on January 14th, 2017.

Lastly, Superintendent Wegner announces that she would be traveling to Anchorage for the Future of Learning Symposium hosted by Education Matters.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **AASB Fall Annual Conference, November 10-13, 2016 – Anchorage**
- **Meeting with Auditors, November 10, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. – Anchorage Hilton**
- **Board Work Session, November 21, 2016, 6:30 p.m. – Budget Tutorial**

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. VanCise moved, Mr. Erickson seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Motion carried.

Cathleen Pook, President

Eric Van Cise, Clerk