

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting –May 12, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Board President Cale Rieger on the above date at 7:00 a.m., in administration office with everyone present.

Superintendent Penka made one change to the agenda; add under new business (g) Cheylin High School Coop. Troy Hilt made a motion to approve the agenda with the one addition; the motion was seconded by J W Milliken and carried.

The Board reviewed and discussed the items on the consent calendar. A motion was then made by Chris Hingst, seconded by Dustin Andrist, and carried to approve the consent calendar, including the following items: a) The minutes of the regular Board meeting on April 8, 2021. b) A list of bills being paid on direct deposit slips numbering 0419001 – 0419071 and on checks numbering 11776-11789 on BANKWEST, and checks numbering 15076-15135 on FNB Bank for a total of \$339,326.04. c) The Cash Summary Report (including three transfers: \$12,035.69 from Supplemental General Fund to the Career & Tech Education Fund, \$5,332.87 from the General Fund to the At-Risk Fund, and \$37,207.00 from General Fund to the Special Ed Fund), and the High School Activity Fund Report and Grade School Activity Fund Report – all as of April 30, 2021. d) The Board approved the following gift offers: 1) \$200.00 from the St. Francis Community Booster Club for the Culinary Arts department; 2) \$300.00 given anonymously for the Trinity Scholarship.

No Audiences.

The Scholarship Committee reported that they had met and made the recommended selections for one 2021 Alice Gillispie Academic Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 (non-renewable) and the 2021 Walter and Lucille Stephenson Memorial Scholarships.

The St. Francis Educational Foundation Fund has a 3-year average balance of \$151,047.07 as of April 30, 2021. The current Board of Education and current superintendent of schools make the decision on how to spend this money. We are allowed to spend up to 5% of the 3-year average in the fund in a given year. It has been suggested to continue three St. Francis Educational Foundation Scholarships – two for \$1,000 each to be awarded to the recipients of the KSHSAA Citizenship Award that is given each year to a senior boy and a senior girl, and one for \$500 to be given to the recipient of the Dale M. Dennis Award. Also suggested were two more scholarships, one for \$1,500 and one for \$1,000 . These awards are based on ACT scores and activity participation in the senior class as well as being in the top one-third of the class. The total amount of scholarships for 2020-2021 school year will be \$5,000.

There will also be two \$250 scholarships given from the Francis Bishop Memorial “Dedication to Journalism Award”, by Jim Hardt.

Chris Hingst made a motion to approve all scholarships recommended to the Board. The motion was seconded by Troy Hilt and carried.

Under Old Business, Superintendent Penka presented a contract to renew the consolidation of the St. Francis Junior High and Cheylin Junior High football for the 2021 season. After discussion, J.W. Milliken moved to approve the consolidation for the 2021 season; the motion was seconded by Shawna Blanka and carried.

Next, Superintendent Penka reported that we have received resignations from the following: Amy Grace is resigning from her position as 4th grade teacher; Clay DeWaal is resigning from his position as assistant wrestling coach; Dawn Harper is resigning from her position as a paraprofessional; and Karen Moberly is resigning from her position as a paraprofessional. Dustin Andrist made a motion to accept these resignations, seconded by Troy Hilt and carried.

Next, the hiring committee recommended Jennifer Witzel to fill the 4th grade teacher position. Danielle McAtee made a motion to approve this new hire, the motion was seconded by Chris Hingst and carried.

Next, Troy Hilt made a motion to approve 52 contracts that had been returned for signature; motion was seconded by Chris Hingst and carried.

The school's Title I program was briefly reviewed. Chris Hingst moved to approve the Title I program be continued in grades K-5 for the 2021-2022 school year with the employment of one licensed teacher, if USD 297 receives sufficient Title I funds to maintain the program. The motion was seconded by Shawna Blanka and carried.

The Board was reminded that by law (K.S.A. 72-5411), a school board must notify a teacher in writing on or before the third Friday in May (May 21st this year) if said teacher's contract will not be renewed; and a teacher must notify the school board in writing on or before 14 days after the third Friday in May (June 4th this year) if (s)he is resigning from their position.

Next under new business, Superintendent Penka presented the bids for the Chemistry room remodel. Troy Hilt made a motion to accept Jensen Construction bid on the Chemistry room at \$68,334.00, seconded by Troy Hilt and carried.

Next, Superintendent Penka presented the bids for the concrete work to be done at the high school and elementary school. Shawna Blanka made a motion to accept St. Francis Redi Mix & Construction bid of \$85,042.00, seconded by Chris Hingst, motion carried with Danielle McAtee abstaining.

Next, Superintendent Penka requested a 10 minute executive session. Dustin Andrist made the following motion, seconded by Chris Hingst and carried: Mr. President, I move that the board recess into executive session for discussion of individual students where public disclosure would adversely affect the person or persons involved exception under KOMA and that the open meeting shall resume at 7:48 a.m. in the board room. At 7:48 a.m. Troy Hilt made a motion to go back into executive session for an addition five minutes, seconded by Danielle McAtee and carried. The open meeting resumed at 7:53 a.m.

It was the consensus of the Board to allow the three senior students that have been in out-of-school suspension to walk with their class at graduation, with the understanding that they will be making restitution shortly thereafter.

Superintendent Penka next reported that Cheylin has reached out and would like to combine the high school girls' volleyball and basketball teams for the 2021-2022 season. Shawna Blanka made a motion to approve the consolidation of teams for 2021-2022, seconded by Chris Hingst and carried.

Next, Superintendent Penka presented a request for obtaining a full-time school nurse. It was the consensus of the Board that a full-time school nurse is not needed at this time.

The next scheduled Board meeting will be held on Thursday, **June 10, 2021, at 7:00 A.M.**

At 8:25 a.m. Chris Hingst moved that the meeting adjourn; the motion was seconded by Dustin Andrist and carried.

CLERK

DATE

BOARD PRESIDENT