**Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting –April 11, 2025**

The meeting was called to order by Board President Troy Hilt in the administration office on the above date at 7:00 a.m. with all members present except Shawna Blanka and Dustin Andrist. Also present were Tania Quintero, Delbert Schmidt, Susan Dinkel, Ethan Graham, Katisha Wiegers, Jessica Matthies and Sydney Busse.

Superintendent Penka made one change to the agenda: to move Audiences to the top of the agenda. J. W. Milliken made a motion to approve the agenda with the one change; the motion was seconded by Daniel McAtee and carried.

Audiences: Ethan Graham discussed with the board the possibility of him taking Government and Chemistry this summer for dual credit through Colby Community College. Ethan is currently enrolled at FHSU Vocational / Technical School in Goodland in the mornings, taking Engineering classes.

Next, Sydney Busse and Jessican Matthies were present to discuss a marketing plan for the St. Francis Educational Foundation Fund. Mrs. Busse will be heading up the project with the help of Hadleigh Hilt.

The Board reviewed and discussed the items on the consent calendar. A motion was then made by Chris Hingst, seconded by J. W. Milliken, and carried to approve the consent calendar, including the following items: a) The minutes of the regular Board meeting on March 13, 2025. b) A list of bills being paid on direct deposit slips numbering 0319001 – 0319070 and on checks numbering 18146-18237 on FNB Bank totaling $379,283.00. c) The Cash Summary Report (including one transfer: $11,343.00 from the General Fund to the Special Ed Fund)¸ the Grade School Activity Fund Report, and the High School Activity Fund Report – all as of March 31, 2025. d) There were no gift offers.

The Scholarship Committee reported that they would need someone on the Board to replace Dustin Andrist; Troy Hilt volunteered to serve on the Scholarship Committee. J.W. Milliken made a motion to approve Troy Hilt on the committee, seconded by Bruce Swihart and carried.

Next, Superintendent Penka discussed with the Board salary plans for the 2025– 2026 school year.

After discussion J.W. Milliken made a motion to pay our activity bus drivers $17.00/hour. For overnight trips they will be paid this rate for 15 hours/day gone. Danielle McAtee seconded the motion and it carried.

Superintendent Penka reported that Dustin Andrist has resigned his position on the School Board. Bruce Swihart made a motion to accept the resignation also that we leave the position open until the November election. The motion was seconded by Chris Hingst.

Next, Superintendent Penka recommended extending contracts for all of the certified staff members for the 2025-26 school year. J.W. Milliken made a motion to approve all of the certified staff members returning; seconded by Danielle McAtee and carried.

Next, Superintendent Penka recommended extending contracts for all classified and coaching staff members for the 2025-26 school year. Chris Hingst made a motion to approve all of the classified and coaching staff members returning; seconded by Danielle McAtee and carried.

Next, Superintendent Penka recommended the following new hires:

 Dustin Andrist – Transportation Director David Morrow – High School Gold Assistant coach Aspen Moritz - Cheer and Dance coach Jesse Baxter – JH head boys’ Basketball coach Ted Busse – JH head girls’ Basketball coach

Danielle McAtee made a motion to approve the new hires, seconded by J. W. Milliken and carried.

As discussed at the March meeting, 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 16th 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 (May 30th this year) if (s)he is resigning from their teaching contract.

Superintendent Penka presented the school calendar for the 2025-2026 school year. Chris Hingst made a motion to approve the calendar; seconded by Danielle McAtee and carried.

Principal Schmidt reviewed with the board a report on ACT Scores for this year. All Juniors took the ACT test and we showed some improvement from last year; the average score was 17.2. Eight of the students scored a 20 or above (4 of these students were in the upper 20’s).

Next, after discussion Chris Hingst made a motion to approve Ethan Graham’s request to take a government and a chemistry class through Colby Community College for dual credit. The motion was seconded by Danielle McAtee and carried.

Danielle McAtee made a motion to move forward with the marketing plan that Sydney Busse had presented. The motion was seconded by Bruce Swihart and carried.

Under miscellaneous items, Principal Schmidt reported on a number of good things going on in the junior high and high school. He is also working on some handbook revisions.

Next, Bruce Swihart discussed with the Board what the policy was for individuals using the track and other school equipment during school hours. It was the consensus of the board that no one should be using school equipment during the school day. There will be a policy and signage put up to address the issue.

Principal Dinkel reported that there was 26 that registered at the pre-kindergarten enrollment. The elementary school may be needing an additional paraprofessional.

The next scheduled Board meeting will be on Thursday, May 8, 2025, at 7:00 A.M**.**

At 9:06 a.m., Chris Hingst moved that the meeting adjourn; the motion was seconded by Bruce Swihart and carried.

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CLERK DATE BOARD PRESIDENT