Board of Education Meeting  
Southwest Public Schools  
District 179  
April 11, 2016

President Duane Teter called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:32 p.m. on April 11, 2016 at the Southwest Elementary School in Indianola.

Present: Duane Teter, Ondrea McConville, Jenni McConville, Steve Daffer, Lynda Baumbach, Principal Kathy Latta, Principal Matt Springer, Superintendent Todd Porter, and Patricia Smith.

Absent: John O'Dea.

Visitors: Jolene Miller, Donna Behnke, and Jason Kloeping.

President Teter observed Open Meeting Law requirements.


Moved by Baumbach, seconded by J. McConville, to approve the board meeting agenda as presented. Ayes: Daffer, O. McConville, J. McConville, Baumbach, and Teter. Nays: None. Absent: O'Dea. Motion carried.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by the board-approved method of meeting notice. Notice of the meeting was given in advance to all members prior to the meeting date.

John O'Dea arrived at the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Donna Behnke invited Board members to the Senior Breakfast scheduled for Friday, May 6, at 8:00 a.m. at the Indianola Christian Church.

Superintendent Porter informed the Board of student awards and accomplishments during the past month.

Moved by Daffer, seconded by O'Dea, to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2016 board meeting minutes as presented. Ayes: O. McConville, Daffer, J. McConville, O'Dea, and Teter. Nays: None. Abstained: Baumbach. Motion carried.

Moved by J. McConville, seconded by O. McConville, to approve the claims as presented. Ayes: Teter, J. McConville, Daffer, Baumbach, O'Dea, and O. McConville. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

The treasurer’s report was presented to the Board.

Moved by Baumbach, seconded by O. McConville, to renew contracts of certified staff for the 2016-2017 school year, as recommended by Superintendent Porter. Ayes: Daffer, Teter, O. McConville, Baumbach, O'Dea, and J. McConville. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Baumbach, seconded by J. McConville, to approve the Cambridge Clarion as the district’s official newspaper of publication. Ayes: J. McConville, Daffer, O. McConville, Baumbach, O'Dea, and Teter. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

The Board discussed downsizing the number of newsletters mailed each month to parents and patrons cutting the cost of supplies, labor, and postage as the newsletter is available on the district’s website and only mailing to individuals preferring a paper document. A Blackboard phone message and notices

The Organization Resolution and Agreement for the Orscheln Credit Card Program was discussed with the Board. One board member and several district employees were given authority to contact the company concerning the district’s account.

Moved by Baumbach, seconded by O’Dea, to approve offering and paying the full annual premium for a $4,000 deductible HSA eligible health insurance plan for qualified nine-month employees for the 2016-2017 school year in accordance with the Affordable Care Act. Ayes: Daffer, Teter, Baumbach, O’Dea, J. McConville, and O. McConville. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Superintendent Porter reported on finalization of the junior-senior high gym floor project with the exception of installing carpet at the southeast entry. The Nutrition Services Administrative Review is scheduled at the elementary site for April 13. Mr. Porter plans to attend the NDE AQuESTT Conference and School Law Seminar.

Principal Latta reported on the finalization of MAPS Testing and the start of NeSA Testing, performances of students involved in the Missoula Childrens’ Choir and the Arapahoe Music Festival, and upcoming field trips.

Principal Springer reported on the effectiveness of adding a ninth period twice a week to help students complete their assignments and be eligible for participation in extracurricular activities and performances and thanking the staff for their commitment to the program. Grade 7-11 pre-screening for sports physicals has taken place, and NeSA testing continues. After a conversation with the individuals performing the gym repairs, a portable gym floor cover and storage system approved at the March 14 meeting will not be purchased. Alec May was awarded the Outstanding Male Athlete at the Don Stine Track and Field Invite on April 11.

Moved by Daffer, seconded by O’Dea, to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m. Ayes: O’Dea, Teter, J. McConville, Baumbach, Daffer, and O. McConville. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Agenda for meetings will be kept continually current and available for public inspection in the office of the Superintendent.

The next regular board meeting will be held on Monday, May 9, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.