Board of Education Meeting  
Southwest Public Schools  
District 179  
December 9, 2013

President Duane Teter called the regular meeting of the Southwest Public Schools Board of Education to order at 7:30 p.m. on December 9, 2013 at the Southwest Elementary School in Indianola.

Present:  Tom Sughroue, Steve McConville, Kevin Potthoff, Steve Daffer, Ondrea McConville, Duane Teter, Principals Matt Springer and Lynda Baumbach, Superintendent Todd Porter, and Patricia Smith.

Absent:  None.

Visitors:  Mary Marsh, Cody Gerlach, Linda Clark, Les Roggenkamp, Mary Shirkey, and Don and Donna Behnke.

President Teter observed Open Meeting Law requirements.

Moved by Sughroue, seconded by S. McConville, to approve the board meeting agenda as presented.  Ayes:  O. McConville, Sughroue, S. McConville, Teter, Daffer, and Potthoff.  Nays:  None.  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.

Superintendent Porter reviewed the honors and awards of elementary and junior-senior high students during the past month.

Les Roggenkamp, Ag instructor and FFA sponsor, informed Board members of current donations and grants in their effort to raise funds to purchase a plasma cutter.  He also thanked the Board for the district support allowing the FFA to attend the National Convention.  He discussed Ag classroom instruction, FFA membership, and Supervised Agricultural Experience projects.

Moved by Daffer, seconded by O. McConville, to approve the November 11, 2013 board meeting minutes as presented.  Ayes:  Potthoff, Daffer, O. McConville, Teter, S. McConville, and Sughroue.  Nays:  None.  Motion carried.

Moved by S. McConville, seconded by Daffer, to approve the claims as presented.  Ayes:  S. McConville, Sughroue, Daffer, O. McConville, Teter, and Potthoff.  Nays:  None.  Motion carried.

The treasurer’s report was presented to the Board.

Moved by Potthoff, seconded by Sughroue, to approve the bid from Kearney Glass in the amount of $2,625.04 to tint 34 windows in the Junior-Senior High School commons area.  Ayes:  Daffer, Sughroue, S. McConville, Potthoff, Teter, and O. McConville.  Nays:  None.  Motion carried.

Moved by O. McConville, seconded by Potthoff, to approve the option enrollment application for the child of Constance Baumgartner.  Ayes:  Sughroue, S. McConville, O. McConville, Potthoff, Teter, and Daffer.  Nays:  None.  Motion carried.

Superintendent Porter informed Board members that four candidates were interviewed for the elementary principal position on December 6.  Moved by S. McConville, seconded by Potthoff, to go into closed session at 8:15 p.m. to discuss the elementary principal position to protect the needless injury to the reputation of an individual.  Ayes:  Sughroue, S. McConville, O. McConville, Potthoff, Teter, and Daffer.  Nays:  None.  Motion carried.
President Teter declared the end of closed session at 8:40 p.m. Moved by O. McConville, seconded by S. McConville, to authorize Superintendent Porter to negotiate an elementary principal contract. Ayes: Sughroue, S. McConville, O. McConville, Potthoff, Teter, and Daffer. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Moved by Daffer, seconded by Sughroue, to recognize the Southwest Teachers’ Association as the bargaining agent for the certified staff of Southwest Public Schools for the 2015-’16 school year. Ayes: Daffer, Sughroue, S. McConville, Teter, O. McConville, and Potthoff. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Board will continue the two-year contract with Superintendent Porter for the 2014-2015 school year.

Superintendent Porter distributed a Department of Education statistical report to board members. February 18, 2014 is the deadline for incumbents to file for re-election to the Board of Education. Ondrea McConville, Steve Daffer, and Superintendent Porter attended the State School Boards Education Conference on November 20-22. The NASB will host a Legislative Issues Conference on January 26 and 27. Mr. Porter attended an ESU 15 and 16 Superintendents’ and Distance Learning Consortium meeting on December 3. Paul Calvert, Director of ESU 15, has volunteered to lead a goal-setting workshop for the Southwest School Board members. A $900 grant from Walmart has been received to help finance the Emergency Instruction Manuals.

Principal Springer reported on the finalization of the Emergency Instruction Manuals by the Safety Committee, hosting of the District 1-Act Play Competition, and the purchase and implementation of the Healthy Snacks vending machine at the junior-senior high school.

Principal Baumbach discussed completion of the first semester instructor evaluations, elementary Christmas program, teacher inservice and workshop attendance, the Good Friends Christmas party, and upcoming state writing assessments.

Moved by Daffer, seconded by O. McConville, to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. Ayes: Daffer, Sughroue, S. McConville, Teter, O. McConville, and Potthoff. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Americanism Committee, consisting of Sughroue, O. McConville, and Daffer, met with Superintendent Porter following the board meeting from 9:10 to 9:30 p.m. to discuss their involvement with textbook selection.

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, January 13, 2014, at 7:30 p.m. at the Southwest Junior-Senior High School in Bartley.