Minutes of the Swan Valley School District #92 Board Meeting December 12, 2017

- Call to Order: Chairman Scholes called the meeting to order at 7:01 and led the board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Roll Call: Chairman Pauline Scholes, Vice-Chairman Jessica Poole, Trustee Diane Hulse. Others in attendance: Superintendent Michael Jacobson and Board Clerk Fran Howell.
- 3. Patrons Present: Blair Moncur, Laura Baarda, EllaRae Hasselstrom, Mark Lundquist.
- Chairman Scholes called for a motion to adopt the proposed agenda. Mrs. Poole so moved. Mrs. Hulse seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Chairman Scholes ordered the minutes of the 11/14/17 board meeting to stand as read.
- The board reviewed the accounts payable. There were a few questions. Chairman Scholes called for a motion to pay the bills. Mrs. Poole so moved. Mrs. Hulse seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- The board reviewed the budget and there were no questions.
- 8. Information Items:
 - a. Mr. Blair Moncur, representing an emergency preparedness committee with the LDS Church, presented to the board information about the school building becoming a Red Cross shelter in the event of an emergency. He explained how it works and gave contact information to Mr. Jacobson, who is to contact the Red Cross liaison to set up an on-site visit.
 - b. Mr. Jacobson explained to the board 2 calendar options for the 2018-2019 school year. There was discussion held about the proposed length of the school year. Some of the board members felt that a parent survey wasn't necessary, and Mr. Jacobson indicated that he had ran it by the PTO and that those parents liked a longer school year. Mrs. Hulse questioned the seeming contradiction of extending the school year for more teaching days while passing policy that gives more personal days off to the staff, and asked about what the parents said in last year's survey about going to school after Memorial Day. Mr. Jacobson agreed to send out the calendar to parents and ask for comments.
 - c. Discussion was held between Mr. Jacobson and the board about giving a Christmas bonus to the staff in the form on a movie theatre gift card. The board agreed to a \$100.00 Edwards Theatre gift card to each of the 13 staff members.
 - d. Trustee Hulse gave a follow up report from the November board meeting public comment segment. She feels like our challenge is that the public doesn't see that we are doing good things. She discussed that turnover in small schools is typical, which adds to inconsistency. She referred to Chapter 4 in the board leadership manual, which she feels has great information on being consistent as board leaders. She discussed 4 areas that the board should be accountable to the community for, and that the board should also expect the Superintendent to do their job, and to have the same expectations for the staff, all while keeping personal agendas out. She'd like to see the school have a happy environment where people want to stay working, and is concerned that our student numbers are dropping, wants to keep the ones that we have, and again, reinforce the positive things that are happening. At this point, Mr. Jacobson and board members stated that they feel we are on the right track, and Mr. Jacobson is confident that we will meet all of our goals set in the Continuous Improvement Plan, excepting science. Mrs. Hulse concluded that she feels we are in crisis mode with the number of possible students leaving.
 - e. The Superintendent Report included Mr. Jacobson reporting that he had spoken with Tim Hill at the SDE about the concerns expressed in November about the shrinking student population and the viability of keeping our school open. Mrs. Poole asked about teacher certifications, specifically if Kelly Jacobson was continuing her education. Two of the board members expressed that they are all about district funded tuition for Mrs. Kelly Jacobson.
 - f. There was no public comment.

9. Board Action:

a. Chairman Scholes called for a motion to approve the 1st reading of the Policy 2155 revision. Mr. Jacobson explained how he crafted the policy. Mrs. Poole so moved. Mrs. Hulse seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- b. Chairman Scholes called for a motion to adopt Policy 4130, Public Access to District Website and Policy 4135, Website Accessibility and Nondiscrimination. Mr. Jacobson also explained the reasoning for this policy and that we had recently updated the district website to be OCR compliant. Mrs. Poole so moved. Mrs. Hulse seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- c. Chairman Scholes called for a motion to swap calendar days making 1/8/18 a vacation/ski day and 2/26/18 a school day. Mrs. Poole so moved. Mrs. Hulse seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Coming events include: 12/12 & 12/13: Final girls' basketball games, 12/13: K-2 field trip to Targhee, 12/15: 7-8 grade field trip to Edwards Theatre, 12/18 Christmas Caroling, 12/19 School Christmas Program, 12/20-1/1; Christmas Break.
- 11. January board meeting was set for 01/09/18 at 7 PM.
- 12. Chairman Scholes adjourned the meeting at 8:27.

Approved

Attested

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