

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Aitkin Independent School District No. 1  
Aitkin, Minnesota 56431  
Aitkin High School Media Center  
October 19, 2015

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairman Dennis Hasskamp with all members present.

A moment of silence was held in honor of Aitkin County Deputy Steven M. Sandberg, who was killed in the line of duty on Sunday, October 18, 2015.

A motion was made by Mr. Welshons, with a second by Mr. Burgstaler, to approve the agenda, amending Meredith Sander's leave request (Consent Agenda – item #10) to "Maternity or Adoption Leave." All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Scheduled presentations:

Middle School Student Council Representatives Amy Gaulke and Kady Fastner updated the Board on their first meeting, where fall activities and initial discussion on a service learning project took place.

Senior High Student Council Representatives Emilee Miller and Cora Fastner summarized their recently held homecoming activities and upcoming plans for SnoDaze and a Veterans Day program.

The following new staff members introduced themselves to the Board:

Lisa DeMars - District Improvement Coordinator/Curriculum and Instruction  
Beth Lundgren - 1st Grade Teacher at Rippleside  
Meredith Sander - H.S. Counselor

Old business:

A motion was made by Mr. Chute, with a second by Mr. Hoge, to approve the following policy:

Policy 510-4 Academic Eligibility

All members voted in favor of the motion, and the motion carried.

New business:

A motion was made by Mr. Welshons, with a second by Mr. Chute, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 21 and of the Work Session held on October 7.

- Office receipts for the month of September in the amount of \$142,765.22.
- Report of expenditures for September including \$736,499.20 for bills and \$790,350.77 for payroll and district contribution to PERA, TRA, OASDI/Medicare and 403(b).
- Insurance Account checks #13623-13641 in the amount of \$5,082.37.
- Collateral Report for October.
- Donations for September in the amount of \$6,859.43.
- Wire transfers for September in the amount of \$1,550,000.00.

- Approved lane changes:

Melissa Domben - from MA to MA+15  
Terry Mehr - from BA+15 to BA+30  
Jennifer Mickelson - from MA to MA+15  
Renee Voller - from MA+15 to MA+30

- Accepted retirement/resignation:

Sally Allison - H.S. Media Center Assistant, retirement effective 9/22/15  
Jessica Engleson - 1st Grade Teacher at Rippleside, resignation effective 9/25/15

- Considered/approved leave of absence:

Meredith Sander – Maternity or Adoption Leave from January 4, 2016, through  
February 15, 2016

- Approved winter extracurricular assignments.
- Approved the 2015-2016 Assurance of Compliance with State and Federal Law Prohibiting Discrimination.
- Approved the Resolution in Support of a MSHSL Foundation Grant for the 2015-2016 School Year.
- Approved the 2015-2016 Agreement with Calvary Westside Church for gym use.
- Approved working with the City on a SRT Infrastructure Grant to replace sidewalks at Rippleside that will be removed during the street project next summer.

All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Ms Hills, with a second by Mr. Hoge, to approve participating with the City of Aitkin in a Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Grant awarded by the United State Department of Justice. The grant will result in a police liaison officer working in the school district for four years. On a roll call vote, Mr. Hoge, Ms Hills, Mr. Janzen, and Mr. Burgstaler voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Chute, Mr. Welshons, and Mr. Hasskamp voted against the motion. The motion carried.

Administrative reports:

Board members' reports: None

Committee reports:

Mr. Welshons reported on the Safety Committee Meeting held on September 23. The committee discussed workers compensation claims, AED supplies, and needed updates on the emergency management plan.

The Policy Committee Meeting scheduled for September 30 was postponed due to scheduling conflicts.

The Personnel Committee met on October 1. Mr. Welshons reported that discussion was held regarding maintenance and transportation staffing needs, a possible expansion of Community Education, and event supervision. Based on a recommendation by the committee, a motion was made by Mr. Janzen, with a second by Ms Hills, to hire Joleen Lamson as a Cleaner, effective September 28, 2015. She will also be serving as a substitute driver at the bus garage when needed. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

The Transportation Committee met on October 7. Mr. Chute reported that the group discussed staffing and the current fleet. Based on a recommendation by the committee, a motion was made by Mr. Chute, with a second by Ms Hills, to authorize the purchase of two (2) new propane buses, trading in three (3) units from the current fleet, from United Truck Body of Hermantown, MN, according to state bid pricing. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Superintendent's report:

Mr. Novak reported that changes are anticipated in the requirements to teach College in the Schools (CITS) classes. Only two AHS teachers currently teaching CITS meet the new requirements. More discussion will follow on how to address this issue, as the District wants to maintain its college offerings.

It is likely that the funeral for Deputy Steven Sandberg will be held at the high school. The District will work with law enforcement agencies and family members on planning.

Because the MREA Conference conflicts with the November Board meeting date, a motion was made by Ms Hills, with a second by Mr. Janzen, to move the November Board meeting from Monday, November 16, to Tuesday, November 17 (same time and location) in order to accommodate board members who wish to attend the conference. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

## Principals' reports:

Mr. Karelis reported that the peer reviewers have met, and that new goals are being proposed for inclusion in the World's Best Workforce Plan.

Mr. Peterson reported that the monthly school improvement meeting will be held tomorrow (Tuesday, October 20). School improvement will be part of the planned workshop activities for the workshop day on November 13.

Mr. Hasskamp presented the upcoming meeting schedule as listed in the agenda, emphasizing the new date (November 17) for the November Board meeting.

## Comments from visitors:

Scott Miller reiterated the importance of offering college level classes and encouraged the Board and administration to be proactive in finding ways to continue offering the classes in the future.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms Hills, with a second by Mr. Janzen. The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Tiffany Gustin  
Secretary