

Sturgis Public School District, St. Joseph County
Minutes of the Study Session of the Board of Education
Held in the Sturgis Central Commons Board Room
Monday, March 11, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.

The Study Session of the Board of Education was called to order by Vice President Paul Gorsuch at 5:32 p.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Halling with support from Dr. Millett to approve the agenda as presented. 6 ayes – 0 nays, motion approved.

<u>Present:</u>	Paul Gorsuch	Kerri Millett	Scott Swihart
	Scott Boland	Emily Halling	Ann Bird (remotely)

<u>Absent:</u>	Gwen Donmyer
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Administration	Dr. Arthur Ebert, Superintendent
<u>Present:</u>	Ms. Nicole Airgood, Assistant Superintendent
	Mr. Ray Sterling, Director of Finance

<u>Visitors</u>	Alicia Wilber, Katharine Kuester, Precious Kline, Christa Ellingson, Holly Strawser, Kayla Cox, Amanda Pietrariu, Heather George, Jill Bissett, Neil Bissett, Nick Herblet, Mike Miller, Kris Crabill, Marsha Dobberteen, Doug Brandow, Jeannine Koeneke, Karen Wegner, Mike Stiles-WBET, Michelle Patrick-Sturgis Journal, Von Metzger, Alexis Janes, Alice Easterday
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<u>Sturgis Showcase:</u>	Assistant Superintendent Nicole Airgood introduced new hires Alice Easterday, Alexis Janes, Amanda Pietrariu, Jill Bissett and Katharine Kuester. Each was presented with a staff t-shirt and welcomed by all present.
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GSRP Lead Teacher Alicia Wilber and staff shared information on their program, updates made from quality improvement grants, and the 96 students and 15 staff who are part of the program. She thanked the board for their track area, which the kids love to walk, and which helps wheelchair bound students get around.

<u>Public Comments:</u>	<u>Mr. Douglas Brandow – 402 N. Fourth St., Sturgis</u> Mr. Brandow has been in Sturgis for two years. His son graduated from Sturgis and he is a frequent substitute teacher. He thanked Kris Crabill and the SEA for support of his wife Gail against some allegations.
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<u>The Consent Agenda:</u>	Mr. Sterling reviewed the financial statements, and the finance committee met before this meeting. Anyone with questions on the minutes should contact Mrs. Karen Stimson prior to the next meeting, and those with questions on the financials should contact Mr. Sterling.
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Discussion Item:

A. SJC School Board Association RSVP's

Mrs. Stimson reminded the board that the meeting that was cancelled in January was rescheduled for March 26. RSVP's are needed by March 18.

Action Items:

A. CTE Millage

Dr. Ebert reviewed the information that was presented by ISD Superintendent Teresa Belote at the February meeting. Dr. Millett spoke in support of the millage request for 1 mil / 10 years. Mr. Gorsuch added that he sees the need for trained workers for local employers and that the county citizens should decide. There was a motion of support by Mr. Boland with support from Dr. Millett. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

In administrative reports Mr. Sterling reviewed the calendar re bus purchases for next year. They are looking at switching from diesel to gas. They are also looking at a full size bus and a smaller bus for GSRP use with built in car seats. More information will be shared in April.

Ms. Airgood noted that the staff are working on the secondary ELA adoption. SMS is starting Study Sync. The language text is approved. The high school would like to earmark funds for future use. Thanks to Mike Miller and Eastwood staff for their work on the onsite review Monday and Tuesday. School Improvement Committee will meet on Thursday.

Dr. Ebert thanked Ms. Airgood for her work on the onsite review. He thanked the SEA for a good start to negotiations using Interest Based Bargaining. March is Reading Month. If any members of the board are interested in reading to a class, please contact your preferred building. Governor Gretchen Whitmer visited Sturgis earlier and shared budget information.

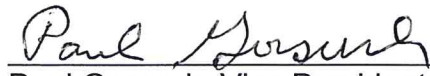
In Board Comments Mr. Swihart thanked the GSRP group for their presentation, thanked Mr. Sterling for the budget work, and welcomed new employees. Mrs. Halling thanked everyone who worked on the onsite review. She took part in the review and would like to see more parent involvement. She also thanked the GSRP group for their presentation, and Dr. Millett for the maple syrup. Mr. Boland welcomed new hires. He attended the band festival. Both SMS and SHS received #1 ratings! Dr. Millett thanked the GSRP group, and thanked Tracie Pueschel for the invitation to read at Wenzel. She thanked Mr. Sterling for the easier-to-read budget, and Mrs. Kris Crabill for SEA participation in the process. She mentioned software called "Avid" and recommended it. Mrs. Bird mentioned that she is familiar with Avid and her son uses it. She thanked all for allowing remote participation in January and March. Mr. Gorsuch added his thanks to Dr. Millett for the maple syrup, and welcomed the new hires.

At 6:27 pm there was a motion to adjourn to closed session to discuss collective bargaining strategy by Mr. Swihart with support from Mrs. Halling. Roll call – Aye – Gorsuch, Halling, Swihart, Boland, Millett and Bird. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

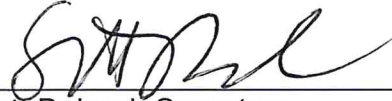
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At 6:48 pm there was a motion to resume open session by Mr. Swihart with support from Mrs. Halling. Roll call – Aye – Gorsuch, Halling, Swihart, Boland, Millett and Bird. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

Mr. Gorsuch adjourned the meeting at 6:49 p.m., after a motion by Mr. Swihart with support from Dr. Millett. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.



Paul Gorsuch, Vice President



Scott Boland, Secretary

Sturgis Public School District, St. Joseph County
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Held in the Wall Elementary School Gym
Monday, March 18, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Vice President Paul Gorsuch at 5:31 p.m.

A motion was made by Dr. Millett with support from Mrs. Halling to approve the agenda as presented. 6 ayes – 0 nays, motion approved.

Present: Paul Gorsuch Kerri Millett Scott Swihart
Scott Boland Emily Halling Ann Bird (remotely)

Absent: Gwen Donmyer

Administration Dr. Arthur Ebert, Superintendent
Present: Ms. Nicole Airgood, Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Ray Sterling, Director of Finance

Visitors Harmonee McCrea, Jeaneen Hall, Michelle Patrick-Sturgis Journal, Jaclyn Veldkamp, Ashlin Heller, Ann R. Aquino, Pete Palasinski, Elizabeth Palasinski, Tracy Clark, Kim Lytle, Kam Peterson, Christine DeYoung, Jeannine Koeneke, Mike Stiles-WBET, Lisa Yoquelet

Sturgis Showcase: Wall Principal Harmonee McCrea introduced staff for the Wall Perception Data presentation. School Counselor Ashlin Heller discussed the Action Plan. Title teacher Tracy Clark showed the staff review. Special Education teacher Jacki Veldkamp offered conclusions. After a few questions and comments from the board on collaboration time and family outreach, Pete Palasinski presented the new tech weekly offerings for each grade level.

Public Comments: Mr. Mike Stiles, WBET Radio
Mr. Stiles attended the SJC ISD board meeting earlier and said that the board voted 4-0 to go ahead with the CTE millage on the November ballot.

The Consent Agenda: There were no comments or questions on the minutes or financials. There was a motion to approve the consent agenda by Mr. Swihart with support from Mr. Boland. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

Action Items: A. Listing of Arden Park Building
Dr. Ebert would like to list the Arden Park property with a realtor since it is still on the market at this time. There was a motion of support by Mr. Swihart with support from Mrs. Halling. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

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In administrative reports Mr. Sterling reminded the board that we are looking at the purchase of two buses for the 2019-2020 school year through the MSBO Purchase Program. More details will follow in April.

Ms. Airgood has received the state report from the onsite review. We have areas to address within the next 30 days.

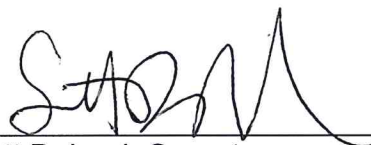
Dr. Ebert noted that a posting went up today for a Woodshop/Trade teacher. He thanked ISD CTE director Tommy Cameron for his help. The garage sale was busy on Saturday. We sold about 2/3 of the inventory offered and surpassed the goal of \$2,000 raised. He thanked the staff that helped make the day a success. Our application for a Marshall Plan grant was submitted today. The focus is talent shortages. Thanks to Claudia Pahls for her work on this.

In Board Comments Mrs. Halling thanked the teachers and Wall staff for a great job. She is glad to see information on resources to help with difficult situations. Mr. Swihart likes the way the survey was set up. Well done! Mrs. Bird thanked the Wall staff. Mr. Boland thanked Mrs. McCrea and the wall staff. It's great that kids are learning to type younger. He wished everyone safe travels over spring break. Dr. Millett thanked Mrs. McCrea for Wall hospitality. Mr. Gorsuch was impressed with all the different styles of learning and commented that it must be challenge to organize. He attended the garage sale. It was very busy. He offered thanks to Mrs. McCrea for hosting the board at Wall.

Mr. Gorsuch adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m., after a motion by Mr. Swihart with support from Mrs. Halling. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.



Paul Gorsuch, Vice President



Scott Boland, Secretary