

Sturgis Public School District, St. Joseph County
Minutes of the Study Session of the Board of Education
Held at Sturgis Middle School Large Group Instruction Room
Monday, March 8, 2021 – 5:30 pm

The Study Session of the Board of Education was called to order by President Scott Boland at 5:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Donmyer with support from Mrs. Brand to approve the agenda as presented. Roll vote: Aye- Boland, Brand, Halling, Swihart, Drumm, and Donmyer. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

Present: Emily Halling Scott Swihart Scott Boland
Gwen Donmyer Lynn Brand Betsie Drumm

Absent: Kerri Millett

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

Visitors: Dan Cherry-Sturgis Journal, Mary Bogart, Mary Johansen, Alex Milton, Jeannine Koeneke, Arielle Dejnowski, Brian Hertlein

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

The Consent Agenda: Mr. Sterling reviewed the February Financials. There were no questions on the February minutes. Approval will be sought at the March 15 meeting. Please contact Mr. Sterling or Mrs. Stimson with any questions this week.

Action Items for March 15:

A. Extended COVID 19 Learning Plan-Art Ebert

Dr. Ebert will present the updated plan next week to allow for the latest information.

B. Engagement with City to Reinstate School Resource Officer-Art Ebert

Dr. Ebert is asking Board approval to begin discussion with the City to Reinstate The Resource Officer Position.

C. PreK-2 Interactive White Boards RFP-Ray Sterling

Bids for the project are due by March 12. Von Metzger will review all bids and have a recommendation for the facilities committee on Monday, March 15. Alex Milton gave the Board a description of the boards.

D. John Deere 4052R Compact Utility Tractor-Ray Sterling

Mr. Sterling explained that we currently have a 2000 model tractor with a bad transmission. We have been offered a decent trade in allowance. The tractor is used to mow sports fields and for snow removal.

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Discussion Items:

A. Summer School-Nicole Airgood

Ms. Airgood reviewed the preliminary plans by each building. Invitations will be sent to students based on need. Everything will be based at SHS.

B. SMS Soccer-Art Ebert

Dr. Ebert shared that the Athletic Department and Director Andy Hatt are looking at forming middle school teams. We have a gap currently with younger kids playing in the SYSO and then the high school teams. This is being investigated to bridge the gap.

In administrative reports Mr. Sterling gave project updates, including information on the SHS Shop, Wall basement, Eastwood Clinic, Eastwood roof, Wall playgrounds, signage and SMS tennis courts.

Ms. Airgood had a meeting with the district special education teachers. They are working on written processes with the ISD.

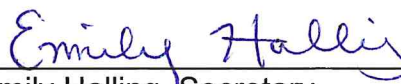
Dr. Ebert said that over 900 shots were given at the third COVID clinic. He thanked several agencies for their work.

In Board Comments Ms. Drumm expressed sadness at the passing of former Transportation Director Mackie Melson. She sent thoughts to his family. Mrs. Brand did not know that tractors are so expensive, and is happy there are so many good things happening. Mrs. Donmyer is happy to be meeting in person and is excited for the summer school options. Mrs. Halling is grateful to be in person. Mr. Boland was also grateful to be in person. Dr. Ebert added that it is important for the board to meet in person when students are attending school in person and thanked the board. Ms. Drumm remembered that she was pleased to see the Camp Fort Hill summer program information and thinks the summer school plan is great!

Mr. Boland adjourned the meeting at 6:09 p.m., after a motion by Mr. Swihart with support from Mrs. Donmyer. Roll vote: Aye- Boland, Brand, Halling, Swihart, Drumm, and Donmyer. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.



Scott Boland, President



Emily Halling, Secretary

NOTICE OF CHANGE SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING LOCATIONS HAVE CHANGED. PER MDHHS COVID
UPDATE EFFECTIVE MARCH 2, 2021:**

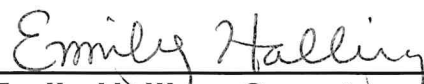
DATE OF MEETINGS: MARCH 8, 2021 AND FORWARD
UNTIL NOTIFIED OTHERWISE

PLACE OF MEETINGS: STURGIS MIDDLE SCHOOL
LARGE GROUP INSTRUCTION
ROOM

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: LOCATION CHANGE TO A
LARGER ROOM TO ALLOW IN
PERSON PUBLIC ATTENDANCE
OF UP TO EIGHTY (80). MASKS
WILL BE REQUIRED AND
SOCIAL DISTANCING
ENFORCED.

HOUR OF MEETING: 5:30 P.M.

**TELEPHONE NUMBER OF
PRINCIPAL OFFICE OF
BOARD OF EDUCATION:** (269) 659-1502



Emily Halling, Secretary
Board of Education

Sturgis Public School District, St. Joseph County
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Held at Sturgis Middle School Large Group Instruction Room
Monday, March 15, 2021 – 5:30 pm

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by President Scott Boland at 5:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Donmyer with support from Dr. Millett to approve the agenda as presented. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

Present: Emily Halling Scott Swihart Scott Boland
Gwen Donmyer Lynn Brand Betsie Drumm
Kerri Millett

Absent:

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

Visitors: Von Metzger, Pam Keeslar, Mike Miller, Jim Whitehead, Elizabeth Whitehead, Allen Meyer, Karen Wegner, Ann Aquino, Darlene Cline, Patti Miller, Arielle Dejnowski, Mike Stiles-WBET, Brian Hertlein

Sturgis Showcase: Board Appreciation
Dr. Ebert read a quote on the importance of the board and presented gifts of appreciation from the buildings and the district.

Trojan Heroes
The March Trojan Heroes are Pam Keeslar, Ann Aquino, and Von Metzger. Dr. Ebert shared comments made about each by those who nominated them. They received a framed certificate and a pin.

Extended COVID 19 Learning Plan
Dr. Ebert presented the monthly review of the plan. He noted that SHS and SMS students are now full-time in the building unless they chose the online option. SHS is making plans to have prom. The Back-to-School committee will be meeting on March 16. We have now hosted 4 vaccination clinics.

Public Comments: Mrs. Pam Keeslar thanked the board for their hard work during a tough year!

The Consent Agenda: There were no questions or changes to the financial statements and minutes presented last week. There was a motion to approve the consent agenda by Mr. Swihart with support from Mrs. Halling. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

Action Items: A. Extended COVID 19 Learning Plan-Art Ebert
Mrs. Halling noted there are varied levels of comfort working with quarantined kids in some buildings. Dr. Ebert will get more information. There was a

motion to approve the plan by Mrs. Donmyer with support from Ms. Drumm. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

B. Engagement with City to Reinstate School Resource Officer-Art Ebert
Dr. Ebert said that the School Resource Officer is even more important with full time school. There was a motion to approve by Dr. Millett with support from Mrs. Halling. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

C. PreK-2 Interactive White Boards RFP-Ray Sterling
Mr. Sterling presented one bid with four options. Mr. Metzger reviewed the alternatives. Mrs. Halling loves the project. There was a motion to approve by Mr. Swihart with support from Mrs. Brand. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

D. John Deere 4052R Compact Utility Tractor-Ray Sterling
Mrs. Halling asked about a warranty. Mr. Sterling found the information showing a 72-month warranty. There was a motion to approve by Mr. Swihart with support from Mrs. Donmyer. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

E. SABEA Annual Contribution
Dr. Ebert explained that this is an annual contribution of \$1,000 in support of the Sturgis Area Business and Education Alliance. There was a motion to approve by Mr. Swihart with support from Ms. Drumm. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

F. New Hire
Mr. Sterling explained that Mrs. Patti Miller plans to retire June of 2022. We would like to name a replacement now to give them plenty of time to work together. They introduced Mrs. Darlene Cline to the board as Mrs. Miller's successor. Mrs. Cline has worked closely with Mrs. Miller for several years and is currently her assistant. There was a motion to approve the promotion of Darlene Cline by Mrs. Donmyer with support from Dr. Millett. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

In administrative reports Mr. Sterling gave project updates, including information on the SHS Shop Dehumidification Project over spring break, the Wall basement project beginning soon, and the Eastwood Clinic which passed inspection. The Wall playground RFPs are due April 2.

Ms. Airgood is happy to honor the Trojan Heroes. Thanks to the Board for their service. She met today with the Literacy Team and Continuous Improvement meets next week.

Dr. Ebert had nothing further.

In Board Comments Mrs. Halling thanked all for the gifts in honor of board appreciation and acknowledged the Trojan Heroes. Mr. Swihart congratulated the Trojan Heroes and welcomed Mrs. Cline in her new role. He mentioned that support might be needed with the food service budget and thanked all for the gifts. Mrs. Donmyer thanked all for the gifts and congratulated the Trojan Heroes.

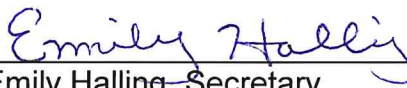
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Mrs. Brand congratulated the Trojan Heroes and stated that she learns something every week. She is proud to serve a proactive district. Ms. Drumm thanked all for the collaboration and the goodies. She congratulated the Trojan Heroes. She would like to know when more summer school info becomes available. Dr. Millett said that everyone has covered it all! She welcomed Mrs. Cline in her new role and thanked the Trojan Heroes. She has continued to serve on the board for a long time because of working with awesome people. Mr. Boland thanked the Trojan Heroes and congratulated Mrs. Cline.

Mr. Boland adjourned the meeting at 6:49 p.m., after a motion by Mrs. Donmyer with support from Mr. Swihart. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.



Scott Boland, President



Emily Halling, Secretary