Sturgis Public School District, St. Joseph County Minutes of the Study Session of the Board of Education Held in the Sturgis Central Commons Boardroom Monday, October 11, 2021

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

Mrs. Halling requested to add Policy Review to section VII. A motion was made by Ms. Drumm with support from Mr. Swihart to approve the agenda with the addition of Policy Review added to section VII. 6 ayes – 0 nays, motion approved.

Present:

Scott Swihart

Scott Boland

Kerri Millett

Lynn Brand

Betsie Drumm

**Emily Halling** 

Absent:

Gwen Donmyer

Administration

Dr. Arthur Ebert, Superintendent

Present:

Mrs. Nicole Gittinger, Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Ray Sterling, Director of Finance

**Visitors** 

Von Metzger, Amy McAllister, Mazie Sterling, Arrow Sterling, Lennon Sterling, Michelle Patrick-Sturgis Journal, Mike

Stiles-WBFT.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

The Consent Agenda:

Consent agenda items were discussed. Any board member with questions on the September minutes should contact Mrs. Toni Andrews within the week. Mr. Sterling presented the September financial statements. Questions on financial statements and invoices should be directed to Mr. Sterling. Approval will be sought

at the October 18th meeting.

## **Action Items for Immediate Consent:**

## A. MASB Fall Conference Voting Delegates

A motion was made by Ms. Drumm with support from Dr. Millett to approve Gwen Donmyer and Emily Halling as voting delegates for the MASB Fall Conference. 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

**Policy Review:** 

There was review and discussion of policy 2105 Mission of the

District.

In Administrative Reports Mr. Sterling shared updates on current projects taking place in the district.

Mrs. Gittinger provided a brief overview of the mental health survey emailed to SPS students and the staff care survey emailed to SPS staff.

Study Session Minutes October 11, 2021 P.2

Dr. Ebert reminded everyone that the District Marching Band Festival will be Wednesday, at 7 p.m.. Homecoming was very nicely done. Good job to the homecoming team.

In Board Comments Ms. Drumm congratulated the boys tennis team for making it to the state competition. Great to see the parade since it hasn't been done in a while.

Dr. Millett is excited about the Spain trip for SHS students. Congratulations to George Earl for receiving Coach of the Year.

Mr. Swihart congratulated and wished good luck to the boy tennis team.

Mrs. Halling inquired about M-Step results for the district. There was discussion on how to support our teachers in other ways to help take a little off their plate. Dr. Ebert shared that encouraging people to consider being a substitute teacher would be of great help.

Mrs. Brand commented on the great fall sports season SPS is having. There was discussion about how to celebrate our amazing staff.

Mr. Boland shared that the tennis and swim teams are doing very well. Enjoyed being in the parade this year.

Mr. Boland adjourned the meeting at 6:28 p.m., after a motion by Mrs. Halling with support from Mrs. Brand. 6 ayes – 0 nays, motion approved.

Soott Boland, President

Emily Halling, Secretary

Sturgis Public School District, St. Joseph County Minutes of the Regular Session of the Board of Education Held at Wenzel School Art Room Monday, October 18, 2021

The Regular 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. Halling with support from Ms. Drumm to approve the agenda as presented. 7 ayes – 0 nays, motion approved.

Present:

Scott Swihart Lvnn Brand

Scott Boland Betsie Drumm Kerri Millett **Emily Halling** 

Gwen Donmyer

Absent:

Administration

Present:

Dr. Arthur Ebert, Superintendent

Mrs. Nicole Gittinger, Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Ray Sterling, Director of Finance

Visitors

Chris and Cheryl Hardy, Narissa Ross, Drew Rutenbar, Tracie Pueschel, Lisa Huff, Larry Huff, Heather George, Chelsey Hampton, Vince LaPorte, Mike Miller, Jessica Rutenbar, Laura Penner, Sarah Arreola, Kim Hamlin, Michelle Patrick-Sturgis Journal, Mike Stiles-WBET.

Sturgis Showcase

Wenzel Staff - Kim Hamlin

Mrs. Kim Hamlin shared about STEM/STEAM program that she teaches. The board members participated in a STEAM activity.

Trojan Heroes - Art Ebert/Nicole Airgood

This month's heroes were Chelsey Hampton-SMS Counselor, Lisa Huff-SHS EA, Drew Rutenbar-EW PE Teacher. Dr. Ebert shared comments from nominations and presented each with a framed certificate.

Conference Coach of the Year - Art Ebert

George Earl was recognized for receiving Wolverine Conference Coach of the Year. The award will be presented at a later date as he was not able to attend.

Curriculum Resources - Laura Penner

Mrs. Laura Penner shared the resources she uses to teach Accounting, Advance Computer, Web Design, Personal Finance to mention a few.

Study Session Minutes October 18, 2021 P.2

<u>Public Comments</u>: There were no public comments.

The Consent Agenda: There was a motion to approve the consent agenda by Mr. Swihart

with support from Mrs. Donmyer. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

In Administrative Reports Mr. Sterling shared updates on current projects taking place in the district including foundations being poured for signage and SHS roof project.

Mrs. Gittinger talked about the learning walk that took place at SMS and observed the electives there.

Dr. Ebert announced that the SHS Marching Band brought home Division 1 ratings from the District Marching Band Festival. Boys soccer won at Districts and is headed into Semi-Finals. New CTE house being built. Lots of success is happening.

In Board Comments Mrs. Brand loved hearing about our Trojan Heroes. Mrs. Donmyer and Mr. Swihart echoed the same. Mrs. Halling shared the great experiences she has had and things she has personally witnessed with several of the Trojan Heroes. She thanked Wenzel for hosting the meeting. Dr. Millett echoed all that was said previously and loves hearing about education and fun happening together especially since COVID. Ms. Drumm attended Wenzel as a kid and enjoyed touring the SMS woodshop. Mr. Boland shared much of the same along with congratulations to Mr. Sterling for doing a great job on his STEM project.

At 6:28 p.m. a motion to adjourn to closed session for the purpose of student discipline was made by Mrs. Donmyer with support from Mr. Swihart. Roll Call Vote-Ayes: Halling, Donmyer, Brand, Swihart, Millett, Drumm, Boland. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved.

At 7:36 p.m. a motion to return to open session was made by Mrs. Donmyer with support from Dr. Millett. Roll Call Vote: Ayes- Halling, Donmyer, Brand, Swihart, Millett, Drumm, Boland. 7 ayes, 0 nays, motion approved

There was a motion made by Dr. Millett with support from Mr. Swihart to approve, as presented by Mrs. Gittinger, to suspend student A for 35 days and also including:

- -a safety plan including to and from school
- -meeting with the 31N therapist including discussions of what to do in similar situations in the future
- -having a mentor who will contact student A on a daily basis and
- -monitoring and modifying Student A's schedule based on IEP

There was discussion to clarify the points of the motion. 6 ayes, 1 nay, motion approved. Drumm dissented.

Mr. Boland adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m. from Mr. Swihart. 7 ayes – 0 nays, motion appro		motion	by Mrs	. Halling	with	support
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Scott Boland, President

Emily Halling, Secretary