

# SHELDON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

February 15, 2010

- I. CALL TO ORDER** – At 5:07 p.m., President Gary Ihnen called the meeting to order. Members present: Gary Ihnen, Glen Goedken, Kecia Hickman, Susan Rensink, Randy Merley, Robin Spears and Bill Borchers. Absent: none. Visitors: Matt Meendering, Cindy Barwick, Jenni McCrory, Steve Holles, Frank Luepke and Kiley Seligmen. President Ihnen welcomed the guests, media, administration and the Board.
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA** –Motion by Glen Goedken and seconded by Randy Merley to approve the agenda. Roll call vote: Kecia Hickman, Aye; Susan Rensink, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye. Motion carried.
- III. COMMUNICATIONS**
- A. Citizens, Organization(s) in Attendance
1. Public Comment – none.
  2. Recognition
    - a. Students – The following students are the "**Most Improved**" students from 2nd semester 2008-09 to first semester 2009-10: Aaron Beenken, Adam Greenfield, Margaret Kamstra, Brady Ogle, Tyler Palmer, Shelby Elle, Ben Huff, Kori Kruger, Craig Schettler, Vanessa Staples, Amy Douangkhai, Kelly Kobbe, Mitchell McDonald, Jeremy Sheriff, and Brittany Thompson. Congratulations to the Speech team!! All 13 entries received a Division I “Excellent” rating at the district large group contest. You have set a new record by having every entry that performed at the district contest move on to the state contest which will be held on Saturday, Feb. 6, in LeMars. The following students were involved in **Speech**: Evan Ascherl, Anne Bomgaars, Michael DeBates, Taylor DeKok, Gloria Flores, Mason Gustafson, Nathan Holles, Jeremiah Huff, Michael Kirschbaum, Connor Larson, Cassie Lukkes, Kevin Meinecke, Chelsey Olson, Sebastian Sciegenka, Graeme St. Clair, Kyle Van Drie, Chris Blankers, Joelle Brown, Rachel Cain, Alex Dykstra, Abby Gesink, Oliver Hickman, Jackie Klein, Kori Kruger, Ryan Lode, Ben Meendering, Caleb Popkes, Amber Smit, Brittany St. Clair, Kelly Van Wyk, Jamison Van’t Hul, Erin Abele, Shelby Burns, Kaitlin Dagele, Michelle Fischer, Emily Jansen, Joe Kuiper, Carlee McGuire, Alesha Pulscher, Andrew Sterk, Nicole Van Beek, Dana Wolthuizen, Shelby Bruns, Hannah Hickman, Jacob Ihnen, Ashley Presthus, Wyatt Sachen, Scott Stallman, Brittany Van Gorp, Erik Van Wyk, Jacob Ven Huizen, Carrie Wahlstrom, Alexa Wallace, and Amy Warnke. Congratulations to all Large Group Speech participants, **ALL THIRTEEN PERFORMANCES RECEIVED AN OVERALL DIVISION I EXCELLENT RATING!!** This is another record for Sheldon High School! Seven of those groups received straight division I ratings from a panel of three judges. Congratulations to three of Sheldon’s speech groups who have been nominated for the All-State Festival. The improv acting group of Mason Gustafson, Oliver Hickman, and Kelly Van Wyk; the musical theatre group of Evan Ascherl, Michael DeBates, Michael Kirschbaum, Joe Kuiper, and Kevin Meinecke; and the ensemble acting group of Erin Abele, Taylor DeKok, Mason Gustafson, Emily Jansen, Sebastian Sciegenka, and Graeme St. Clair. Special congratulations to Mason Gustafson who is double-nominated! Congratulations to the Sheldon/South

O'Brien **Wrestling** Team for becoming Siouxland Dual Conference Champs after defeating Central Lyon George Little Rock 41-30. Congratulations to the Sheldon/South O'Brien Wrestling Team for their 1<sup>st</sup> place finish winning the Siouxland Conference on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Congratulations to the Sheldon/South O'Brien Wrestling Team for becoming Sectional Champions on February 6. District qualifiers in wrestling are: 103-Austin Bainbridge; 112-Josh Gorter; 130-Mike Faust; 135-Spencer Tischer; 152-Knute Klinker; 160-Tanner Matthews; 189-Bruce McWilliams; 215-Pete Matthews; Hwt.-Joe Feekes. Congratulations to Anne Bomgaars and Amber Smit for being selected to sing the National Anthem at the State **Basketball** Tournament. The following students were named to the All Siouxland **Academic** team in their respective activities: Girls basketball – Amy Den Hartog, Kendra Hall-manager; Boys basketball – Michael Kirschbaum, Andrew Marshall, Nathan Vos-manager; Wrestling – Andrew Koehlmoos; Cheerleaders – Sara Kinderknecht-wrestling, Cassie Lukkes-wrestling, Tara Boone-basketball. The following wrestlers were named to the All-Conference team in wrestling: Josh Gorter-1<sup>st</sup> Team, Knute Klinker-1<sup>st</sup> Team, Bruce McWilliams-1<sup>st</sup> Team, Pete Matthews-1<sup>st</sup> Team, Austin Bainbridge-2<sup>nd</sup> Team, Tanner Matthews-2<sup>nd</sup> Team, and Joe Feekes-2<sup>nd</sup> Team. The following students participated in the Northwest Iowa Honor **Choir** Festival in Sioux Center on Monday, February 8: Megan Whitsell, Alisa Lewchuk, Anne Bomgaars, Amber Smit, Alex Jinkinson, Jordan Whitsell, and Andrew Sterk.

- b. Superintendent Spears showed the Board the 1895 Graduation Certificate and Commencement Announcement that he had received from relatives of a student who graduated in 1895.

#### B. Correspondence

##### 1. The Board

- a. "The Economic Impact Of Good Schools", Volume 33, Number 18 was included in the Board Packet.
  - b. "What To Consider When Facing A Precedent-Setting Decision", Volume 33, Number 19 was included in the Board Packet.
2. Northwest AEA Board Briefs - Minutes from the January 18, 2010 meeting.
  3. Thank You Cards - The District received a Thank You card from the Ihnen family for the Board and District's sympathy during the passing of their mother.

Motion by Glen Goedken and seconded by Randy Merley to accept the Recognition and Correspondence as part of the official Board minutes. Roll call vote: Kecia Hickman, Aye; Susan Rensink, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye. Motion carried.

#### C. Board Member Reports -

1. Other - Glen Goedken asked questions about the school snow days and if the District could use some of the Easter Vacation to makeup some of the days. Goedken also asked about the no-cut policy, and why it seemed to pertain to athletics, but not Cheerleading, Dance Team and Swing Choir. Superintendent Spears addressed the questions that Goedken raised. Kecia Hickman, Glen Goedken, Matt Meendering and Darrell Sneiderman are to meet to discuss the no-cut policy, and bring suggestions back to the Board at the March 2010 Board Meeting.

## IV. APPROVAL OF

- A. Minutes of Past Meetings – Motion by Kecia Hickman and seconded by Susan Rensink to approve. Randy Merley, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Susan Rensink, Aye; Kecia Hickman, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye. Roll Call vote: Motion carried.

- B. Financial Report – Motion by Glen Goedken and seconded by Randy Merley to approve. Roll call vote: Kecia Hickman, Aye; Susan Rensink, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye. Motion carried.

**V. PUBLIC HEARING – None**

**VI. REPORTS**

A. Committee - None

B. Special -

1. Speech Contest - Postponed until the March Board Meeting.

C. Administration

1. Elementary School – Mrs. McCrory reviewed her report. Getting prepared for the mock site visit, for the State Preschool Program, that NW AEA will conduct. She showed the Board the Program Portfolio that was prepared for the visit. This will help prepare for the site visit that will be conducted by the State of Iowa, Department of Education later this spring. The modified pickup of the Elementary students is working well.
2. Middle School – Mrs. Barwick reviewed her report. Talked about the Spelling Bee and the Kiss a Pig Money Raiser for the Haiti Relief.
3. High School - Mr. Meendering reviewed his report.
4. Activities Director – Mr. Meendering reviewed Mr. Sneiderman's report. The District has received lots of positive feedback on the speech contest that was held at both the High School and Middle School.
5. Superintendent -
  - a. 2010-11 School Calendar Meeting Update - Looking at a possible start date of August 18, 2010. Will present it to the BLT for their input, and then there will be a meeting with the Calendar Committee.
  - b. Update Regarding Snow Make-Up Days- Superintendent Spears said that the District doesn't like to use days from the calendar's scheduled days off, as some parents have things planned with the family. If the school year can be finished before Memorial Day then we are okay; if we need to go after Memorial Day, then we need to decide on how to make up the snow days for the Seniors.
  - c. Status of 2010-11 Teacher Contract Settlement - We are in the second year of a three year agreement, and the increase this year is scheduled to be a total of 3.7%. This increase is \$156,000. We have asked for reconsideration by the union, and they are talking.
  - d. Health Insurance Costs for 2010-11 - The District has received notification that the premium for the District's Health Insurance premium will increase 39.2% on July 1, 2010. The premium for the Certified Staff will be \$148,000 plus the increase in IPERS of \$14,000 equals \$162,000, which is more than the scheduled Teacher Contract Increase.
  - e. Preliminary 2010-11 Budget Reduction Plan - Valuation increase. Still nothing from the State. Know that we will receive less money than last year from the State. The goal is to reduce the expenditures by \$450,000. \$250,000 will be in personnel costs, \$45,000 in equipment purchases, and \$55,000 in instructional support expenditures.
  - f. Update Regarding High School Roofing Project - The architect has picked up blueprints on the High School. Hope to know by mid March or early April on the status of our application for a Construction Grant.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Final Approval of Application to participate in the Iowa Race to the Top Grant Program (Memorandum of Understanding) - Motion by Glen Goedken and seconded by Kecia Hickman to approve. Susan Rensink, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Kecia Hickman, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye. All voted Aye. Motion carried.
- B. Board Policy Review - Policies 505.4-507.2E3, Students (2nd Reading) - Graduation requirements changed so everyone is on the same page. Motion by Randy Merley and seconded by Glen Goedken to approve. Roll Call vote: Kecia Hickman, Aye; Susan Rensink, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye. Motion carried.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Open Enrollment Applications - The District has received an application for Dylon Bang to attend the Sheldon District from the HMS CSD; an application for Luvi Arriola to continue to attend the Sheldon District from Boyden-Hull and an application for Luke Myers to attend the Boyden-Hull District from the Sheldon District. Motion by Kecia Hickman and seconded by Susan Rensink to approve these applications. Roll Call vote: Kecia Hickman, Aye; Susan Rensink, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye. All voted Aye. Motion carried.
- B. Resignations - The District has received resignations from Jane Anema, as Elementary/Middle School Instructor; Kathy DeGroot as Kindergarten Instructor; Jan Sneiderman as Middle School Resource Instructor and Girls Golf Coach and Brad Van Roekel as 7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach. Mrs. Anema has served the school district for 32 years, Mrs. DeGroot for 33 years and Mrs. Sneiderman for 22 years. Mrs. Anema and Mrs. Sneiderman are eligible for the Licensed Employee Severance Benefit as outlined in Board Policy 407.6 that was activated during the January Board meeting. Mrs. DeGroot is requesting that the Board waive the 55 year old age limit and allow her to be eligible for the Licensed Employee Severance Benefit as outlined in Board Policy 407.6 that was activated during the January Board meeting. It is the recommendation of the Superintendent that the Board accepts the resignations as presented and allows all three teachers to receive the severance benefits as outlined in Board Policy 407.6. It is the recommendation that the Board accepts Mr. Van Roekel's resignation contingent upon the school district finding a suitable replacement. Motion by Glen Goedken and seconded by Kecia Hickman to accept the resignations, as recommended by the Superintendent, and to thank the individuals for their service to the Sheldon Community School District. Roll Call vote: Susan Rensink, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Kecia Hickman, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye. Motion carried.
- C. Contract(s) – none.
- D. Consider/Approve Wrestling Program Sharing Agreement Between the Sheldon Community School District and the South O'Brien Community School District - This agreement is for the 2010-11 and 2011-12 school years. Motion by Randy Merley and seconded by Glen Goedken to approve the agreement. Roll Call vote: Kecia Hickman, Aye; Susan Rensink, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye. Motion carried.
- E. Consider Annual Application for Renewal of Cooperative Sponsorship of an Activity (High School Wrestling Sharing Agreement with South O'Brien CSD) - Motion by Glen Goedken and seconded by Kecia Hickman to approve the filing of this application with the IHSAA. Roll Call vote: Susan Rensink, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Kecia Hickman, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye. Motion carried.
- F. Set Date For March Board Meeting - Motion by Kecia Hickman and seconded by Randy Merley to have the March Board Meeting on Monday, March 8, 2010 starting at 5:00 p.m.

in the High School Library. Roll Call vote: Glen Goedken, Aye; Susan Rensink, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Kecia Hickman, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye. Motion carried.

- G. English As A Second Language Program Guide Review (1<sup>st</sup> Reading) - Mrs. Barwick said that the guide was updated due to changes in regulations. Motion by Kecia Hickman and seconded by Glen Goedken to approve the guide, and pass it to its second reading.

Roll Call vote: Susan Rensink, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Kecia Hickman, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye. Motion carried.

- H. Board Policy Review – Policies 507.3-508.4, Students and Policies 600-603.9R1, Education Program (1<sup>st</sup> Reading) - Motion by Susan Rensink and seconded by Kecia Hickman to approve the policies and pass them to their second reading. Hickman asked about the Wellness Policy and the Use of School Facilities. Roll Call vote: Randy Merley, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Kecia Hickman, Aye; Susan Rensink, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye. Motion carried.

## **IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. IASB Legislative Issue Training/Regional Lobby Days

## **X. ADJOURN**

At 6:50 p.m., Motion by Glen Goedken and seconded by Randy Merley to adjourn. Roll call vote: Kecia Hickman, Aye; Susan Rensink, Aye; Randy Merley, Aye; Glen Goedken, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye. Motion carried.