

School Board Meeting Recap

2/13/24

<p>Personnel Items</p>	<p>A motion was made and passed to approve the following personnel items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separation of Employment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Retirement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Curt Amstutz – Band Director & Head of Music Department – Thank you to Mr. Amstutz for 33 years of dedicated service to the students, families, and South Adams community! • New Employees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Amy Steffen – Food Service – replacing Carolyn Nussbaum ○ Annette Schwartz – Payroll/Benefits Coordinator – replacing Jolene Wynn – retroactive approval to 2/12/24 ○ Debra Sutton King – MS/HS Life Skills Teacher & Instructional Support Specialist – replacing Maria Huelskamp • Spring Coach Recommendations – see attached listing • FMLA Requests
<p>Reports Facilities/Construction Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dry weather has been a blessing for the multi-function building construction. Roof drainage is complete, and roof curbs have been installed for the air handlers. The main roof is completed, and roofing crews will be back for the connector portion at a later date. Electrical and conduits will be inside in the next 30 days. • Implementation of hand dryers is almost complete. Outside lights on the north high school parking lot will not be coming on this evening. There is a dead short somewhere in the line. Maintenance will be working to find and repair this in the next couple days. • The football storage barn is almost complete. The doors are ordered but have not come in yet. • Thank you to Sports Boosters for installing black fencing and the archway at the softball and baseball fields. Football will get the same fencing and archway at a later date. • Carpet quotes are being obtained for the music hallway.
<p>Technology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laptops are going to be provided to 5th graders to help students get used to navigating a Windows device and its platforms before moving on to 6th grade. These devices will be used solely in the classroom and not sent home with students. 5th grade students will continue to utilize iPads and will continue to take them home. • The yearly order for 6th grade and freshman laptops was placed. MacBooks were also purchased for elementary teachers and Windows laptops for support staff. • Quotes have been obtained from vendors for recycling the old MacBook devices. An offer of \$325/device was received. A motion was made and passed to deem the teacher MacBooks obsolete for resale. • A nice camera and audio equipment was purchased for Kenny to create promotional videos as well as staff training videos. • Category 2 proposals were due a month ago, and an order will be placed in mid-March for access points to correspond with this. • Nathan attended a cybersecurity workshop at Purdue University where the mechanics of ransomware was discussed. He also participated in a simulation of a ransomware attack, where he was the only attendee in the room who was familiar with a Palo Alto firewall, and the presenter

	<p>commended him and the school for having this in place. He was granted access to Purdue’s resource page for incident response plans.</p>
Safety/Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doug Beall, Joel Reinhard, Officer Hough and Jeff Lehman are working to refine the reunification process. Doug has been working on establishing other location options that are further away from the school should the need arise. Memorandums of Understanding will be created and kept on file for these.
Winter Athlete Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jason Arnold provided the winter athlete participation reports for girls’ and boys’ sports.
Extra-Curricular Accounts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The statement of funds reports for elementary, middle school, and high school extra-curricular accounts were provided and reviewed.
Policy Review and Transition	<p>A motion was made and passed to approve the first reading of the following policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISBA 3801 At-Will Employment • ISBA 3001 Equal Opportunity Employer
Old Business Tennis Courts Update	<p>The first meeting for the tennis courts project has been scheduled for this Friday, February 16th with Elevatus and Brooks Construction.</p>
March Meeting Time Change	<p>A motion was made and passed to begin the work session on Tuesday, March 12th at 9:00 a.m., with the regular Board meeting starting at 4:00 p.m. It will be determined at a later time whether or not an executive session will also be advertised.</p>
Agenda/Work Session Discussion	<p>The high school team is anxious share about AI (artificial intelligence). LifeWise has invited the Board to visit their location, and Machine Trades will be on the agenda to discuss the Project MFG competition in Texas. Time will be set aside for legislative updates, and additional policies may be presented for first reading approval. Mrs. Clouser-Penrod encouraged Board members to let her know if there are other areas of interest they would like to discuss or areas to see during the work session.</p>
New Business Voided Check Listing	<p>A motion was made and passed to approve the voiding of two checks that are over two years old.</p>
ELAG Stipends	<p>Mrs. Clouser-Penrod explained the state has given the school an Early Literacy Achievement Grant (ELAG) to be awarded to Kindergarten through 3rd grade staff members who have an impact on IREAD scores. South Adams received \$17,877.73 from the grant, and the state has required the school to create a rationale of how the money is given and obtain approval from the Board. Once approved, a jot form will be completed to explain how the money was distributed. South Adams has been steadily strong in IREAD scores. Teachers, part-time teachers (those teachers who devote part of their time to K-3 literacy support), Title teachers, CARES assistants, Title I assistants, and Kindergarten assistants have been designated to receive this stipend. As with other grants, it is required that all taxes the school is required to pay as well as the retirement comes out of the grant. There is a bit of a variation in what each employee will receive based on tax withholdings and their respective PERF/TRF contributions. A motion was made and passed to approve the distribution of the ELAG stipends as presented. The recipients will receive an e-mail tomorrow along with a sheet explaining their stipend.</p>
Youth for Christ Buses	<p>The Youth for Christ organization has approached the school with a request to use school buses to take students (only South Adams students) to different events. Discussions took place with other schools to see how they handle this, and Youth for Christ’s corporate office also provided some additional information. After checking with our insurance carrier, a Memorandum of Understanding was created</p>

	<p>for any organization wanting to take South Adams students to an event/function with the use of our buses. The MOU specifies that it is required that an approved South Adams bus driver must drive, and all of the students attending the event must be enrolled at South Adams. Two signatures will be required from each of the groups (the requesting organization and South Adams.) There is a rate that would be paid for possible damages/fees in the MOU. In the event there are no damages, that money can be returned to the requesting organization. Proof of insurance and payment are required up-front. South Adams bus drivers would receive slightly more than their usual trip rate for these events. A motion was made and passed to approve the use of South Adams buses and drivers for the Youth for Christ event for South Adams students only.</p>
<p>Bus Routing/Ridership Software Proposals</p>	<p>Three quotes were presented for review/approval from the following vendors: SMART Tag, Bus Boss, and Transfinder. After comparing the services received and the price associated with everything the school is wanting in this software, a recommendation was made for the approval and purchase of the SMART Tag platform. The quote includes the devices that will be purchased for each school bus, an extra \$600 for a double-sided printer for badges, and also includes a savings of around \$6,000 on installation as Mark Cook will install all of the hardware. The total quote price for year one (which includes all up-front device costs) is \$55,836.85 and \$14,918.00 in annual recurring costs thereafter for maintenance. A motion was made and passed to approve the purchase of the SMART Tag bus routing/ridership software proposal.</p>
<p>Overnight/Out-of-State Field Trip Requests</p>	<p>Josh Roby provided a presentation for the upcoming Dots in Blue Water trip to Costa Rica as well as pictures from last year's trip to Guatemala. A motion was made and passed to approve the following overnight and/or out-of-state field trip requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSA State Conference – Purdue University, Lafayette, IN – March 1-2, 2024 • Machine Trades – Project MFG Regional Contest – Texas A&M University, Bryan, TX – March 5-8, 2024 • BPA State Competition – Indianapolis, IN – March 10-12, 2024 • Auto Mechanics – UNOH Campus Tour – Lima, OH – April 5, 2024 • MS Spirit 6-8th Grade & HS FFA – Canstruction Deconstruction (Sunday event) – May 5, 2024 • Dots in Blue Water – Sabanilla, Costa Rica – June 4-11 or June 5-12, 2024
<p>Donations</p>	<p>A motion was made and passed to accept the following donations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sparky Account Donation – Anonymous - \$450.00 • Sparky Account Donation – Living Water United Church - \$317.33 • Sparky Account Donation – Park Community Church - \$1,300.00 • SA Fire & Rescue – Eckhart Woodworking – Build Palmer Doll houses to demonstrate fire behavior - \$240.00 • Sparky Account Donation – Adams County Moose Lodge - \$500.00
<p>Other</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The music department will be presenting The Addams Family musical on March 15th & 16th. • ISSMA competitions have been taking place for band and choir students. They have done a great job! • Colton Bollenbacher has qualified to wrestle in the State competition in Evansville, IN on Friday, February 16th. Colton's dad, Ramsey, was also a state qualifier. To our knowledge, this is the first father-son duo to have both qualified for State. Colton will have a hall walk on Thursday and wrestle on Friday night. • Bus inspection will take place on Monday, February 19th.