

Renville County West School Board Meeting

March 11, 2019

The first March meeting of the Board of Education of ISD #2890, Renville County West, was called to order Monday, March 11, 2019 at 7:02 p.m. in the Upstairs Computer Lab by Chairman Carnie Alex.

Board members present: Carnie Alex, Todd Terhaar, Darin Bratsch, Liza Fagen, Maria Kramer, Ryan Lippert and Dale Negen.

Board members absent: None.

Others present: Ashley Alsum, Mallarie Steffel, April Soupir, Maci Barker, Londa Swenson, Barb Kronlokken, Eric Kronlokken, Becky Ditterich, Lauren Marcus, Brenda Holm, Jason Stewig, Cheryl Rauenhorst, Brian Gauer, Gina Hagen, Tara Hinderks and Supt. Michelle Mortensen.

Alex read the vision and mission statements.

Motion by Bratsch, seconded by Negen to approve the agenda with the replacement of the Protocols discussion with a discussion about Administration reorganization. Motion carried.

Alex informed the Board that Phase 3 and Phase 4 workshops were coming up.

Supt. Mortensen gave a recap of the Science Fair.

The Board recognized the Science Fair participants, judges, teachers and everyone else involved. They also recognized the winter sports and activity programs for their seasons.

The Finance Committee reported on their recent meeting. The Community Improvement Alliance also met and plans to meet again April 8th. The Branding/Logo committee is meeting March 19th.

Leadership reports were previously sent out and reviewed by the Board. A few questions were asked about Kindergarten and 1st grade numbers for next year.

Motion by Lippert, seconded by Kramer to approve the consent agenda.

1. Approve minutes from the February 11, 2019 meeting
2. Approve payment of bills
3. Resignations:
 - a. Steve Agre – Activities Director
 - b. Amber Hoff – Community Education Coordinator
 - c. Tami Weatherby – Community Education Coordinator
4. Hires:
 - a. Jerry Gladis – Social Studies Instructor 2019 - 2020 SY
5. Policies: 208, 514, 421, 517, 903, 525, 802, 506

Motion carried.

Nothing to report for old business.

Motion by Bratsch, seconded by Negen to have three sections of Kindergarten and three sections of First Grade for the 2019 – 2020 school year. Motion carries.

Motion by Bratsch, seconded by Terhaar to reach an agreement with the city of Danube to pay \$5,000 a year for the next five years for the use of the old school building. The Board requests from the city what those funds will be spent on. The Board requests that a formal contract with the city be drawn up. Motion carried.

Motion by Kramer, seconded by Fagen to approve the SWWC Service Cooperative contracts for the 2019 – 2020 school year. Motion carried.

Motion by Fagen, seconded by Lippert to approve the FY20 Integration budget. Motion carried.

Motion by Lippert, seconded by Bratsch to keep the pre-school classes free whether we are awarded the VPK funding or not. Motion carried.

The Board discussed space planning. Many classrooms will be moving to accommodate the additional Kindergarten and First Grade classes for next year. The Board also discussed the potential for additions in the future.

Principal Gauer spoke to the Board about electives and the potential for new electives and what issues we face regarding it.

The Board discussed options related to engagement strategies to increase trust between staff and Administration.

The Board discussed the potential of reorganizing Administration. The Board agreed to keep this discussion going during upcoming work sessions.

Motion by Lippert, seconded by Kramer to go into closed session at 8:23 pm pursuant to MN Statute 13D.01, Subd. 2.

Closed session began at 8:30 pm.

Closed session ended at 9:58 pm.

Liza Fagen, Clerk