

Siouxland Christian School Regular Session Minutes

Date: September 21, 2020

Time: 6:00 PM

Place: Siouxland Christian School

Present: Dr. Lindsay Laurich, Superintendent
Jeremy Mills, Principal
Sarah Boesch, Chair (absent with illness)
Jay Hoogendyk, (absent with illness)
Brandon Reynolds, Vice Chair
Carla DeRoos
Chad Eisenga
Jennifer McCune
Bryan Stocking

The meeting was **opened in prayer** by Principal Jeremy.

Brandon motioned, Chad 2nd, all **approved the previous Board Minutes**.

New Business

The Board was updated on the **Playground Project**. The project was discussed with the individuals who had built the current playground and they were understanding of the donation to provide new installed playground equipment, which would do away with the equipment they had previously built. Action was taken by the Board between meetings to approve the Playground Project. All approved.

Extensive discussions were held on the **Weight Room Project**. Superintendent Lindsay stated that the Weight Room was meant to be an out building/metal shed to be used for a weight room. There had been work done concerning the boundary line to meet code. Lindsay stated that she has had Nelson Wilson, Adam Ball, Kelli Heilbuth, Jeremy Mills, Chris Hecht, Chad Eisenga, and Brandon Reynolds, in addition to herself, working on this project. Lindsay stated things were moving along well until they met with CMBA Architects to obtain drawings so Connelly Construction could place a bid. CMBA informed her that codes would apply to the structure for handicap accessibility and restroom facilities. Lindsay stated that this, and construction costs that have skyrocketed since Covid19, would more than triple the expected cost of the project to \$300,000 plus. The donor had generously agreed to increase their previous donation to \$100,000, but this would still leave the School far from meeting the total costs. This has currently put a stop to the project. She stated that Bart Connelly thinks the School could remodel the current shed sitting outside the School to the east for \$30,000 to \$40,000. Lindsay stated that the unused portion of the \$100,000 donation could then be used to purchase new weight/exercise equipment. Lindsay also stated that Mr. Connelly stated that perhaps the shed could be dragged to the south to be out of the way of the future planned High School expansion.

The Board and Staff present took a tour of the east shed and the area of discussion. A tour was also done of the current weight room area being used on the theater stage. The Board was informed that the weight equipment would need to be removed from this area, when the School begins to prepare students for the play. Adam Ball presented a Power Point presentation of what he had hoped would have been approved for the weight room. He stated that a remodel of the east shed would provide 1,800 square foot, but a new structure would have provided 2,500 square feet. There was discussion that the ceiling of the east shed would need to be raised to make it useable for certain exercise equipment if remodeled. It was stated that there could be some damage to the east shed if it were moved further to the south. It appears to be currently sitting on a small cinder block wall. It was also stated that if left where it currently sits, the \$30,000 to \$40,000 remodel would be lost at a future point in time when the School expands to the area it currently sits.

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Adam contended that the soil stability where he would like to see a new weight room is good. He thought that perhaps if the school used donated labor from parents and students that perhaps the new building could still be possible. It was stated that a new building could handle 35 students at a time, but a remodel of the east shed would handle 17 students at a time.

Jennifer presented the **Financials for February thru May**. Jennifer stated that much credit should be given to Kelli Heilbuth in her work on the records. Jennifer also stated that there has been a great increase in the School enrollment and in donations. She advised there were some additional costs in substitute teachers and other costs related to Covid19. Jennifer provided Balance Sheets and Income Statements for each month from February thru May. Brandon motioned to approve the Financials, Jennifer 2nd, all approved.

Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Lindsay stated that **4 weeks into the school year** that the School's Covid Plan is holding and doing well. She reported that Nelson Wilson is currently in the hospital for Covid problems. September 30th there will be Parent/Teacher Conferences from 1:00 PM thru 8:00 PM. Lindsay made special note that Marjo Stevens had done a wonderful job setting up the Parent/Teacher Conferences online, which was much more efficient and resulted in far fewer phone calls to the School. Lindsay stated that after the Parent/Teacher Conferences there will be 2 days of Professional Development.

Lindsay stated that **school enrollment** continues to progress with 3 recent new families and they are still giving school tours for potential student families. Enrollment is currently estimated to be around 260. She stated that it was recently announced that Sergeant Bluff Schools would be going to "hybrid" learning due to Covid concerns.

Principal Jeremy reported on **teaching and learning**, stating that STEM with hands on learning was going well and that the teachers are doing best learning methods and being very attentive to students that are currently out of school with Covid quarantines. He stated that there are currently 12 to 13 students out of school due to Covid. A 10 to 15% infected rate could close the School to in-person learning. Jeremy stated that 3 staff are currently out with Covid.

Marjo Stevens covered **Instructional Technology**. She discussed the Parent/Teacher Conferences scheduling that had been done online. She stated that the School's website has a place where parents can go into for information. Marjo stated that "Canvas" is nicely packaged compared to Google Classroom. Many colleges use Canvas, which could be a benefit to students going onto college. She stated the only drawback to Canvas is that Canvas and JMC don't talk to each other. She wants to get Seesaw and Canvas up and running for the School. Marjo also stated that students are pretty tied down on what they are able to access on the internet. She stated if a student needs to get into a website that is blocked she is able to grant permission to those students as needed.

Jennifer McCune stated that the new method of determining **financial assistance** for families was going much better and was much more family friendly.

Lindsay informed the Board that there is **additional cleaning** being done in each classroom due to Covid. She stated that Chris sprays a disinfectant in each room at night. Lindsay stated that Chris has up graded the cleaning and that a contractor cleans the bathrooms at night. Students use bottle fill drinking fountains and there are hand sanitizers in each room.

Committee Reports:

Building and Grounds: Brandon stated that he has been talking to contractors on AC systems that have 99% efficiency on cleaning Covid out of the ventilation system. He stated there would be a \$56,000 cost for the system.

Athletic: Bryan read into the record Jay Hoogendyk’s notes of the Athletic Committee Meeting that took place on September 17, between himself, Athletic Director (AD) Nelson Wilson, and Bryan.

1. Discussed and evaluated the decision to cancel the High School boy’s football season. Discussion was also held about taking steps to make a successful return to a high school football season next school year. AD is looking into a hybrid approach of JV and Varsity games. There was a post-decision meeting between the AD and Head Coach Ball to further discuss the decision made by the Board and seek to settle outstanding conflict issues.
2. Discussed developing coaches through an in-service training similar to what the teachers received, prior to each upcoming school year. Goal would be to continue to develop our coaches for their success and the success of their respective sport programs. Some of the goals would be to help head coaches develop their assistant coaches, provide understanding of SCS’s leaders expectations, and provide tools on how to effectively deal with conflict. AD was asked if he could look into developing such a program for next school year.
3. Discussed the use of SCS facilities by “Club Teams” during the school year and its effect on in-season sports. Concern being the number of student athletes that could be drawn away by “Club Teams,” thereby negatively affecting participation in SCS in-season sports. Second, the concern of our athletes attempting to participate in SCS and club sports simultaneously and the effect on their physical well-being and their time limitations while being a student-athlete. It was recommended that “Club Teams,” that compete with SCS in-season sports, should not use our facilities for their practices/events during the school year. The removal of conflict for our limited number of student-athletes, by not hosting competing sports during in-season sports, is for the purpose of promoting SCS sport participation over non-SCS sport participation.

Next Board Meeting is set for October 19th at 6:00 PM.

Regular Meeting was **adjourned** and the Board went into Executive Session at 7:33 PM.

Approved: _____, Board Chair