

Anderson School District #41
Regular School Board Meeting
March 27, 2019

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Anderson School District #41 was held in the Library at Anderson School, March 27, 2019, for considering business to come before the Board of Trustees. Board Chair Warren Bauder called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Chair Bauder requested that Jack Huczek run the meeting, since he wasn't there in person.

Trustees Present Jack Huczek - Warren Bauder, Mary Burrows and Jaime June (via speaker phone)

Trustees Absent Cynthia Bradford Lencioni

Staff Present Scott McDowell: Superintendent; Tanya Roberts: Business Manager; Jennifer Wold: Teacher

Visitors Present Bridget Ekstrom, Olivia Gaylord, Maya Robinson, Alex Whitley, Archer Wold, Rachel Corn, Haven Baumgard, and Wendy Sealy

Correspondence There was none.

Committee Reports

Facilities/Strategic

Planning Committee: Bridget Ekstrom, DA Davidson, reported on Anderson's bonding capacity, and the tax impacts of running a \$5-6 million bond. She shared information from Manhattan and Belgrade Schools recently approved bonds.

Public Participation on

Non-Agenda Items **Trustee Jack Huczek reminded those in attendance that to avoid violations of individual rights of privacy, a member of the public wishing to address the Board during this time will not be allowed to make comments about any student, staff member, or member of the general public during his/her designated time to speak. In addition, the Board will not hear comments on contested cases or other adjudicative proceedings.**

There was none.

Superintendent's Report:

Kindergarten Round Up-April 24th

Please contact Mrs. Sullivan in the office to schedule an appointment for April 24th, to participate in our kindergarten screening. All in-district families with a kindergarten student (child 5 years of age by September 10th, 2018) for next year should call as soon as possible. Additionally, we are inviting out-of-district families that currently have siblings enrolled at Anderson School to take part in this process. For those out-of-district families, participation is **not** a guarantee of acceptance for the 2019-2020 school year and we encourage families to also attend round up events in their home district. Please bring immunization records, proof of residency, and birth certificate. Call 587-1305 for an appointment or for additional information. You may also email schooloffice@andersonmt.org

Parking Lot, Traffic Flow, and Event Parking Update

Sanderson Stewart will be conducting an observation on Thursday night during our 5th-8th grade concert. They have also set up cameras this week on Cottonwood to further access our drop off and pick up times. I will continue to keep you informed of the progress we make with Sanderson Stewart. Additionally, we shared with families yesterday in our newsletter new information about parking changes for events. Typically, we have approximately 100 cars and we only have 74 defined parking spots. With some modifications during an

event we have found ways to park additional cars. To ensure we have space for fire and law enforcement vehicles to access the facility in case of an emergency we will be marking off additional areas of the parking lot to provide proper traffic flow. This includes access to the bus/fire lane in front of the school. This will be clearly marked on the night of the event. There will be some extra parking spots in front of the bus barn. However, parking will be blocked off behind the gym so that emergency personnel could access this area if there was a need. In short, we are asking families to pay attention to the cones, barriers, and signs to allow people a safe pathway in their car as well as on foot. Cottonwood Day School (next to the fire station) has allowed us to use their parking area for our March concert as overflow parking. We encourage anyone able to park at CDS and walk the Safe Route to School pathway. I have asked staff to park in the CDS lot. As CDS is on the same side of the street as Anderson School there is no need to worry about crossing Cottonwood Road.

APC Gala Success!

Thank you to everyone who came out to the 2nd APC Gala, sponsored the event, or donated auction items! APC made over \$30,000 in that one evening. This will help fund all our special programs for next year- teacher wish lists, big idea “grants”, artist in residence each week, jazz band, fit kids, choir, and more. APC has also donated \$10,000 from the event to the Amplify Science Curriculum purchase! This brings us to \$25,000 in total of the \$30,000 we need to purchase the program for 5 years! If you would like to make a donation to the science curriculum checks can be made out to Anderson School and dropped off with Mrs. Roberts in the front office any time before June 1st. Much appreciation to all the APC members that made this event so successful and a special thank you to Ms. Lourie for being the Master of Ceremonies for the evening!

Trustee Bauder gave kudos to APC and Superintendent McDowell on aligning fundraising to match Anderson’s mission.

2019-2020 Budget

I continue to work with Tanya Roberts to analyze our ANB, class sizes, and personnel needs to fit into our projected budget. The passing of the General Fund levy will be critical to several decisions that will affect the number of interventionists, special education teachers/paraeducators, and certified staff. While I also have been exploring ways to increase administrative support it appears at this early stage to be unlikely due to a shrinking budget. However, I will continue to work with the Tanya and the Leadership team to identify the priorities and be creative in our approach to do what is best for kids.

Old Business

Annual Agenda

April Agenda:

Policy Review

Approve out of district applications

Contract Negotiations

New Business

Action

Approve 8th grade

DC/NY trip modified

School day request-

May 13, 2019

8th Grade Student, Haven Baumgard, requested the Board excuse the students’ absence for the Monday following the DC/NY trip. Because Saturday is spent touring in NY, this would be considered swapping Saturday for Monday as instructional hours. They spend over 60 hours for the entire trip which would cover not coming to school on that Monday. Olivia Gaylord presented a petition signed by parents and staff supporting this excused day. 8th grade Teacher/Trip Advisor, Jennifer Wold, supported this petition stating that she has a high absence rate the day after the trip because students are so exhausted, and that instructional hours are more than covered during the week-long trip.

Business Manager Roberts read the following statement from Trustee Bradford Lencioni who could not attend the meeting: Based on what I understand today, I would vote against it. I just don't think it's necessary for the board to get involved in this, and I believe providing an officially excused absence sets a precedent and sends the wrong message to our students. There are other things that can be done to ensure kids can arrive at school Monday morning ready to learn.

Consider that the Saturday schedule for the trip is primarily a travel day....

I wonder if we as a District could look at ways to ensure students get adequate sleep during the DC/NY trip? Everyone who has had a student go on the trip (I've had 3 thus far) knows that students stay up very late in DC/NY in their hotel rooms, some kids bragging that they stayed up until __am or "all night."

Students can choose not to attend school Monday and have their absence excused by their parents. I believe this should be left up to families to decide. Students can also sleep in and come to school late. Again, this is a family matter and could be excused by parents. That said, students will have had all day Sunday to catch up on their rest....

What about students who want to come to school on Monday?

If this is approved, then it sets up the District for a slippery slope of requests for modified school schedules.... those requests will come.... post-Haunted House, etc.

At the very least, if students absolutely must have a modified, non-classroom schedule on Monday, then could they perform service on behalf of others instead of staying home? A tween/teen home all day while the rest of the world is at school or work sends the wrong message, in my humble opinion, and does not prepare our students for the real world.

Trustee Bauder asked the students if they had conversations with their parents regarding this issue? Haven Baumgard stated her parents thinks it is ok; Rachel Corn said her parents were all for it; parent Wendy Sealy said is would be beneficial for students to have this day off; and Teacher, Jennifer Wold concurred.

Trustee Bauder asked if the Board would be setting a precedent by granting this request, for other students to start doing the same, such as the 4th graders on their Yellowstone trip? Haven Baumgard replied that this trip was different from the 4th grade Yellowstone trip.

Trustee June stated that she appreciated the effort put forth by the students going through the process, but that she could not support it because it would be setting a precedent.

Trustee Bauder concurred and also stated how he appreciated the student putting the time in and going through this process, stating it takes courage to come before the Board. He felt like this should be a parental not Board decision to excuse the child from School that day.

Trustee Burrows and Huczek concurred, with Trustee Huczek stating he appreciated students going through this process and that it is a great learning experience. He encouraged students to think about what a privilege and great educational opportunity this trip offers them and be reminded that many students are not offered the same opportunity.

There was no action taken.

Consideration to hire

Owner’s Representative Superintendent McDowell shared the following information from the Owner’s Representative interviews:

Anderson School received three inquiries into our request for qualifications to negotiate an Owner’s Representative contract for our facility planning and decision to run a Bond within the next year. The Facility Committee scored the qualifications (pre-assessment) that were provided by each organization. It was determined that interviews with all candidates would be important in recommending an owner’s rep to negotiate a contract with for this process. A committee held interviews and scored answers given to 5 questions.

The results of these to assessments are as follows:

	Pre-Assessment Combined Score	Interview Combined Score
AVC	330/500	81/115
McKinstry	490/500	108/115
Williams	420/500	101/115

Karen Hedglin with McKinstry was the top score in both rubrics.

Determining factors discussed by the interview committee:

- -The committee did find all three candidates to be qualified and could fill the role of the Owner’s Rep
- -All 3 applicants had vast experience with governmental agencies and construction. McKinstry and Williams had more recent work with Montana School Districts that was scored higher by both committees.
- -At this time the committee feels that the tasks required of the owner’s representative at this stage leading up to the bond is the most critical to the process. The experience of McKinstry in working with other schools gave them the edge. More specifically, the work that Karen did with Manhattan pre-bond (including work with DA Davidson) and how she shared her experience as well as actions was reflective of what the committee finds to be a top priority. Having struggled over many years as a small district in passing levies and having been 20 years since a bond was voted on the Committee finds the work over the next 12 months of the owner’s representative to be critical.
- Another high mark for McKinstry was their prior work with Anderson School in 2013-2014 on submitting a \$250,000+ Quality Schools Grant for our facility needs, collaborative work in 2015-2016 with MSU engineering students/staff to do more analysis of our building and HVAC system, and last spring we commissioned McKinstry to analyze proposals for replacing our boiler system. This prior knowledge of the building and community proved valuable in committee discussions.

Motion to negotiate a contract with Karen Hedglin from McKinstry, as Anderson School’s Owner’s Representative:

Motion: Trustee Bauder

Seconded: Trustee June–passed unanimously.

2019-20 School
Calendar

Motion to approve the 2019-20 School Calendar:

Motion: Trustee Bauder

Seconded: Trustee June—passed unanimously.

2019-20 General Fund
Levy request for
May 7, 2019 election

Motion to approve a \$31,569.72 (8.32 mills) general fund levy request for the May 7, 2019 school election:

Motion: Trustee Bauder

Seconded: Trustee June—passed unanimously.

Intent to raise/lower
2019/20 levies

Motion to approve the following intent to raise/lower 2019-20 levies:

Fund Supported	\$	Mills	Change \$	Change Mills	Est.	Est.
					Annual Tax Impact, Home of \$100,000	Annual Tax Impact, Home of \$200,000
General	\$ 414,177.03	109.12	\$ 31,569.72	8.32	\$ 11.23	\$ 22.46
Transportation	\$ 22,980.78	6.06	\$ 8,000.00	2.11	\$ 2.85	\$ 5.69
Bus Depreciation	\$ 33,696.40	8.88	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ -
Tuition	\$ 40,000.00	10.54	\$ 10,000.00	2.64	\$ 3.56	\$ 7.11
Technology	\$ 30,000.00	7.91	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ -
Debt Service	\$ 106,915.00	28.17	\$ 1,900.00	0.50	\$ 0.68	\$ 1.35
Building Reserve-Voted	\$ 25,000.00	6.59	\$(25,000.00)	(6.59)	\$ (8.89)	\$ (17.79)
Building Reserve-Permissive*	\$ 37,600.00	9.91	\$ (200.00)	(0.05)	\$ (0.07)	\$ (0.14)
Total	\$ 710,369.21	187.18	\$ 26,269.72	6.93	\$ 9.36	\$ 18.68

Motion: Trustee Bauder

Seconded: Trustee June—passed unanimously.

Personnel

Consideration of 2018-
19 Classified Positions

Superintendent McDowell recommended the Board approve a contract for Madison Pearson for the remainder of the 2018-19 school year as a bus driver at 18.00 per hour, up to 15 hours per week pending evidence of proper certification and licensure.

Motion to approve the hire as recommended:

Motion: Trustee June

Seconded: Trustee Bauder—passed unanimously.

