

Minutes of March 17, 2020

The special meeting of the Lake Preston Board of Education was held on Tuesday, March 17th, 2020 in the Library at the Lake Preston School. At noon, President Olson called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Jerod Olson, Steve Carlson, Brett Anderson, Josh Warne, Amanda Wienk, Travis Denison, and Stacia Sneesby.

Also present were School Administrators Supt. Felderman, Business Mgr. Curd, and Tech Coord Odegaard. Principal Bothun was absent. Teachers Solberg, Smith, Brown, Schmidt, Dufek, and Heier were in attendance along with Librarian Jones. David Trittle representing the Lake Preston Times was also present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Olson.

ACTION 117- Motion by Anderson, second by Carlson to approve amended agenda as the order of business. All voted aye, motion carried.

There was time allowed for public comments and conflict disclosure, with none being heard.

Supt Felderman reviewed the timeline of the COVID 19 pandemic from over the past week. He was not aware that the recommendation would be to close school until Governor Noem announced that in Friday's press conference. Recommendations from Governor's office seem to be evolving by the hour. At this time, it has not been announced if schools would be asked to close for another week, but that is what the district is anticipating.

Board discussed how they can adjust the school calendar to be able to help the progression to distance learning for our staff and students. Many items were discussed involved the logistics of distance learning and if the staff could fulfill their contract days by implementing this new way of educating students. Other items that were discussed were: state required student contact minutes, negotiated teacher contract days, and adjustments to the school calendar. Felderman added that he plans to cancel spring parent teacher's conferences due to this crisis. Odegaard added that March 27th would no longer be a comp day if conferences are cancelled.

For classified staff, Business Manager Curd has surveyed all other South Dakota districts to how other schools plan to take care of their support staff during this time. The responses, thus far, have been a wide range from some districts not paying anything for hours not worked due to this closure, to some allowing use of sick leave, and to others paying regular wages throughout. Most are using leave of some sort. Board expressed interest in taking care of all staff during this pandemic, but not more than their typical wage. This would be discussed further when more information was available and the board knew if additional school days would be added to the end of the current school calendar.

ACTION 118 - Motion by Anderson, second by Denison observe March 18, 19, 20, 23 and 27th as teacher contract days and give Supt Felderman the authority to adjust daily time schedule as needed. Anderson, Denison, Sneesby, Carlson, Olson and Wienk voted aye. Warne recused. Motion passed.

ACTION 119 - Motion by Wienk, second by Sneesby to adjourn the meeting at 12:58 PM. All voted aye, motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at 5:30 PM in the Superintendent's Conference Room of the Lake Preston School District.

Kristi Curd
Business Manager

Jerod Olson
President of Board

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