

South Valley Multi-District Special Education

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 27, 2017 – 11:00 AM
Wyndmere Public School

Directors Present: Tom Rettig, President Steve Johnson, VP
Chad Benson Doug Jacobson
Dan Dalchow Tim Godfrey
Chris Larson Ron Stahlecker

Absent: Randy Cale, Dan Warcken

Also Present: John Porter, Director Linda Bladow, Bs. Mgr.
Matthew Ashburn, Psych Intern

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting of the South Valley Board was called to order by President Tom Rettig at 11:18 a.m.

AGENDA APPROVAL: Dan Dalchow/Chris Larson moved to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA: It was moved by Chad Benson/Tim Godfrey to approve the Consent Agenda which included the January meeting minutes, January-February bills, check registers and financial reports. Motion carried.

BOARD BUSINESS

Shared Director Services: It was moved by Ron Stahlecker/Doug Jacobson to approve the continued director shared services with Rural Cass as in the past. Motion carried.

School Psychologist Services: With the possible resignation of South Valley's behavior analyst, both units could possibly benefit by sharing psychologists' services, making both units more efficient in travel time between member school districts, as well as sharing test kits and assessments. No action was taken, but the board is interested in the efficiency.

Preschool Services: Federal recommendations are to include typical peers in early childhood special needs preschool classrooms. The Hankinson program would be the ideal size to pilot this by matching 3 to 4 peers in each section (morning/afternoon). It would be fee based, with no transportation. The Gwinner morning preschool will continue next year, as will one morning and one afternoon session in Lisbon. There will not be a second afternoon session in Lisbon next year.

Elementary Day Program Facility: As discussed in the earlier joint board meeting, a behavior program modular classroom could be leased for \$40,000-\$50,000 with the option to purchase. Maximum number of students is estimated between 10 and 12. Project was tabled pending more information.

Credit Reimbursement Policy: First reading on the revised Credit Reimbursement Policy was approved upon motion by Steve Johnson/Dan Dalchow. Motion carried. Local school districts were added to the wording as staff may be employed by the member districts, but receive credit reimbursement from South Valley.

Child Count Report: The board reviewed the current child count of 338 students, including a high number of preschoolers at 55. Overall special ed enrollment is trending downward from last year.

Preliminary Budget Draft: A rough draft of the 2017-18 budget was discussed. PreK ADMs will be needed to calculate correct foundation aid amounts. Student placements, PT and OT costs are increasing. Preschool costs are reduced by one section in Lisbon. Insurance rates are not yet available. There may be only one resident teacher next year. Preliminary totals are estimated at \$1,674,923.71.

ESY Planning: South Valley will organize the extended school year again as last year. Hourly rates of \$29.00/Teacher, \$18.50/SLPP, \$10.75/Paras, \$12.00/Drivers will be tabled until the next board meeting.

Negotiations: The board negotiators will be meeting with the 3 negotiating teachers. Benefit costs were discussed. A conference call board meeting is tentatively set for Wednesday, April 26, 2017 at 10:30 a.m.

Evaluations:

- Director** - Tom Rettig met with John Porter regarding his good evaluation. It was moved by Steve Johnson/Chris Larson to approve the Evaluation Summary presented. Motion carried.
- Staff** – John informed the board that he has no concerns with the staff, they are all doing well.
- Business Manager** – John gave a positive review of the business manager.

Board Committees:

- Finance – Tom Rettig stated the committee will continue working on the preliminary budget.
- Negotiations – Tom Rettig and Chris Larson will schedule to meet with negotiating teachers.

With no additional committee reports or other board business, the meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m. upon motion by Tim Godfrey/Chad Benson.

NEXT MEETINGS: Tentative CONFERENCE CALL – Wednesday, April 26, 2017 – 10:30 AM
 Regular Board Meeting in Wyndmere – May 10, 2017 – 10:00 AM

Tom Rettig, Board President	Date Approved
<i>Linda Bladow</i>	<i>2.27.2017</i>
Linda Bladow, Business Manager	Date Prepared

These minutes are subject to approval at next board meeting.