

**ASBSD Board of Directors Meeting
April 16-17, 2021
Ft. Pierre, South Dakota**

I. Call to Order – President Stroeder – The meeting was called to order by President Eric Stroeder at 4:15 p.m. Present were members: Tom Farrell, Lisa Snedeker, Duane Alm, Garret Bischoff, Tanya Gray, Pam Haukaas, Susan Humiston, Louann Krogman, Anita Peterson, Curt Pochardt, Shane Roth, Ellie Saxer, Denise Lutkemeier and Todd Thaelke. Also present was Julie Schwader via telephone. Absent were board members Angie Ross and Steve Kubik. Also present was ASBSD staff: Dr. Wade Pogany, Holly Nagel, Tyler Pickner, Jessica Filler and Katie Mitchell-Boe.

II. Welcome and Introductions - Eric Stroeder welcomed the board and led the pledge.

III. Good News

Duane Alm – School board meetings are face to face. Negotiations went well with a 2 percent increase and on the last day of school staff will receive \$1,500 bonus.

Shane Roth – DeSmet won the Boys' State B Basketball. Negotiations took about 45 minutes and staff was given a 3.5% increase. District is contemplating a new elementary school.

Tom Farrell – Madison negotiations lasted 4 ½ hours. Currently they are fully staffed with only one retirement. Entire staff had Johnson and Johnson COVID vaccine. FFA students had a wonderful trip to the Black Hills Stock Show. COVID numbers continue to be low.

Tanya Gray – Overall achievement for students has remained constant. School received Military Purple Heart. Teachers and staff were given a bonus based on the number of hours they worked during COVID.

Garret Bischoff – Huron district is working on their back to normal plan, they have had zero days for COVID. School is having prom this weekend, removing shields in the classrooms and trying to remain positive. Negotiation is completed with staff receiving 2.5% increases in salaries.

Ellie Saxer - District negotiations is complete with staff receiving a 7% increase in salary, plus they also received 2 COVID bonuses.

- New school is ahead of schedule and will ready for classes this fall;
- Zero COVID days;
- First time in the history of school the boys wrestling team won state championship;
- Free summer lunch program planned;
- State testing going on as usual.

Denise Lutkemeier - English and science positions have been filled so the district is staffed for the next school year. Prom was held like normal. Testing scores are very good. Negotiations is completed with staff receiving a 2.4% increase and full insurance payment. Denise thanked the board for the friendship and advised them this was her last meeting as she would not be seeking another term on her local board.

Todd Thaelke – Both new school buildings are on schedule. Todd also thanked the board and advised them he too is not seeking another term on his local board.

Curt Pochardt – School has been running smoothly. He is very proud of the district 1800 employees that have consistently outdone themselves with professionalism and hard work.

Anita Peterson – Negotiations are completed with teachers receiving a 2% increase in salary. Proposals are being discussed for replacing steps leading up to the high school and a new gym floor. Philip took 12 kids to the state wrestling tournament and 10 placed including two of her grandsons with a 1st and 5th place.

Susan Humiston – Edgemont is looking at building a new school. Prom was held as normal with a number of last year seniors returning.

Louann Krogman – White River students 16 years and older have received their COVID shots. The White River girls' basketball team won the state "B" championship, while the boy's won the consolation game. The K-12 art teacher does a wonderful job with the students.

Lisa Snedeker – Woonsocket is blessed and fortunate to make it the entire year without COVID days. All teaching positions are now filled and ready for the next school year.

Eric Stroeder – Their students trip to Washington DC was successful and the students had a great time. Mobridge will continue their summer lunch program and their after school program. Mobridge-Pollock school district has joined the Protective Trust Health Pool.

Julie Schwader - We have not had to release for COVID. No building projects for this summer as of right now. We are looking at adding an archery range to our current baseball area that we no longer use and implement that into our school curriculum.

Pam Haukaas – Negotiations are complete with their staff receiving a 2.9% increase in salary. The district is fully staffed and ready for school to start.

Wade Pogany – Wade welcomed Katie back from her leave of absence.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Curt Pochardt, seconded by Garret Bischoff the minutes of the February 15, 2021 meeting were approved. Motion carried.

V. Finance

V.A. Financial Report

Holly Nagel, Chief Financial Officer, reported as of March 31st, we have received \$1,941,348.20 or 92.35% of our revenue budget and have expended \$1,259,712.88 or 61.97% of our expenditure budget.

At the same time last year, the Association had total revenue of \$1,480,507.93 or 71.04% of the FY20 revenue budget. While expenditures were \$1,497,55.51 or 73.35% of our expenditure budget.

ASBSD continues to have a strong balance sheet and financial position. The Association continues to be able to financially support a worst-case scenario event should we need to absorb a large loss in a revenue source and would have a short, but workable time to restructure.

Moved by Duane Alm, second by Louann Krogman to accept the financial report as presented. Motion carried.

V.B. 2021-2022 Budget Proposal – Moved by Tom Farrell, second by Garret Bischoff to accept the proposed 2021-2022 budget as presented. Motion carried.

V.C. Protective Trust Update – Holly Nagel presented the Protective Trust Report. She reported the health fund continues to be strong with 72 members and 5 new members joining the health pool on July 1, 2021. She reminded the board all annual payment assessments have been made which closes the 4-year, \$11.2 million assessment.

The workers' comp pool continues to do well with a net position of \$13.1 million. The fund consists of 75 members and will lose one July 1, 2021.

Property liability with 24 member districts, with a net position of \$1.1 million. The reduction in districts has reduced the high number of claims as well. The member districts have worked hard to reduce claims through risk management. We continue to work on communication and transparency. Quarterly webinars and open claim meetings have been well received.

Cyber liability is a subject we continue to discuss with all ASBSD members, not just PL, as it is a top concern not just nationwide but globally.

VI. ASBSD Awards

Dr. Pogany advised the board it was that time of year again to be looking for nominees for our ASBSD Awards. He reminded the board the School Bell Award is one the ASBSD Board selects and asked for nominations. Other awards are: Community Service Award, Outstanding School Board Member, School Board Award of Excellence.

The meeting was declared in recess until Saturday, April 17, 7:30 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 8:15 a.m.

VII. Advocacy

Dr. Pogany gave an update on the outcomes of the 95th legislative session.

VII.A. Advocacy engagement with board members –

Dr. Pogany lead the board with the following reflection questions:

1. Why do you think school board members were not as willing to contact their legislators this last session?
2. Is ASBSD's system of alerting members about significant bills effective?
3. Are there other strategies ASBSD should design to increase more activism among board members to respond to these calls?

2. Reflection Questions:

Native American issues:

1. Moving forward what should ASBSD's response be to this issue?
2. Should local boards be concerned about the Native American educational problems?
3. What direction of leadership on this issue should ASBSD take, if any?

Women and Sports issues

1. How should ASBSD respond to this issue going forward?
2. Which side of the debate should we take if a special session is called to address this or if the bill comes back at the next legislative session.

Marijuana issues:

1. What concerns do you have about marijuana and schools?
2. What policies should ASBSD be advocating to protect children?

Other advocacy topics:

1. Are there other advocacy issues we should be considering?

Lengthy discussion followed each of the above items.

VII.B Legislative Issues

Dr. Pogany shared the following bills and their impact on public schools.

- Senate Bill 175 – Expands the student eligibility options for the private school scholarship program. ASBSD opposed this bill. Signed by Gov. Noem, passed by the Senate 30-5 and by the House 60-9.
- Senate Bill 177 – Makes significant changes to alternative instruction laws. ASBSD opposed this bill as it made significant changes to “home schooled” students. Signed by Gov. Noem, passed by the Senate 21-14 and by the House 41-27.
- House Bill 1046 – Limits liability for certain exposures to COVID 19. ASBSD supported this bill. Signed by Gov. Noem, passed by the Senate 29-2 and by the House 60-10.
- House Bill 1050 – Changes publication fees and requires notices be posted online. In addition to in print, on a website hosted by SDNA. Defeated by the House on 29-41 vote and did not require any further legislative action.
- House Bill 1066 – Authorizes the transfer of wind energy tax revenue from a school district general fund. ASBSD monitored this bill. Signed by Gov. Noem, passed by the Senate 35-0 and by the House 68-0.
- House Bill 1082 – Changes LEP term to English Learner and amends the EL adjustment for the 2021-2022 school year. ASBSD supported this bill. Signed by Gov. Noem, passed by the Senate 31-0 and by the House 65-0.
- House Bill 1127 – Revises certain provisions regarding official meetings conducted by teleconference. ASBSD supported this bill. Signed by Gov. Noem, passed by the Senate 33-0 and by the House 50-18.
- House Bill 1217 – Changes process of participation in girls’ sports. ASBSD monitored this bill. Vetoed by Gov. Noem, passed by the Senate 22-15 and by the House 50-17.
- HCR 6015 – Encourages the Executive Board of the Legislature to create an interim legislative study on mental health education in this state. Passed by the Senate 34-1 and by the House 61-7.

VII.C COVID Spending and Region Meetings

1. With the influx of federal COVID funds to school districts schools have been discussing how best to use those funds. As an exercise in collaboration would you be willing to share briefly about your conversations? The questions are:

1) Has your school district discussed the expenses incurred due to COVID?

2) What are your long range plans for the use of the ESSR II and ESSER III funds once they become available?

2. Because of COVID, ASBSD was not able to host the traditional face to face regional meetings we usually have in the Fall. Instead, a series of online meetings/presentations were conducted by Wade and Jim Holbeck on a variety of topics. They seemed to be well received. I would appreciate your input going forward in how to conduct the region meetings. **Should we reinstitute the face to face meetings, continue with the online zoom conference meetings, or some form of hybrid? What is your opinion?**

Following discussion most board members commented that they have used the COVID funds for PPE equipment; sanitation, HVAC and air purifier systems upgrades to air quality systems; purchased additional technology equipment for distance learning; expanded nursing/mental health staff; expanded educational opportunities to help students with learning gaps.

The additional allocations received of ESSR II & III have the boards waiting for guidance on the use of those funds.

VIII. Strategic Planning

VIII.A Strategic Plan Review and Reflection

Dr. Pogany summarized the past year's accomplishment on the strategic goals and ask for feedback on future projects and activities. Discussion followed.

VIII.B Regional Engagement Proposal

Tom' Farrell addressed the board and proposed to organize regional zoom meetings with local school board members periodically throughout the year. He advised the board ASBSD staff would create and manage the virtual meeting, however, it would be the board members' responsibility to preside over the meeting and send out follow-up emails to the regional member president and vice president. Discussion followed and Tom was given a thumbs up to continue working with ASBSD staff on this proposal.

Moved by Lisa Snedeker, second by Louann Krogman to go into Executive Session for the purpose of evaluating Executive Director, Wade Pogany. President Stroeder declared the meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.