

Ovando School
Powell County School District #11
Ovando MT 59854

Ovando School board held a regular school board meeting on April 14th, 2014; members present were Ty Smith, Elaine Caton, Dona Aitken, Jim Stone-Chair and Dena Hooker – District Clerk. Guests present were Jan & John Farrar, Brandon Styles, Leigh Ann Valiton, Maxine McCoy and Gary Aitken.

Ty made a motion to approve the agenda, Elaine seconded that motion, motion carried. Elaine made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting, Ty seconded that motion, motion carried.

Teachers Report: Brandon reported that the students will be traveling to the Swanberg's cabin on May 1st, the students will be able to study some astrology if weather permits the night they arrive and the next morning the students will be up bright and early for some bird watching. The students have 2 more weeks of the Get Fit Program and will be tested to see how they are doing. Track meet will be May 13th. Leigh Ann reported that the May Day Tea will be May 16th, Brandon & Leigh Ann will be attending the Energy workshop on April 17th. Highway clean-up will be April 25th; the Sew & So club will supply lunch again this year.

Janitor's Report: There is a contract out to Irene Weaver for a Memorial Service for John Weaver on June 28th, 2014.

Elaine made a motion to pay for our membership to MSSA again for the 2014-2015 school year, Dona seconded that motion, motion carried.

Jim read a letter from Maxine Taylor asking for consideration for the Para-professional job for the 2014-2015 school year.

Policy Book: Ty made a motion to adopt all the new policies that were adopted this year into the policy book, Dona seconded that motion, motion carried.

New Business: Elaine made a motion to appoint Dena Hooker as the District Clerk, Ty seconded that motion, motion carried. Elaine & Gary Aitken continued to fill the board members in on the fund that they would like to start to increase our teacher salaries to a more affordable rate. Dona & Gary Aitken, Sandra Roe, Elaine Caton (John & Jan Farrar asked to be included) have raised \$30,000 for the next 3 years to give an increase of \$10,000 a year toward teacher salaries. Jim would like to see the long term fund be more open to be used for more than just teacher salaries, people are more apt to give donations if it was to be used for broader usages. Dona mentioned maybe naming it the "Ovando Community Education Fund" then it could be used for anything to do with education. The board and the donors will continue to work on this at next month's meeting.

Dona made a motion to accept the \$30,000 dollar commitment to increase the teacher's salary by \$10,000 for the next 3 years with the understanding to start an endowment fund; an effort will be made to assure the sustainability of that fund. Ty seconded that motion, motion carried.

Ty made a motion to deposit the \$2000.00 from the Sew & So Club into the Library Fund to be used for new tables for the gym. Dona seconded that motion, motion carried. Leigh Ann will have the students send and Thank you for the donation and Dena will also send a thank you from the Board.

Elaine made a motion to deposit the Get Fit Grant of \$1000.00 into the Library Fund, Ty seconded that motion, motion carried. Brandon was to receive that grant for his work on the Get Fit program.

Dona made the motion to deposit the donations made from Jill Perelman of \$500 and \$100 from Tim & Cindy Jacobsen for the Arts Enhancement, into the Arts Enhancement fund, Ty seconded that motion, motion carried.

Dona made a motion to call for an election with the option of allowing Dena to cancel the election if it is not needed. Elaine seconded that motion, motion carried.

Ty made the motion to pay the district bills, Dona seconded that motion, motion carried. There is a QuickBooks transaction attached to the minutes.

Elaine made the motion to adjourn, Ty seconded that motion, motion carried. The next meeting will be on May 12th, 2014.