

HYDABURG CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Superintendent's Board Report

January 19, 2017

Grant Updates

Sealaska's Haa Shuká Community Language Learning Project:

Each month, there will be a 2-hour community language session open to the public. At this point, our speaker is Albert Natkong who will be accessible by phone or Skype.

Applications for Language Learners are due on February 10. Two Language Learners will be paid, though it sounds like others could participate on their own time. Teams will be identified by February 24th and there will be an orientation meeting in Juneau either late February or early March. The learners have several responsibilities all outlined in the public announcement:

https://docs.google.com/a/sisd.org/forms/d/1dF_H9l05TcjbLIAPLNHsZirtSoX4yeTHpChUFj-c94s/viewform?edit_requested=true

Bonnie Morris has agreed to be the Community Liaison and she will have more information. The grant does not supply funding for this position. I had originally committed to some funding for the liaison position when the grant was submitted. I mistakenly believed the grant's focus would be working with students and that we could justify the expense. At the moment, it looks like the grant only funds several adults and I cannot commit district funds to something that has no direct benefit for students. I understand the indirect benefit, but doubt a financial audit would see the connection.

Hydaburg City School will provide space for all meetings of the Language Learners as well as monthly meetings for the community for the duration of the three-year grant. Bonnie will connect with Bart in order to determine out schedules.

The School Superintendents Association (AASA) and National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA)'s Helping Kids Program mini grant:

On December 7, the district was awarded this \$2000 grant to start a soup kitchen for children on the weekends. Money will go to supplies and this will take place at the Boys and Girls Club. Sophina will take the lead on this project. We have had no requests for these funds yet.

Alaska Housing Finance Corporation Kickstarter grant:

At the end of November the district was awarded this grant in the amount of \$10,000 with the intent of upgrading the gym lighting to LED lights. We are in the process of working with the grantors to initiate the project. While it appears we will not be able to use the grant to purchase the lighting, we may be able to pay an electrical contractor for the installation. The LED lights will cost approximately \$7,900.

If you have suggestions, needs, or concerns about the grants, please email or call Priscilla Goulding. pgoulding@sisd.org (907) 828-8254

Independent Grant Writer

Bart has been in contact with Donna Gunn. She is a successful grant writer and chases large grants. These would generally require multiple districts working together and Bart is exploring possibilities.

Finances

We have reduced expenditures and should be able to balance the books in June if we do not have unforeseen expenses. There are many opportunities for unanticipated expenses and we must continue to restrict expenses as much as possible.

Wood-fired Boiler Update

We have received and paid for the 65% design. We are expecting their final design within the next couple of weeks. The initial design beyond our ability to pay and we have worked with the contracted engineering firm to bring it within budget. So far we believe we can stay within budget. The issue is a bit confused, as we created the budget with the assumption that we could send down SISD's boiler team to perform the installation. We have found that the rules for a city school district may be different than those for SISD, which is an REAA and has more flexible rules. If we can use the SISD team, we can complete the installation for a modest fraction of what an outside contractor would ask.

Priscilla sent out an email informing people at city and tribe about the opportunity for a small business for someone to invest in a CordKing, similar to what Tim Lindseth has in Thorne Bay, and start supplying firewood. We can begin to collect firewood as soon as the wood storage building is up. The grant does not buy firewood. That cost should be recovered from fuel savings but there is a period of time while the wood dries that we will be invested in wood and still buying fuel. We do not have the money at the moment to cover the cost of accumulating wood.

Maintenance Issues

To complete repairs, we have been using our staff and SISD staff (when they can be freed up) or contact contractors for more complicated issues. As discussed previously, we cannot carry the costs of an employee to keep up on the required paperwork. This means that we will not qualify for major projects funded by the State of Alaska. At this point, there is no possibility that any of our projects are going to be funded anyway. As

Alaska financing improves, we will have to invest the money in staffing to be back on the funding list. I see no alternative on the short-term.

Action Items

9. A. 2. Board Policies 3400-3515.5

Our policy is based AASB Policy and this continues our review of Hydaburg's board policies. It clarifies policy with sex offenders. This is the second reading. **I recommend approval unless a Board member requests further time for review.**

9. A. 3. Board Policy 2250

This cleans up policy so that Bart can designate an individual to be responsible when he is sick or away on business. It clarifies that the individual has the authority to act for Bart in his absence. **I recommend approval.**

9. A. 4. Board Policy 9320

This is to alter the time of Board meetings. We have discussed it previously. Currently, policy states that Board meetings are to begin at 7:00 P.M. The only suggestion that I noted at our last meeting was to start meetings at 6:00 P.M. I do not recall having any sense that this was necessarily the consensus of all Board members. **If there is consensus on 6:00 P.M. for a Board meeting start time, I recommend approval.** If there is no consensus I suggest discussion and update the time to reflect

9. B. 2. Coalition for Education Equity Membership Dues

We notified the Coalition that we could not afford their dues this year and they have come back with an offer to provide the service at a reduced rate.

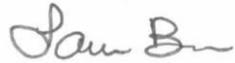
9. B. 3. First Reading of Policies affected by HB 156

Suggestions for curriculum have been forwarded by a local health organization. The first step is to approve the required policy changes followed by Bart leading curriculum work related to the expectations of HB 156, including a plan for sex education. At the conclusion of the curriculum review, we would look at the suggestions from our local health organizations regarding curriculum. HB 156 requires that we make these adjustments and I think we could approve the changes to policy on this first reading. I am fine with going to a second reading but it will slow our efforts to adjust curriculum by several months. **I recommend approval of the changes to policy to comply with HB 156.**

9. B. 4 First Reading of Board Policies 3523-3580

This continues our review of our policy and includes suggested AASB changes. I **recommend moving this to a second reading to allow time for additional review.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lauren Burch".

Lauren Burch
Superintendent