At 7:05 p.m. President Doug Smith called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Directors in the Community Room at Aberdeen High School. Members present included Sandra Bielski, Jeff Snell, Jeremy Hawkins and Jennifer Hagen, along with Superintendent Marty Kay and 10 patrons and staff. A work study preceded the meeting for a presentation and discussion on Powerful Teaching and Learning and the STAR protocol.

On a motion by Jeremy Hawkins, seconded by Jeff Snell, the Board approved the consent agenda, which included the minutes of the August 18, 2009, meeting.

Board member Jeremy Hawkins said one of his clients took part in the Class of 1959’s tour of the new high school and was highly complimentary of both the school and Derek Cook, who led the tour.

Superintendent Kay reported on back-to-school activities. A.J. West Elementary School has been back in session for almost two weeks and is reporting enrollment that is about 30 students above projection. Hopefully, that’s a promising sign for the district’s other schools, which open after Labor Day on Tuesday, September 8. Monitoring class size will be a priority the first week of school, with adjustments made the second week as necessary. Superintendent Kay complimented the maintenance and custodial departments for their hard work getting the buildings ready to reopen and invited the Board to attend the Welcome Back staff meeting on Thursday, September 3.

Lynn Green, career and technical education director, reported on the second year of FAST and the new robotics class at Miller Junior High School. FAST, which stands for Freshmen Accelerating to a Successful Transition, reaches out to incoming freshmen in an attempt to familiarize students with the high school and their class schedules before school starts. The students took part in a five-day program this summer where some of their teachers “pretaught” lessons and they became familiar with classroom locations, the building and its routine. Through FAST it is hoped students arrive on their first day of school with their questions answered and their trepidations assuaged. Superintendent Kay said a successful first semester in high school is closely linked to a student’s overall success in school and the graduation rate. President Smith complimented the district’s efforts to offer relevant career and technical education classes and said his son is enthused about enrolling in the radio class.
Superintendent Kay presented the Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment report prepared by Tita Mallory. New instruments and other purchases for the Fine Arts Adoption are being delivered to schools. A number of summer learning opportunities for students took place during the summer, including a three-week day camp – Camp Discovery – for grade-school students through the 21st Century grant, a “Robotics for Girls” at Miller Junior High School and FAST, the freshman transition program at Aberdeen High School. WASL scores were released on August 14, along with Adequate Yearly Progress reports and improvement status for all schools in the district. Superintendent Kay said Jan Gravely and the staff members who organized Camp Discovery did an excellent job of incorporating fun, camp-like activities for students into the enrichment goals for the program.

Tom Laufmann reported on the Small Works Repair Grant in the amount of $83,000 that the district has received to finish updating the fire alarm system at Miller Junior High School. Several years ago, a grant helped the district purchase a new fire alarm panel for the school and this grant completes the upgrade. The number of false alarms at the school should be greatly reduced. The work will be done during winter break.

On a motion by Jeff Snell, seconded by Jennifer Hagen, the Board adopted Resolution 2009-03 authorizing Tom Laufmann and Superintendent Kay to oversee and approve small works projects.

Tom Laufmann reported on an energy rebate program being introduced this year. The district has tracked energy use at each of the buildings. This year, the schools and buildings that are able to reduce their energy costs will see half the savings put back into their building budgets. Laufmann said the incentive program is an effort to reduce the district’s energy costs while also boosting building budgets at a time when the district has no other source of funds to increase the school budgets.

On a motion from Sandra Bielski, seconded by Jennifer Hagen, the Board voted to surplus items no longer needed by the district. The items include a 1989 Dodge van, VIN #2B4HB25Y8KK370828; a kitchen oven from the old high school, Lang model #2F-11, and two kitchen convection ovens, GE model #CN401 with serial numbers 11CB7041 and 11CB7042, both of which are no longer usable. Superintendent Kay complimented Tom Laufmann for his attention to detail in
overseeing the August 1 “garage sale” and auction of items previously declared surplus.

On a motion from Sandra Bielski, seconded by Jeff Snell, the Board approved a state Public Works Board grant application for the Stewart Field project. Tom Laufmann explained that in this round of applications the state set a tight deadline and is specifically seeking projects that are ready to go and that will generate jobs. Other opportunities to complete the funding package for Stewart Field are also being explored.

The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, September 15, in the Community Room at Aberdeen High School. A work study session will begin at 6 p.m. Doug Smith and Jennifer Hagen will audit the bills.

Board members welcomed Jean Prochaska to the district. She said preparations for opening day at Miller Junior High School are going well and the school is ready for students.

At 7:50 p.m. President Doug Smith called the Board into executive session for the purpose of discussing the qualifications of candidates for employment. The meeting reconvened at 8:12 p.m. Following a presentation by Personnel Director Anna Shanks, on a motion by Jennifer Hagen, seconded by Sandra Bielski, the Board approved personnel matters. Under certificated matters, the Board approved the hiring of Delanie Aune as a science teacher at Miller Junior High School from 0.8 FTE to 1.0. The Board also approved the following co-curricular contracts for the 2009-2010 school year: Connie Bell, Carol Coyle, Beth Day Waters, Tracy Ecklund, Matthew Mahon, Mark Sundstrom and Chuck Veloni, Skills USA at Aberdeen High School; William Dyer, band and World Rhythms at Miller Junior High School; Tracy Ecklund, Distributive Education at Aberdeen High School; Troy George, elementary vocal for the district; Molly Houk, ASB adviser at Aberdeen High School; Tara Johnson, FBLA at Aberdeen High School; Wendy Koski, elementary band and elementary jazz band for the district; Cori Krick, Renaissance at Aberdeen High School; Mike Machowek, FFA adviser at Aberdeen High School; Karen Meikle, elementary/junior high orchestra for the district and orchestra at Aberdeen High School; Barbara Page, yearbook at Aberdeen High School; Daniel Patterson, marching and pep bands at Aberdeen High School; Erik Peterson, elementary vocal for the district; Rick Stallo, events manager at Aberdeen High School; Stacy Swinhart, yearbook at Miller Junior High School, Alice Whittaker, Distributive Education and...
Hospitality at Harbor High School; and Patricia Wilhelms, choral at Aberdeen High School. The Board approved the following supplemental contracts: Connie Bell, CTE related activities and catering services at Aberdeen High School; Rhonda Bond, Keelee Frost, Ken Mitchell, Alice Whittaker, CTE related activities at Harbor High School; Carol Coyle, Beth Day Waters, Tracy Ecklund, Mike Machowek, Barbara Page, Mark Sundstrom, CTE related activities at Aberdeen High School; Brad Fuhrer, CTE related activities and AHS Sign Shop at Aberdeen High School; Tara Johnson, CTE related activities and Twin Star Credit Union at Aberdeen High School; Matthew Mahon, CTE related activities and Bobcat television at Aberdeen High School; Jill Schrader, High School Store and CTE related activities at Aberdeen High School; Chuck Veloni, CTE related activities and KAHS radio station at Aberdeen High School. The following substitute teachers were hired: Brenda Bates, Coleman Carle, Stacy Hunt, Stephanie King, Sandra McCulloch, Scott Morrison, Robert Swogger and Veronica Trotter-Wadsworth. Under classified matters, the Board approved the following hires: Kim Edwards, para-educator at McDermoth Elementary School, effective September 8, and Linda Springer, family service worker for GEAR UP at Aberdeen High School, effective September 8; approved the following extra-curricular contracts at Aberdeen High School, Gurleen Cheema, assistant coach/volleyball, effective August 24; Benjamin Stanton, assistant coach/boys’ tennis, effective August 24; and the following extra-curricular contracts at Miller Junior High School, Jacob Dove, head coach/cross country, effective August 31, Genielle Harless, head coach/girls’ soccer (0.5), effective September 3; and Amy McElliott, head coach/girls’ soccer (0.5).

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

President Doug Smith

Martin W. Kay, Secretary