

School board accepts nurse resignation

Written by Wauneta Breeze
Thursday, 14 November 2013 00:00 -

By Sheri Hink-Wagner

The Wauneta Breeze

The Wauneta-Palisade Public Schools board met for their regular meeting Monday, Nov. 11 at the Wauneta Attendance Center.

During the meeting they accepted the resignation of Rita Crose, who has served as school nurse for the past year and a half.

Superintendent Randy Geier stated Crose had been approached by another employer and received an offer. "I feel we need to support her," Geier said.

School board members accepted her resignation and publicly thanked her for her service to the school.

Geier added Crose's willingness to make time to ease the transition for the new school nurse. He indicated applications have already been received.

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Special Education update

W-P's Special Education teacher Sherri Schoenholz provided the board with an update of happenings within the Special Education department.

She also thanked the school board for the opportunity to attend a number of special trainings and conventions in her field.

Schoenholz also provided board members with a packet of information detailing how the program is administered and tracked.

When asked about challenges in the department, Schoenholz said the most challenging aspect is time. She explained that it is a balancing act to provide instruction to three students learning different lessons in the same 50-minute class period.

Snowplow

In discussion of the October bills, bookkeeper Jill Hurtt told the board of the school's recent purchase of a snowplow for \$1,611.02 from 21st Century Equipment.

Geier explained the snowplow was purchased as a way to lessen expenses during the winter by completing snow removal in house instead of hiring an outside contractor.

He stated the small investment now will have a cost saving effect for the school.

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Other business

School board members authorized Joseph Frecks to sign General and Activity checks as needed. It was stated the action was recommended by the school's auditors.

Geier said the change will allow the school to make last-minute changes if an official is sick or attends a different game.

Board members also approved a distance learning course provided through UNL for one of W-P's students. The student will receive both high school and college credit for the course.

Teacher health insurance offerings

Board members serving on the nominations committee provided a report on negotiations with teachers regarding the health insurance package offered at W-P.

Allison Sandman stated the committee's talks with teachers have led them to consider offering two options to teachers with two different deductible amounts and maximum out-of-pocket limits. The high deductible option would allow teachers to open Healthcare Savings Accounts (HSAs).

The school currently pays 100 percent of the health care insurance premium for teachers and their families.

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Principal report

Elementary principal Roger Reikofski informed the board that the new boiler at the Palisade Attendance Center is up and running.

He said the school staff is still “working out the kinks” of the new system, but that it is working well.

Reikofski said the new boiler should be much more efficient than the one taken out.

He also provided an update on the recent book fair held at the Palisade Attendance Center.

Bussing for activity practice

Board member John Jutten told other board members he received a complaint in regards to bussing provided by the school for school activity practices.

Board members stated that the school has always had a policy of transporting students from Wauneta to practices in Palisade, but that Palisade students have often had to drive to and from Wauneta activities.

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Board members instructed Geier to research and address the issue.