

**November 4, 2014
SPECIAL MEETING**

The Board of Trustees of School District #4 and Forsyth High School District held a Special Meeting on November 4, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 9 of the Middle School Building with the following in attendance:

Layton Salsbery, Chairman, School District #4 & Forsyth High School District
Gerald Killen, Trustee “ “
Dennis Kopitzke, Vice-Chair “ “
Ginger Roll, Trustee “ “
Donald John Cameron, Trustee “ “

Absent:

Jerry Hagadone, Trustee “ “

Also Present:

Dinny Bennett, Superintendent
Robert J. Martelle, District Clerk/Business Manager
Dixie Seleg, K – 6 Principal
Shelly Weight, 7 – 12 Principal

Guests: Stephanie Schnug, Brandon Schnug, Tanner Sorenson, Riley Sorenson, Dylan Sorenson, Jan Banks, Michaela French, Ken Schnug, Don Mork, Melanie Martens, Logan Harms, Craig Knoche, Scott Lackman, Pat French, Deb French, Todd Lackman, Sandra Macioroski, Blake Mohr, Jackie Cardwell, Katie Cardwell

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

The Chairman led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Participation: None

Student Travel

The Superintendent introduced the agenda topic. He had been asked after the October 7, 2014 meeting to obtain information regarding whether other districts permit 7th and 8th grade students to travel with FFA or Pep Band. He explained the results of his findings which were included in the packet.

The Chairman asked Jan Banks, the FFA advisor, if she had anything to add to the information that was provided at the October meeting. Mrs. Banks answered questions from Trustees and members of the audience.

The Chairman asked Shelly Weight, the 7 – 12 Principal, if she would explain her report pertaining to liability issues.

Discussion followed on the following topics: Eligibility requirements, the length of time that 7th & 8th grade students have been permitted to join FFA and how long they have been permitted to travel, opportunities for growth, maturity levels, excessive absences from classes, comparing the FFA travel to Pep Band travel, qualifying for the State competition, number of 7th & 8th grade students participating, number required to help make complete teams, ratio of chaperones to students and more.

Individuals contributing to the discussion were the Trustees, the Superintendent, Jan Banks, Shelly Weight, Don Mork, Melanie Martens, Craig Knoche, Ken Schnug, Logan Harms, Pat French, Deb French, Michaela French and Dixie Seleg.

Recommendation

The Superintendent recommended that the 7th & 8th grade FFA students be allowed to compete at state if they have qualified at the district level.

Motion #1

Dennis Kopitzke moved to accept the recommendation and permit the 7th & 8th grade FFA students to travel to the Leadership Conference in Billings for a trial period of one year.

Discussion followed.

The Chairman noted that the motion had not been seconded. He called for a second three times and receiving none, declared that the motion had failed for lack of a second.

Motion #2

Dennis Kopitzke moved to deny the 7th & 8th grade FFA students to travel overnight for any competition.

Discussion followed.

The Chairman noted that the motion had not been seconded. He called for a second three times and receiving none, declared that the motion had failed for lack of a second.

Motion #3

Donald John Cameron moved to allow the 7th and 8th grade FFA students to travel to all state competitions if they have qualified. Dennis Kopitzke seconded the motion.

Discussion followed.

Upon call for a vote, all trustees present voted in favor of the motion except Ginger Roll who voted “nay”. Motion carried.

Handbook Issues

A question arose regarding the handbooks and change in policy. The 7 – 12 Principal will develop an addendum to the handbooks for the Board’s approval. She will also address chaperone ratios.

Adjournment

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Martelle
District Clerk/Business Manager

Layton Salsbery
Chairman of the Board

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