

REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SCHOOL DISTRICT #6
JULY 12, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District Six was held at 6:00 P.M., Monday, July 12, 2021, in the Boardroom of the administration offices at 501 Sixth Avenue West, Columbia Falls, Montana.

PRESENT:

Jill Rocksund..... Board Chair via Zoom
Dean Chisholm..... Vice Chair
Larry Wilson..... Trustee
Gail Pauley Trustee
Barbara Riley Trustee
Wayne Jacobsmeyer Trustee
Keri Hill Trustee
Heather Mumby Trustee
Dave Wick..... Superintendent of Schools
Dustin Zuffelato Business Manager/Clerk

Board Vice Chair Dean Chisholm called the meeting to order at 6:08 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Riley, second by Mumby, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed 8-0.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Wilson, second by Riley, to approve the consent agenda as presented:

APPROVE CONSENT
AGENDA

- Approve the minutes of the June 14, 2021 Regular Board Meeting.
 - Approve June bills.
 - Approve investment reports.
 - Approve student activity account transfers.
- Passed 8-0

Public Participation:

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION:

Vice Chair Chisholm requested public participation on any agenda or non-agenda items.

There was no public participation.

Approximately three members of the public attended the meeting via Zoom.

Reports:

REPORTS:

The District's Owners Representative Dave Jolly provided an update regarding the K-8 Facility Bond Project. The design of the new Glacier Gateway Elementary playground is in the final stage allowing the District to obtain a cost proposal within the month. The change order to upgrade the mechanical system in the existing portion of Ruder Elementary has created a lot of wall and ceiling tear-out with the intent to get things sealed back up prior to the start of the school year. The District approved a change order for the multi-use field complex to install two additional dry wells. The dry wells are to be installed in August or September. Mr. Jolly expressed concern that the classroom furniture for the new classrooms at Ruder will not be delivered before the start of the school year. The District will be developing an alternate plan to be prepared to start the school year without the new furniture.

Dustin Zuffelato, Business Manager/Clerk, provided the Board with a written report. Mr. Zuffelato highlighted the financial results of the Health Insurance Program. Actual claims paid

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were 70% of expected for plan year ending June 30, 2021. After three consecutive years of plan reserve decreases, the fund balance increased approximately \$650,000 as compared to the beginning of the plan year. Mr. Zuffelato informed the Board of a Health Insurance Committee meeting scheduled July 14, 2021 to consider a revision to the direct provider agreement with Kalispell Regional Medical Center. Vice Chair Chisholm recommended the agreement contain a clause that allows the District to terminate the contract if they no longer operate a self-insured program.

Trustee Barbara Riley updated the Board about the recent proceedings of the National School Board Association (NSBA) and the Montana School Board Association (MTSBA).

Superintendent Dave Wick submitted a written report.

ACTION /
DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Action/Discussed Items:

The Board considered revisions to the Safe Return to School and Continuity of Service Plan. Superintendent Dave Wick informed the Board that this plan was recently revised and requires formal public participation and Board approval.

Motion by Riley, second by Mumby, to approve the Safe Return to School and Continuity of Service Plan as amended. Passed 8-0

The Board considered declaring the old Junior High / Glacier Gateway Elementary building as surplus property and disposing the building. Business Manager Dustin Zuffelato presented the circumstances that have led to this recommendation. During the K-8 Facility Bond Project planning phase in 2018/2019, the District decided the most fiscally responsible thing to do (once the new Glacier Gateway Elementary building was constructed) would be to abandon use of the old junior high/southern portion of Glacier Gateway Elementary. Prior to the bond election, the District was in discussions with the Boys and Girls Club to purchase the building as opposed to selling them land adjacent to Ruder Elementary. During 2020, the Boys and Girls Club notified the District they were no longer interested in acquiring the building. In March 2021 the District obtained a report identifying the asbestos containing materials within this portion of the building that will not be demolished as part of the new Glacier Gateway Elementary construction project. From a budgetary perspective, now that the new Glacier Gateway Elementary is under a fixed bid contract, of the \$37,000,000 general obligation bonds authorized to fund various projects encompassing the K-8 Facility Bond Project, 94% has been contracted or obligated. The District would be stretched to have bond proceeds to complete the deferred maintenance necessary to retain this building. The District has never had the intention to use this building to serve students and thus it is lowest priority. Construction costs for the other projects encompassing the K-8 Facility Bond Project will likely consume the bond funds authorized, putting the District in a position to fund a new roof and mechanical system necessary to retain this building. It is financially prudent to dispose of this property.

Motion by Wilson, second by Riley, to approve Resolution 387 – declaring the old Junior High / Glacier Gateway building as surplus property in an effort to dispose of this property. Passed 7-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE
RESOLUTION 387 -
DECLARE OLD JH /
GLACIER GATEWAY
BUILDINGS AS SUR-
PLUS PROPERTY

The Board considered the recommendations from the Transportation Committee. The Committee conducted a meeting on July 12, 2021. A new kindergarten student will be served at the Intermountain day treatment program in Bigfork. Route 71 was established to transport this student. This route is 106 miles per day. The District will utilize the Toyota Highlander. The route cost per day is \$118. The on-schedule cost is \$100. The Committee reviewed all

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the bus stops that require a child to cross a roadway. New legislation – HB 267 requires annual review and approval.

Motion by Mumby, second by Riley, to approve the Transportation Committee recommendation to add bus route 71. Passed 8-0

Motion by Mumby, second by Wilson, to approve the Transportation Committee recommendation to approve the bus stops that require a child to cross a roadway during school year 2021/22. Passed 8-0

The Board considered audit proposals solicited for fiscal year 2021. Ross Stalcup has been contracted to audit the financials of the District since 2015. Two firms responded to the request for proposals (1) Denning, Downey, and Associates (2) Ross Stalcup. The proposed audit fee to conduct the audit commencing fiscal year 2021 is \$18,500 for Ross Stalcup and \$15,900 for Denning, Downey, and Associates. Vice Chair Chisholm noted it is good management to change auditors periodically in an effort to get a different perspective. Trustee Mumby expressed concern with Denning, Downey and Associates. Specifically, the ability to complete the audit report at specific deadlines outlined in the RFP as well as the ability to deliver a comprehensive review of internal controls and financial management. After deliberation, Board consensus was to make a switch but limit the contract to one year to provide the ability to obtain the level of service prior to a multi-year commitment.

Motion by Wilson, second by Riley, to accept the audit proposal for one year (2021) from Denning, Downey, and Associates. Passed 8-0

The Board considered extending the emergency authorization declaration for the upcoming school year. Superintendent Dave Wick noted that this declaration of unforeseen emergency is necessary due to community and school health concerns related to COVID-19. The declaration affords the District flexibilities within specific policies including how students are served. Motion by Riley, second by Pauley, to extend the emergency authorization declaration for school year 2021/22. Passed 8-0

The Board considered the Montana School Board Association (MTSBA) electronic ballot. Chair Rocksund informed the Board that a quorum was not present during the annual meeting. In accordance to the MTSBA by-laws, each member District shall cast an electronic ballot in absence of a quorum.

Motion by Pauley, second by Mumby, to approve Principles and Guidelines. Passed 6-2 No-Wilson and Jacobsmeyer

Motion by Mumby, second by Pauley, to approve the 2023 dues estimate. Passed 6-2 No-Wilson and Jacobsmeyer

Motion by Wilson, second by Mumby, to nominate Scott Walker to serve as president elect and Tom Billteen as Vice President. Passed 8-0

Personnel:

The Board acknowledged the Superintendent's acceptance of the following resignations: Heather Tudor-Cook, Alon Golan-Teacher, Jennifer Hylton-Lewis-Para-educator, and Dana Karlin-Stock Courier.

Trustee Wilson noted that he would prefer reverting back to the policy that requires the Board to accept resignations as opposed to the Superintendent. Trustee Wilson argued the Board should be afforded the ability to deny a resignation as a matter of public record and inclusion in the personnel file for future employment. Chair Rocksund noted that the policy was changed several years ago granting the authority to accept a resignation to the Superintendent to mitigate

MOTION TO APPROVE THE ADDITION OF BUS ROUTE 71

MOTION TO APPROVE BUS STOPS THAT REQUIRE A CHILD TO CROSS THE ROADWAY

MOTION TO ACCEPT AUDIT PROPOSAL FOR 2021 FROM DENNING, DOWNEY, AND ASSOCIATES

MOTION TO EXTEND THE EMERGENCY AUTHORIZATION DECLARATION FOR SY 2021/22

MOTION TO APPROVE MTSBA PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES

MOTION TO APPROVE MTSBA 2023 DUES ESTIMATE

MOTION TO NOMINATE SCOTT WALKER AND TOM BILLTEEN AS PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

PERSONNEL:

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the amount of time that a change of mind or rescindment could occur. Board consensus was that denying a resignation would not change anything as an employee would never be forced to continue employment.

MOTION TO APPROVE
ELEMENTARY HIRING
RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Wilson, second by Riley, to approve the following Elementary District hiring recommendations: Josie Brown – Junior High Volleyball Coach and Little John MacBay – Ruder Maintenance. Passed 7-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
DISTRICT-WIDE/HIGH
SCHOOL HIRING
RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Wilson, second by Pauley, to approve the following High School/District-wide hiring recommendations: Terry Baker-Sanitation Custodian, John Horine-Sanitation Custodian, and Sharon Dunigan-Sanitation Custodian. Passed 8-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
THE TEMPORARY
SUMMER ELEMEN-
TARY HIRING RECOM-
MENDATIONS

Motion by Wilson, second by Mumby to approve the following Elementary District temporary summer hiring recommendations: Mary Ellen Getts – Bookmobile, Amy Hanson – Bookmobile, Betsy Kohnstamm-Bookmobile, Ashley Kollman – Bookmobile, Kayla Thompson – Bookmobile, Melanie Home Gun – Extended School Year, Manuela Carter – Extended School Year, Logan Williams – Extended School Year, Casandra Rosenbaum – Extended School Year, Cindy Powell – Extended School Year, and Paula Foster- Extended School Year. Passed 7-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
DISTRICT-WIDE/HIGH
SCHOOL TEMPORARY
SUMMER HIRING
RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Wilson, second by Pauley to approve the following High School/District-wide temporary summer hiring recommendations: Finnian Coleman – Grounds, Kelly Hamilton – Summer Food Program, Nancy Johnson-Summer Food Program, Mary Garate – Summer Food Program, Natasha Taylor – IT Support, Blake Rosenbaum – IT Support, Paula Halama – School Nurse, and Shelby Forke –summer school. Passed 8-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
THE SUBSTITUTE
HIRING
RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Wilson, second by Riley, to approve the substitute hiring recommendations. Passed 8-0

MISC / FUTURE
PLANNING

Miscellaneous and Future Planning:

Superintendent Dave Wick noted he expects to schedule a Policy Committee meeting but is waiting for proposed amendments from Kaleva Law.

Vice Chair Chisholm noted he expects to conduct a Negotiations Committee meeting with the Teachers Association.

Annual budget Meeting August 16, 2021 6:00 P.M.

MEETING
ADJOURNED

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Vice Chair Chisholm adjourned the meeting at 7:04 P.M.


Board Chair


Business Manager/Clerk