

REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SCHOOL DISTRICT #6
FEBRUARY 14, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District Six was held at 6:00 P.M., Monday, February 14, 2022, in the Boardroom of the administration offices at 501 Sixth Avenue West, Columbia Falls, Montana.

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Keri Hill..... Trustee

Chair Rocksund called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

Motion by Riley, second by Mumby, to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion passed 7-0.

Motion by Wilson, second by Chisholm, to approve the following items on the consent agenda as presented:

- December 2021 and the January 2022 Board Meeting Minutes
- January Bills
- Investment Reports
- Student Activity Account transfer

Passed 7-0

Public Participation:

Approximately five (5) people participated in the meeting remotely via Zoom. Approximately twenty (25) people attended the meeting in person.

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

Kathy Wetsch – Junior High Teacher expressed appreciation for the Board’s support of the spelling bee.

Joe O’Rourke – Community Member quoted a recent news article published in the Hungry Horse News regarding the proceedings of a Board Meeting conducted in January 2022. Mr. O’Rourke requested a forum for the community to have dialogue with the School Administration and the School Board concerning Social Emotional Learning (SEL). Community member Judy Territo contended the written statement submitted by Board Chair Rocksund during the January 2022 Board Meeting concerning the rationale to not place SEL on the agenda. Mrs. Territo noted that SEL is detrimental and a group of community members continue to be concerned with this curriculum. Parent Cory Albrecht requested that SEL be placed on a School Board Meeting agenda in an effort to resolve concerns. Parent Anika Fraley informed the Board that a small

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVE AGENDA

APPROVE CONSENT
AGENDA

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION:

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group conducted a meeting with School District Six Administrative team last week. She noted that the SEL curriculum devised by CASEL contains components of the Critical Race Theory.

Teacher Diane Marsh informed the Board that she would like to attend the Technology Conference to further her professional development.

There was no additional public participation.

REPORTS:

Reports:

K-8 Facility Bond Project – Owners Representative Dave Jolly provided an update.

The Elementary School Principals provided the Board with written reports.

High School Principal Scott Gaiser provided the Board with a written report.

District Business Manager/Clerk provided the Board with a written report.

Curriculum Director Mark McCord provided the Board with a written report.

Superintendent Dave Wick presented a report depicting the attendance rates for January 2022. Mr. Wick presented an enrollment update based on the Spring Count Date of February 7, 2022. Enrollment jumped 128 students or 6.11% as compared to the Spring count in 2021.

ACTION /
DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Action/Discussed Items:

Approximately twenty members of the public attended the meeting in support of the Swim Team. The Swim Team Cooperative between Whitefish and Columbia Falls and the Swim Club commenced during school year 2012/13. The current Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) (effective 2019/20-2023/24) between these three entities depicts cooperative participation and joint funding from a third party entity – Swim Club. Swim Club Board Member Lisa McKeon presented a proposal requesting the District to fully fund the program. Twenty-two students currently participate in the program and six do not participate in any other school sponsored activities. Several parents spoke to the mental and physical benefits of offering this program to students. Business Manager Dustin Zuffelato conveyed some of the general parameters regarding a proposed revision to the MOA. Columbia Falls and Whitefish School Districts would continue to cooperate to share program expenses including coaches and travel. The Districts would jointly secure the practice facility at the Whitefish WAVE Aquatic and Fitness Center.

Board consensus was in support of this program and the District Administration will work to devise the appropriate agreements for future consideration.

Board Chair Rocksund presented a Resolution to reform legislation related to the Innovative Educational Tax Credit Program. This Resolution would be remitted to the Montana School Board Association (MTSBA) to advocate for this reform during the next State legislative session on our behalf. The intent of the reform is to provide more equity to the process and program.

Motion by Mumby, second by Riley, to approve and submit the legislative reform resolution to the Montana School Boards Association. Passed 7-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
AND SUBMIT THE
LEGISLATIVE REFORM
RESOLUTION TO THE
MTSBA

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The Board considered renewing the membership with the Montana School Board Association for school year 2022/23. Trustee Wilson inquired into the membership dues. Dustin Zuffelato, Business Manager/Clerk noted the dues have increased about 2% per year for the past five years. Mr. Zuffelato depicted the circumstances of the recent dysfunction of the Office of Public Instruction whereas MTSBA is now the only one with institutional knowledge concerning operation of school districts in compliance with state statutes.
Motion by Mumby, second by Pauley, to approve and renew membership with the Montana School Board Association. Passed 7-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
THE RENEWAL OF
MTSBA MEMBERSHIP

The Board considered a Facility Use Agreement with Land to Hand Montana. The District previously executed an agreement with Farm Hands – Nourish the Flathead in April 2021. Farm Hands recently changed names to Land to Hand Montana. The other reason for the revision to the previous agreement is to formalize terms related to a relocatable building currently located on the Glacier Gateway Campus. The District needs to move this building as it is currently situated on property that will be developed into a parking lot for the new Glacier Gateway elementary school. Land to Hand Montana has committed to paying for the cost of moving the building to the Junior High campus including construction of a new foundation and hooking up utilities. In return for this capital investment, Land to Hand is seeking a ten year commitment to use the building. During the term of the Agreement, Land to Hand is responsible for any significant repairs defined as anything exceeding \$1,000. Land to Hand is also responsible for the utilities to operate the building during the term of the Agreement.
Motion by Riley, second by Wilson, to approve the Facility Use Agreement with Land to Hand Montana. Passed 7-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
THE FACILITY USE
AGREEMENT WITH
LAND TO HAND
MONTANA

The Board considered purchasing two propane fueled route buses utilizing the fiscal year 2023 Bus Depreciation Fund budget. The District applied and was awarded a grant from the Department of Environment Quality Clean School Bus program to replace Bus #13 – 2011 Bluebird and Bus #9-2012 Bluebird. The grant will partially fund the \$139,000 cost to replace each of these buses.
Motion by Riley, second by Mumby, to purchase two buses from the 2023 Bus Depreciation Fund budget. Passed 7-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
THE PURCHASE OF
TWO BUSES FROM
THE 2023 DEPRECIATION
FUND BUDGET

The Board considered a Resolution to dispose of obsolete equipment.
Motion by Wilson, second by Pauley, to approve Resolution 392-Disposition of Abandoned, Obsolete, and Undesirable Property. Passed 7-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
RESOLUTION 392

The Board considered Resolutions to call for the annual school election on May 3, 2022. Elementary District Trustees Wilson and Mumby as well as High School District Trustee Pauley have three-year expiring terms. Business Manager Dustin Zuffelato presented budget projections for fiscal year 2023. Both the Elementary and High School District General funds should experience good budget authority increases as a result of higher enrollment. It appears that an additional over-base operating levy is not necessary to maintain current programs.
Motion by Riley, second by Mumby, to approve Resolution 393 – Trustee Resolution calling for an Elementary District Trustee election. Passed 6-0
Motion by Riley, second by Pauley, to approve Resolution 394 – Trustee Resolution calling for a High School District Trustee election. Passed 7-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
RESOLUTION 393

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MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE SALE OF GLACIER GATEWAY PROPERTY TO RUIS GATEWAY LLC

The Board considered the restrictive covenants related to the sale of the Glacier Gateway building and property to Ruis Gateway LLC that were recommended by the Long Range Planning Committee. The restrictions on use of the property are binding to any subsequent owner as well. The covenants restrict the property to be subdivided or used for residential housing. The property is restricted to be used as senior housing.

Motion by Wilson, second by Riley, to approve the restrictive covenants associated with the sale of Glacier Gateway property to Ruis Gateway LLC. Passed 7-0

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE LOWEST BID FROM J2 OFFICE PRODUCTS FOR SCHEDULE 1, 2, AND 4, AND THE LOWEST BID FROM MONTANA SCHOOL EQUIPMENT FOR SCHEDULE 3 AND 5.

The District formally requested bids for furniture specified by LPW Architects for the new Glacier Gateway Elementary School. The furniture and equipment were split into five different components allowing the District to choose the lowest bidder on each component. Montana School Equipment and J2 Office submitted bids for each component. J2 was the lowest bidder on the furniture and equipment listed in schedule 1, 2, and 4. Montana School Equipment was the lowest bidder on schedule 3 and 5.

Motion by Chisholm, second by Riley, to accept the lowest bid from J2 Office Products for schedule 1, 2, and 4 and the lowest bid from Montana School Equipment for schedule 3 and 5. Passed 6-0

MONTANA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION BY-LAW CHANGES

High School Principal Scott Gaiser presented the details of the new changes to the Montana High School Association Bylaws. The most significant changes were to implement a shot clock for basketball and to establish baseball as a sanctioned sport.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE DONATION OF THE SCOREBOARD AND ALLOW THE WILDCAT ATHLETIC ENDOWMENT TO RETAIN ALL ADVERTISING PROCEEDS.

Superintendent Dave Wick presented a proposal from the Wildcat Athletic Endowment to replace the scoreboard in the High School Gym. The Endowment would purchase the scoreboard if they could retain all of the advertising proceeds. The District will assume all installation costs.

Motion by Jacobsmeyer, second by Chisholm, to accept the donation of the scoreboard and allow the Wildcat Athletic Endowment to retain all advertising proceeds. Passed 7-0

PERSONNEL:

Personnel:

The Board acknowledged the following resignations previously accepted by the Superintendent: Amy Caudill – Teacher, Renee Sinclair – Teacher, Guy Herman – IT Support Specialist, Nathaniel Peck-Tennis Coach and Curtis Bean-Assistant Track Coach.

MOTION TO APPROVE ELEMENTARY HIRING RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Riley, second by Mumby, to approve the following Elementary District hiring recommendations: Adam Jeffry-Custodian, Daniel Long-Custodian, and Tara Middlesworth – Junior High Girls Basketball Coach. Passed 6-0

MOTION TO APPROVE DISTRICT-WIDE / HIGH SCHOOL HIRING RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Riley, second by Pauley, to approve the following High School/District Wide hiring recommendations: Linda Jaquette-Bus Driver, Jarrod Joy-Para-educator, and Bryan McGrath-Assistant Track Coach. Passed 7-0

MOTION TO APPROVE SUBSTITUTE HIRING RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Wilson, second by Riley, to approve the substitute hiring recommendations. Passed 7-0

MOTION TO APPROVE THE OUT OF STATE TRAVEL REQUEST FOR B. BATES AND D. MARSH TO ATTEND THE ISTE CONFERENCE

Motion by Riley, second by Mumby, to approve the out of state travel request of teachers Becky Bates and Diane Marsh to attend the ISTE Conference in New Orleans – June 26-29, 2022. Passed 7-0

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Miscellaneous and Future Planning:

The Board scheduled a Long Range Planning Committee Meeting to conduct the High School HVAC Engineer interviews. The meeting is scheduled for March 7, 2022 if more than one firm responds to the Request for Qualifications.

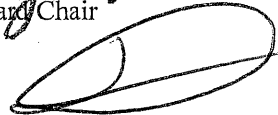
Health Insurance Committee Meeting February 24, 2022 4:00 P.M.

Regular Board Meeting March 14, 2022 6:00 P.M.

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Chair Rocksund adjourned the meeting at 8:08 P.M.



Board Chair



Business Manager/Clerk

MISC / FUTURE
PLANNING

MEETING
ADJOURNED: