

Hellgate Elementary Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting December 12th, 2022
6:00 p.m.

OPENING

The Board of Trustees of Hellgate Elementary School District #4 met in regular session on Monday, December 12th, 2022. The meeting was held in-person. The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman, Tom McLaughlin. Trustees participating were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rich Thornock, Diane Beck, and Lori Christensen. Trustees Rod Sharkey and Kate Walker were absent. Superintendent Molly Blakely and District Clerk Justine Reese were present for the meeting. District staff participating were Brent Heist (Assistant Principal for Building 3), Chris Clevenger (Building 3 Principal), Julie McCarthy-McLavery (Building 2 Principal), Jamie Courville (Building 4 Principal), Erin Ellis (Curriculum Coordinator), and Sara Bermingham (representing the HEEA). Other individuals in attendance included: Tiffany Manthie (PTA President and parent in the community), Jonathan Karlen (State Representative-elect for House District 96) and Erica, Henry and Ansel Ihde (parent, 5th and 2nd grade students). There were up to 18 total guests/participants in the meeting, in-person.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Henry and Ansel Ihde introduced themselves and presented a cash donation of \$1,206.00 to the Board. Henry Ihde is a 5th grade student and Ansel Ihde is a 2nd grade student at Hellgate Elementary. They raised the funds by selling hot chocolate and homemade cookies in their neighborhood. They raised half of the total donation and their grandfather matched their profits for a total donation of \$1,206 that will go to families in need at Hellgate Elementary. The Trustees expressed their appreciation for their immense generosity.

Jonathan Karlen introduced himself and his responsibility representing the area.

The PTA president, Tiffany Manthie, provided the Board with an update of current fundraisers as well as a brief overview of the association's plans for the raised funds. Tiffany also informed the Trustees that the PTA donated \$1,000 to the Drama Club and \$1,000 to the Robotics Club.

HEEA

Sara Bermingham represented the HEEA and provided a brief update.

RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS AND STAFF

Recognition of Henry and Ansel Ihde's generosity and hard work.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Trustees reviewed the monthly newsletter from OPI.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES-Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve the minutes from the November 14th, 2022 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Lori Christensen. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Diane Beck, Tom Cook, and Lori Christensen. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF THE WARRANTS

There was no discussion on the warrants. A motion was made by Tom Cook to approve the November 2022 claims. The motion was seconded by Rich Thornock. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Diane Beck, Tom Cook, and Lori Christensen. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF BUDGET REPORTS

Trustees reviewed the budget reports for November 2022.

REVIEW OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

A motion was made by Lori Christensen to approve the November 2022 Student Activities Report. The motion was seconded by Diane Beck. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Diane Beck, Tom Cook, and Lori Christensen. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE HIRING OF CERTIFIED STAFF:

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve the superintendent's recommendation to offer an employment contract to Ms. Blair Hebnes as a first grade teacher for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year. The motion was seconded by Lori Christensen. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Diane Beck, Tom Cook, and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve the superintendent's recommendation to offer an employment contract to Ms. Megan Matteo as a long-term substitute for a maternity leave for first grade through February 24, 2023. The motion was seconded by Lori Christensen. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Diane Beck, Tom Cook, and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve the superintendent's recommendation to offer an employment contract to Ms. Joanna Johnson to work a four day work week as a counselor for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year. There was discussion that she would be providing services in Building 3 and 4. The motion was seconded by Lori Christensen. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Diane Beck, Tom Cook, and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve the superintendent's recommendation to approve Ms. Sarah Schwartz to work a four day work week as a counselor for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year. The motion was seconded by Tom Cook. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Diane Beck, Tom Cook, and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Lori Christensen to approve the superintendent's recommendation to approve Ms. Emily Botkin as a full-time roving substitute for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year. The motion was seconded by Rich Thornock. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Diane Beck, Tom Cook, and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE HIRING OF CLASSIFIED STAFF:

A motion was made by Lori Christensen to approve the superintendent's recommendation to offer an employment contract to Ms. Jennifer Martin to work in the custodial department for the 2022-2023 school year. There was brief discussion. The motion was seconded by Rich Thornock. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Diane Beck, Tom Cook, and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Tom Cook to approve the superintendent's recommendation to offer an employment contract to Ms. Kathleen Kimmel to work in the food service department for the 2022-2023 school year. The motion was seconded by Lori Christensen. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Diane Beck, Tom Cook, and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

TERMINATION OF CLASSIFIED STAFF:

A motion was made by Lori Christensen to approve the superintendent's recommendation to terminate employment with Ms. Brooke Mulawka from the food service department effective December 5, 2022. The motion was seconded by Rich Thornock. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Diane Beck, Tom Cook, and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE UPDATED DISTRICT SAFE RETURN PLAN:

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve the superintendent's recommendation to approve our bi-annual All Safe Return plan as required by the Office of Public Instruction. See attached reopening plan as well as stakeholder feedback from safety survey. Superintendent Blakely presented the results of the safety survey. The motion was seconded by Lori Christensen. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Diane Beck, Tom Cook, and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

DESTRUCTION OF OLD WARRANTS CONSIDERATION:

A motion was made by Lori Christensen authorizing Ms. Justine Reese, the Hellgate Elementary District Clerk/Business Manager, to destroy stale warrants that have never been cashed by the recipient for over one (1) year. The motion was seconded by Rich Thornock. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Diane Beck, Tom Cook, and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE SUBSTITUTE LIST

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve the proposed substitute list for the 2022-2023 school year.

Akane, McKenna	Kerns, Drue
Arnold, Fred	Loyson, Shelley
Botkin, Emily	Matteo, Megan
Coleman, Shirley	Mickel, Rebekah
Curry, Taina	Miller, Michelle
Deden, Alexis	Minckler, Kimberly
Dennis, Sarah	Polanchek, David
Finnerty, Ashley	Powers, Desiree
Grados, Shelley	Smith, Gary "Scooter"
Harper, Joshua	Spletto, April
Harper, Zachary	Vilshanetska, Diana
Harris, Laurie	Werner, Tara
Hebnes, Blair	Whitney, Kristen
Hickman, Angelina	Woods, Hilary
Hitt, Heather	
Johnson, Candy	
Johnston, Lexi	
Kahle, Kim	
Kallas, Kayla	
Keeling, Malia	

The motion was seconded by Lori Christensen. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Diane Beck, Tom Cook, and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Acknowledgement of retirees: Thang Tran (12 years at HESD) and Donna Tyler (19 years at HESD): There was recognition and acknowledgement of Thang and Donna's years of service at Hellgate Elementary.

Griz Game Hero, Nicole Kelling: Superintendent Blakely recognized the heroic act Nicole Kelling displayed at the Lady Griz Game, where she saved an individual who was choking.

Google Workspace: Superintendent Blakely informed the Board of the decision to pursue a cloud-based technology platform rather than a server-based technology platform.

Trustee Nominating Petitions: Superintendent Blakely discussed there are two trustee chairs that are up for election on May 2, 2023: Diane Beck and Kate Walker. Diane Beck stated she will not be running again. Election information is available on the district's website.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Reports discussed.

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

Trustees reviewed the monthly report of building Principals and listened to updates and staff recognitions from Building Principals: Julie McCarthy-McLavery (Building 2), Chris Clevenger (Building 3), and Jamie Courville (Building 4). Board Chairman, Tom McLaughlin, expressed his thanks and appreciation to the principals/staff for all they do.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next regular meeting of the Board will be January 9th, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was a general appreciation expressed from staff in attendance, to the Board for Christmas gifts. There was brief discussion of the necessity of locking the playground after hours and during the summer months. There was discussion on the positive impact the new cameras in Building 2 have provided.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Tom McLaughlin, Board Chair

Justine Reese, Business Manager/Clerk