

Hellgate Elementary Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting March 14th, 2022
7:00 p.m.

OPENING

The Board of Trustees of Hellgate Elementary School District #4 met in regular session on Monday, March 14, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held in-person and also broadcast by virtual video conferencing. The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman, Tom McLaughlin. Trustees participating were: Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, Rod Sharkey, Rich Thornock, and Kate Walker. Superintendent Doug Reisig and District Clerk Shara Blair were present for the meeting. District staff participating were Brent Heist, Director of Student Services; Chris Clevenger, Principal-Hellgate Intermediate; Jamie Courville, Principal-Hellgate Middle School; Damian Droessler, Principal-Hellgate Lower Grades; Julie McCarthy-McLavery, Principal-Hellgate Primary School; Molly Blakely, Assistant Superintendent; and Jonna Brandt, Director of Assessment. There were up to 17 guests/participants in the meeting by Zoom and 2 guests in-person.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tom Cook introduced himself as a trustee candidate for the upcoming May school board election and provided a brief history about himself.

HEEA

Sara Bermingham reported for HEEA with congratulations to staff changing to new positions, resigning or retiring. She also offered congratulations to the Robotics Club coaches and teams for their success at the State competition with one team making it the World competition in April. She also asked the Trustees to consider the HEEA input and feedback to the proposed 2022-2023 school calendar.

RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS AND STAFF

There were no recognitions at this meeting.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Trustees reviewed the monthly newsletters from OPI, MSPLIP, and other correspondence.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to approve the minutes from the February 10, 2022 special meeting. The motion was seconded by Jack Babon. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, Rod Sharkey, Rich Thornock, and Kate Walker. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to approve the minutes from the February 14, 2022 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Jack Babon. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, Rod Sharkey, Rich Thornock, and Kate Walker. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to approve the minutes from the March 2, 2022 special meeting. The motion was seconded by Jack Babon. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, Rod Sharkey, Rich Thornock, and Kate Walker. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to approve the minutes from the March 3, 2022 special meeting. The motion was seconded by Jack Babon. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, Rod Sharkey, Rich Thornock, and Kate Walker. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to approve the minutes from the March 7, 2022 special meeting. The motion was seconded by Jack Babon. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, Rod Sharkey, Rich Thornock, and Kate Walker. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF THE WARRANTS

There was discussion about the warrants. A motion was made by Jack Babon to approve the February 2022 claims. The motion was seconded by Rich Thornock. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, Rod Sharkey, Rich Thornock, and Kate Walker. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF BUDGET REPORTS

Trustees reviewed the budget reports for February 2022.

REVIEW OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve the Student Activities Report. The motion was seconded by Lori Christensen. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, Rod Sharkey, Rich Thornock, and Kate Walker. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE SUBSTITUTE LIST

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve the substitute list. The motion was seconded by Rod Sharkey. There was discussion on the sub list. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, Rod Sharkey, Rich Thornock, and Kate Walker. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

2022-2023 SCHOOL CALENDAR:

A motion was made by Jack Babon to adopt the 2022-2023 school year calendar as presented (copy of proposed calendar included with official minutes). The motion was seconded by Rich Thornock. Superintendent Reisig summarized the potential calendar for consideration to adopt, adjust, modify, change, or reject as presented considering the following feedback from the HEEA: Martin Luther King Jr. Day should be a school holiday, consider not observing the Easter Break in exchange for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day as a school holiday, continue having the 3 day, 4 day, and 5 day start schedule to start the school year. Trustees discussed the feedback and considerations for change. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Rod Sharkey, and Rich Thornock. Voting against the motion were Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, and Kate Walker. The motion passed by majority.

CERTIFIED STAFF HIRES

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve the superintendent's recommendation to offer certified employment contracts to Ms. Tricia Oliver (long-term 1st grade substitute, February 28, 2022 through June 9, 2022), and Ms. Audrey Argenbright (long-term 5th grade substitute, March 3, 2022 through June 9, 2022). The motion was seconded by Jack Babon. There was discussion on the item. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, Rod Sharkey, Rich Thornock, and Kate Walker. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO IMPOSE CHANGE IN LEVIES

A motion was made by Jack Babon to adopt the "Resolution of Intent to Impose Change in Levies" as required under the Permissive Levy notification regulation for the 22-23 fiscal year as presented in the Superintendent Memo (copy included with official minutes). The motion was seconded by Lori Christensen. Superintendent Reisig explained the information provided in the notice and the background information used for the

calculations. There was discussion on the item. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, Rod Sharkey, Rich Thornock, and Kate Walker. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

LEVY ELECTION CONSIDERATION

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to table setting a levy election dollar amount to be offered for consideration to the district voters at the May 3, 2022 levy election. The election, if needed, will be a mail ballot election. The motion was seconded by Jack Babon. Voting in favor to table the agenda item until later in the meeting were: Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, Rod Sharkey, Rich Thornock, and Kate Walker. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

CERTIFIED STAFF RESIGNATION

A motion was made by Lori Christensen to accept the resignation of the following certified staff members at the conclusion of the 2021/2022 school year: Ms. Kara Baker, Hellgate Elementary 1st Grade Teacher; Ms. Katie Matthews, Hellgate Elementary 6th Grade Teacher; Ms. Melissa Morton, Hellgate Elementary 6th Grade Teacher. The motion was seconded by Kate Walker. Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, Rod Sharkey, Rich Thornock, and Kate Walker. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR HIRES

A motion was made by Lori Christensen to approve the superintendent's recommendation to hire the following individuals as track coaches for the 2022 track season – Head Coach: Max Jacobson and Dale Asanovich Assistant Coach: Shane Byers, Adelle Donohue, Derek Dungan, Katie Matthews, Taylor Nordby, Nick Weller. The motion was seconded by Kate Walker. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, Rod Sharkey, Rich Thornock, and Kate Walker. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

CLASSIFIED STAFF HIRES

A motion was made by Lori Christensen to approve the superintendent's recommendation to offer an employment contract to Ms. Catherine O'Brien, Special Ed Paraprofessional from February 1, 2022 through June 9, 2022 and Ms. Kali Stubbs, Special Ed Paraprofessional, from March 7, 2022 through June 9, 2022. The motion was seconded by Kate Walker. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, Rod Sharkey, Rich Thornock, and Kate Walker. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

CLASSIFIED STAFF RETIREMENT

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to accept the resignation/retirement of Mr. Jim McKee, Hellgate Elementary Maintenance Department staff member, effective June 30, 2022. The motion was seconded by Rod Sharkey. There was discussion on the item. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, Rod Sharkey, Rich Thornock, and Kate Walker. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

RETIREMENT AGREEMENT CONSIDERATION

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to offer a one-time retirement agreement opportunity for Mr. Jim McKee, Hellgate Elementary Maintenance Department staff member, in accordance with the district's Retirement Agreement offer (copy of agreement included with official minutes), effective July 1, 2022. [Background: Mr. Jim McKee has worked for Hellgate Elementary for the past 29 years. He is interested in retiring, effective June 30, 2022. I am asking that the school board approve a one-time, one-year offer of health insurance opportunity, for Mr. McKee who has invested over 29 years of service, exclusively with Hellgate Elementary]. The motion was seconded by Rod Sharkey. Trustees discussed the item and thanked Mr. McKee for his years

of service. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, Rod Sharkey, Rich Thornock, and Kate Walker. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST FOR ITEM DISPOSAL

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve the recommendation as noted in the Superintendent Memo to allow the District to dispose of old/unusable equipment, materials, textbooks, library books, and property that no longer have a use for Hellgate Elementary. The motion was seconded by Rod Sharkey. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, Rod Sharkey, Rich Thornock, and Kate Walker. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Levy Election Consideration: Superintendent Reisig explained the ballot for the 2022 school district election will include candidates for the 3 trustee seats up for election. He stated the school bond was the last time the school board ran a voted levy. He explained there are many funds that make up the school budget, with the General Fund holding the largest share and historically that fund has had a budget deficit – using other funds to support to difference. Superintendent Reisig proposed four choices: postpone the levy, consider a voted levy up to \$800,000, reduce staff/services, or consider temporary “open enrollment” (allowing out of district students to fill available enrollment capacity). There was discussion on the considerations including the impact and limitations of ESSER funds. Superintendent Reisig reviewed the preliminary budget amount and challenges for the 2022-2023 school year. It was noted the General Fund deficit will continue to get worse and other funds to support it may not be available or are inconsistent...a fiscal “cliff”. Trustees discussed potential changes to the economy, housing and transportation costs, and unknown enrollment fluctuation. Trustees agreed they historically have been conservative and only asked voters when financial support is needed. A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to not run a levy for the May 3, 2022 election cycle. The motion was seconded by Jack Babon. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Jack Babon, Diane Beck, Lori Christensen, Rod Sharkey, Rich Thornock, and Kate Walker. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

PRINCIPALS’ REPORTS

Trustees reviewed the monthly report of building principals and heard updates and student and staff recognitions from each principal.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next regular meeting of the board will be April 11, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no additional comments from the public.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.