

REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SCHOOL DISTRICT #6
MAY 8, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District Six was held at 6:00 P.M., Monday, May 8, 2023, in the Boardroom of the administration offices at 501 Sixth Avenue West, Columbia Falls, MT 59912.

PRESENT:

Jill Rocksund Board Chair
Dean Chisholm Board Vice Chair
Keri Hill Trustee
Casey Heupel Trustee Via Zoom, Off line 7:01 P.M.
Barbara Riley Trustee
Wayne Jacobsmeyer Trustee
Heather Mumby Trustee
Dave Wick Superintendent of Schools
Dustin Zuffelato Business Manager/Clerk

ABSENT:

Justin Cheff Trustee

Call to order at: 6:01 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Riley, second by Mumby, to approve the agenda as presented.
Public comment was requested and there was none.
Passed 7-0.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Riley, second by Hill, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

APPROVE CONSENT
AGENDA

- Approve April bills
- Approve the investment report.
- Approve the minutes of November 14, 2022; January 9, 2023; January 30, 2023; March 14, 2023 (Revised Copy); April 6, 2023; and April 17, 2023, meetings.

Public comment was requested and there was none.
Passed 7-0

Public Participation:

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION:

Approximately eight (8) people participated in the meeting remotely via Zoom. Approximately twenty-three (23) people attended the meeting in person.

Student Body Representative

Jonathon Blankenship, High School Student Body President, presented a written report. There is currently eight (8) seniors on the student council that will be graduating next month. The goal is to get more underclassmen to step up and get involved. Some highlights over the last couple months are: the student body raised \$1700 for the leukemia and lymphoma fundraiser representing the highest in the past four (4) years, May 10th the student council is putting on the Junior High activities day assembly to encourage 8th graders to get involved in High School activities next year, and the Student on Board meeting. Trustee Barb Riley will provide minutes from the Students on Board meeting and would like to see more meetings next year, possible scheduling a meeting every six (6) weeks throughout the school year.

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REPORTS:

Reports:

K-8 Facility Bond Project – Owners Representative Dave Jolly provided an update. Landscaping at Glacier Gateway is ahead of schedule and will conclude in June. The Glacier Gateway parking lot should also be finished in the middle of June. The multi-use field storage building is being remodeled. Superintendent Dave Wick added that the construction to install the fiber optic wide area network to the administration building started today and the work should be done the middle of next week.

The Elementary School Principals provided the Board with written reports. Glacier Gateway has numerous field trips planned. Attendance was down for April due to colds and stomach bugs. Kyle Hubbard did a new performance “Quilt Speaks” which is a historical musical about the Underground Railroad with fourth graders. Ruder Elementary PTO raised \$13,275 in the read-a-thon, and are working with staff on ways to utilize the library to entice more students to read during free time. Ruder students finished SBAC testing, and had results within two weeks. Assessment results for fourth grade were lower year. One explanation is that this grade level had their first grade year disrupted by the COVID pandemic. All scores are not where they were pre-COVID, but are trending up. The Junior High is focusing on a multi-tiered system to support the students. Tier one is the majority of the student body; tier two are the strategic kids; tier three are the more intensive kiddos. Advanced studies students had their exhibition night.

High School Principal Jon Konen provided the Board with a written report. Mr. Konen recognized Jon Blankenship, High School Student Body President, for his partnership and leadership. Mr. Blankenship worked on a new intercom system for his senior project. He was the one to push Mr. Konen on putting the daily announcements on YouTube and getting students involved.

District Business Manager/Clerk provided the Board an update on the year end budget. The year-end budgeting process includes ensuring the District maintains compliance with the maintenance of effort provision for special education expenditures. It may be necessary to shift some staff previously funded with federal Medicaid funds to the state/local general fund budget. The District solicited proposals from various property- liability insurance companies. The District anticipates the premiums for this coverage to increase from national issues such as hurricanes, floods, tornados, and also from cyber and gun issues. A work session meeting will be conducted on May 22, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. with insurance companies.

Curriculum Director, Mark McCord, provided the Board with a written report. Math curriculum resource is being reviewed for adoption. There are printed and digital resources available for a new trial next year. Received English is a Second Language students’ testing results and programs; will be introducing another platform, Rosetta Stone, to help those students. In the middle of a new mobile app for the District that can be downloaded on any smartphone.

Trustee Barbara Riley updated the Board about the recent proceedings of the National School Board Association (NSBA) and the Montana School Board Association (MTSBA). The next board meeting is June 7, 2023. Report focuses mainly on professional development training opportunities.

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Superintendent Dave Wick mentioned that enrollment-attendance has remained consistent. Mr. Wick provided a legislative update. The new health trust bill recently passed. HB352 targeted intervention for preschool students at the age of 4 as well as two charter school bills passed. There is an increase in CTE funding and funding for the digital academy. It is teacher appreciation week, and he is very proud of the staff that we have and appreciate all that they do for our students.

Board Chair Jill Rocksund would like to recognize teachers during this week and the work that they have done.

Action/Discussed Items:

Mr. Wick presented a new process regarding the out of district tuition procedure for students attending Evergreen School District.

Motion by Riley, second by Mumby, to approve the Authorization Form for Designated Proxy Signer for Evergreen School District No. 50.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 7-0.

ACTION/
DISCUSSION ITEMS:

MOTION TO APPROVE
AUTHORIZATION
FORM FOR
DESIGNATED PROXY
SIGNER

The Insurance Committee met at 5:00 P.M. on 5/8/2023 to fine tune the recommendations. The Committee recommended changing the stop loss insurance provider to Sun Life. The rates were comparable and the District is sensing a decline to the EBMS RE captive program. The retiree rates will continue using the same pricing structure as in the past and will not use reserves to offset the premiums; use of plan reserves of \$175 PEPM were recommended to be used to offset the active employee rates, this exposes reserves if claims exceed 108 percent of expected claims. Motion by Riley, second by Hill to approve the following Health Insurance Committee Recommendations:

- Administrative Service Agreement Renewal with EBMS.
- Stop Loss Insurance change to Sun Life
- Funding from reserves \$175 (108% of expected claims).
- Four (4) tier rate structure for the classified staff.
- Retiree rates.
- Other programs (expenses) funded from reserves:
 - o Vision exam
 - o VEZA Health
 - o EAP Program
 - o Consulting
 - o Life Insurance
 - o Health Promotion Program

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 6-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
THE HEALTH
INSURANCE
COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Riley, second by Hill, to approve the following independent contractor agreements for SY2023-2024.

- Rita Haskins, Occupational Therapy
- Leslie Hayden, Physical Therapy

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 6-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
THE INDEPENDENT
CONTRACTOR
AGREEMENTS

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MOTION TO APPROVE
THE RENEWAL
AGREEMENT WITH
INTERQUEST
DETECTION CANINES

Motion by Mumby, second by Riley, to approve the renewal agreement with Interquest Detection Canines for SY2023-24.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 6-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
THE HS HVAC
VENTILATION SYSTEM
UPGRADE PROJECT

Tyler Tonjum, Jackola Engineering, presented the details of the value engineering being conducted for the High School HVAC project. Business Manager/Clerk, Dustin Zuffelato noted that the school will be getting ventilation to additional portions of the building as compared to what was approved by the Board a month ago. At this point, the District needs to provide a Notice to Proceed to Swank Enterprises so they can secure materials. Jackola Engineering will continue to work on the design details in an effort to obtain a final contract amount from Swank which will include the original bid and the value engineering reductions. Motion by Riley, second by Jacobsmeyer, to approve the High School HVAC ventilation system upgrade project starting with the base design bid, plus alternatives A1 and A5, with A3 and A4 remaining as contingency.

Public comment was requested and Passed 6-0

MOTION TO APPROVE
THE CANVAS OF
VOTES

The Board considered the results of the May 2, 2023 Trustee Election. There were reports that some voters in the District did not receive ballots in the mail. The Board discussed methods to improve communication regarding what a voter can do if they did not receive a ballot.

Motion by Mumby, second by Chisholm, to approve the canvas of votes and declaration of results for the May 2, 2023, Trustee Election.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 6-0

PERSONNEL:

Personnel:

The Board acknowledged the following resignations previously accepted by the Superintendent: Jeanne Kickbusch – District Bus Driver, Sharon Dunigan – HS Custodian, Judy Richter – HS Special Education Paraeducator, Jonathan Blankenship – Assistant Cross HS Country Coach and HS Special Education Teacher, Jeffrey Remiker – HS Industrial Arts Teacher

MOTION TO APPROVE
THE ELEMENTARY
AND HIGH SCHOOL /
DISTRICT-WIDE HIRING
RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Riley, second by Hill, to approve the following Elementary District and High School/ District Wide hiring recommendations: Lauren Lenzner – Kindergarten Teacher, Amy Spangler – Title I Reading Paraeducator, Samuel Kavanagh – JH Math Teacher, Lea Shanks – JH Science Teacher, Sarah Rosenbaum – JH Summer School Teacher, Kathy Wetsch – JH Summer School Teacher, Tammy Coleman – JH Summer School Teacher, Winford Collins – PT Custodian, Jaxon Arndt-Stigall – Custodian, Daniel Hall – Summer Bus Washer, Scott Corbet – Interim HS Head Baseball Coach, Brandon Rice – Interim HS Assistant Baseball Coach, Ciera Finberg – HS Annual Sponsor, Willow Moran – HS Senior Advisor, Wade Van Ness – HS Traffic Education Instructor

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 6-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE
THE SUBSTITUTE
HIRING
RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Riley, second by Mumby, to approve the substitute hiring recommendations.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 6-0.

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Miscellaneous and Future Planning:

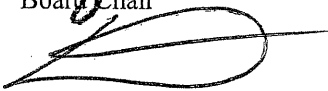
- Negotiations Committee will need to meet soon.
- Staff Retirement Recognition Reception - May 22, 2023 - 5:00 P.M. in the Board Room
- Work Session - May 22, 2023 - 6:00 P.M.
- Graduation - June 3, 2023 - 11:00 A.M.

Trustee Barbara Riley recognized Dean Chisholm for his time on the Board including his accomplishments throughout the last 18 years.

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Chair Rocksund adjourned the meeting at 7:36 p.m.



Board Chair



Business Manager/Clerk

MISC / FUTURE
PLANNING

CHISHOLM
RECOGNITION

MEETING ADJOURNED