

REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SCHOOL DISTRICT #6  
OCTOBER 9, 2023

The Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District Six was held at 6:00 P.M., Monday, October 9 2023, in the Boardroom of the administration offices at 501 Sixth Avenue West, Columbia Falls, Montana.

PRESENT:

Jill Rocksund..... Board Chair  
Barbara Riley ..... Vice Chair  
Megan Upton..... Trustee  
Justin Cheff..... Trustee  
Keri Hill ..... Trustee  
Heather Mumby ..... Trustee  
Wayne Jacobsmeyer ..... Trustee  
Casey Huepel ..... Trustee Via Zoon  
Cory Dziowgo ..... Superintendent of Schools  
Dustin Zuffelato ..... Business Manager/ Clerk

ABSENT:

Keri Hill ..... Trustee

Call to order at: 6:02 P.M.

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

Motion by Riley, second by Upton, to approve the consent agenda as follows:  
- Approve July special meeting and August regular board meeting minutes.  
- Approve September bills.  
- Approve the investment report.

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

Discussion was had regarding the September 25, 2023 special board meeting minutes. Trustee Riley was not at the meeting, but wanted it mentioned that the Montana School Board Association has not facilitated a boiler plate strategic planning process in the past. Motion by Mumby, second by Jacobsmeyer, to approve September 25, 2023 special board meeting minutes as presented.  
Passed 7-0

Public Participation:

Approximately eight (8) people participated in the meeting remotely via Zoom. Approximately forty-two (42) people attended the meeting in person.

Fourth Grade Teacher, Mary Ellen Getts, and students had a presentation regarding the new garden at Glacier Gateway Elementary School.

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVE AGENDA

APPROVE CONSENT  
AGENDA

APPROVE MEETING  
MINUTES

PUBLIC  
PARTICIPATION:

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Student Body Representatives Kai Galon and Mackenzie West, Co-Presidents, gave a presentation on the past, current, and future events at the High School. The sale of Bleed Blue flags for Homecoming had broken even. Most athletic teams are close to the playoffs or currently in playoffs. The National Honor Society induction was conducted last week. Coming up in later in the fall is the blood drive and Veterans' Day assembly in November.

All principals introduced new staff members to the Board. Chair Rocksund formally welcomed the new teachers to the District.

REPORTS:

Reports:

Business Manager/Clerk, Dustin Zuffelato provided an update on the K-8 Facility Bond Project. Ruder Elementary was able to get the parking lot striped, upgrade the lighting at the playground, and order furniture in the older area of the school to match the new rebuild. The final cost will be approximately \$50,000 over budget.

The Elementary School Principals provided the Board with written reports and will be changing the format of presenting. Instead of reading the reports, data regarding each school will be shown each month. The STAR Assessment window closed in October 2023. Each elementary school principal shared the grades' mark as percentages below benchmark, at benchmark, and above benchmark. Kindergarten and first grade performed one-on-one oral testing and the higher grades had a thirty-four (34) question written exam.

High School Principal, Jon Konen, provided the Board with a written report. Mr. Konen shared the test results in percentage of below benchmark, at benchmark, and above benchmark. Attendance is one factor for the low results. Last year 9th graders missed an average of twenty plus days for the year. The High School wants to look at the percentage of students' growth in the classroom, one time testing, graduation, etc., which is all factors in to see how a school is doing to support students. Working on the school culture, access to food and clothes at the school, social/emotional help, will sway test results.

District Business Manager/Clerk provided the Board with a written report. The Insurance Committee is always looking for additional ways to help employees and recommended offering AFLAC as a voluntary insurance.

Curriculum Director, Mark McCord, shared a new state accreditation process with the Board. A comprehensive needs assessment will be conducted by each district. The District will be gathering information through a survey from stakeholders on how they feel about things including recommendations for improvements.

Trustee Barbara Riley updated the Board about the recent proceedings of the Consortium of State School Board Associations (COSSBA) and the Montana School Board Association (MTSBA). The next MTSBA meeting is Wednesday before MCEL. Two weeks ago Trustee Riley was in Washington D.C. learning what is happening at the federal level for education.

Superintendent Cory Dziowgo shared a handout regarding the Superintendent evaluation. Strategic planning will come down to time and money. Dr. Darlene Schottle has offered to help. Chair Rocksund would like to see it done within a year considering all the other projects going on in the District.

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Board Chair Jill Rocksund had no additional information at this time.

Action/Discussed Items:

The Glacier Gateway Library Accreditation Variance report was reviewed. The school has one full-time librarian, one full-time tech teacher and one full-time para. Students are getting what they need for library standards. As of today, Glacier Gateway is at four hundred eighty-three (483) students.

Motion by Riley, second by Mumby, to approve the Glacier Gateway Library Accreditation Variance.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 6-0.

Motion by Riley, second by Upton, to approve the Independent Contractor Agreement with Linden Rigler – ADOS Services for SY23-24.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 7-0.

Motion by Mumby, second by Riley, to approve a Request for Qualifications for Architecture/Engineering Services for a high school capital bond project.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 7-0.

Personnel:

The Board acknowledged the following resignations previously accepted by the Superintendent: Jeremy Grilley – JH Girls Basketball Coach, David Wanner – FT to PT Ruder Sped Para, Austin Barth – JH Boys Basketball Coach, Sydni Newbury – Hot Lunch Helper/Floater, Desiree Albertoni – HS Drama Coach

Motion by Cheff, second by Jacobsmeyer, to approve the following Elementary District hiring recommendations: Melanie Burley – Ruder Special Education Para, Ashley McCormick – Glacier Gateway Speech Language Pathologist, Tarry Middlesworth – JH Volleyball Coach, Ted Miller – JH Football Coach, Emily Hageen – Glacier Gateway Special Education Para, Margaret Jalowiec – PT Glacier Gateway Special Education Para and PT Glacier Gateway Long Term Sub HE/PE Teacher, Valerie Parsons – Ruder Special Education Para, Diane McDonald – Ruder Special Education Para, Derek Andrews – JH Boys Basketball Coach

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 6-0.

Motion by Riley, second by Cheff, to approve the following High School/District Wide hiring recommendations: Brooklynn Keibler – Hot Lunch Help/Floater, Susam McCombs – JH/HS Special Education Teacher, Reed Miner – PT Custodian, David Wanner – Bus Driver, Denise MacDonald – HS Special Education Para, Kavin Wickham – HS Assistant Speech and Debate Coach, Chad Green – HS Head Baseball Coach, Ben Schaeffer – HS Head Girls Wrestling Coach

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 7-0.

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

Public comment was requested and there was none.

ACTION /  
DISCUSSION ITEMS

MOTION TO APPROVE  
GLACIER GATEWAY  
LIBRARY  
ACCREDITATION VARI-  
ANCE

MOTION TO APPROVE  
INDEPENDENT  
CONTRACTOR AGREE-  
MENT WITH  
LINDEN RIGLER

MOTION TO APPROVE  
RFQ FOR ARCHITEC-  
TURE/ENGINEERING  
SERVICES FOR HS  
CAPITAL BOND  
PROJECT

PERSONNEL:

MOTION TO APPROVE  
ELEMENTARY  
DISTRICT HIRING  
RECOMMENDATIONS

MOTION TO APPROVE  
HIGH SCHOOL/DIS-  
TRICT-WIDE HIRING  
RECOMMENDATIONS

MOTION TO APPROVE  
SUBSTITUTE HIRING  
RECOMMENDATION

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Passed 7-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE  
OUT OF STATE TRAVEL  
REQUESTS

Motion by Riley, second by Upton to approve the Out-of-State Travel Requests for Becky Bates to attend the NW Council for Computer Education in Seattle, WA on February 14-16, 2024. Paid through the Carl Perkins Grant.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 7-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE  
OUT OF STATE TRAVEL  
REQUEST FOR HS  
CHOIR

Motion by Mumby, second by Upton, to approve the Out-of-State Travel Requests for Emily Hackethorn and the HS choir to attend the Choir Trip with the UM Choir to perform at Carnegie Hall in New York City on March 9-13, 2024. Paid for through fundraising.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 7-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE  
OUT OF STATE PROFES-  
SIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
TRAVEL REQUESTS

Motion by Upton, second by Heupel, to approve the Out-of-State Professional Development Grant travels – Leslie DiMaio, Jessica Schwaderer, Cami Bowler, Kami Heinz, Willow Moran, Jaime' Bell, and Gretchen Miller to attend the NCTE Convention in Columbus, OH, on November 16-19, 2023; Callie Moore and Tricia Hall to Get Your Teach On in Las Vegas, NV, on January 14-15, 2024; Jenny Lovering to attend the Northwest Council for Computer Education in Seattle, WA, on February 14-16, 2024.

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 7-0.

MISCELLANEOUS  
AND FUTURE  
PLANNING

Miscellaneous and Future Planning:

- Long Range Planning Committee – Purpose for High school issues and a meeting of the whole - October 16 - 6:00 p.m. – District Board Room
- Transportation Committee - October 16 - 5:00 p.m. – Admin Conference Room
- Policy Committee –October 23 - 5:00 p.m. – Admin Conference Room
- Work Session Meeting – Monday, October 23 –6:00 P.M. – District Board Room
- Health Insurance Committee Meeting – October 25 - 4:00 P.M. – Admin Conference Room

MEETING  
ADJOURNED

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Chair Rocksund adjourned the meeting at 8:06 p.m.

  
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Board Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Business Manager/Clerk