

Hellgate Elementary Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting June 12th, 2023
6:00 p.m.

OPENING

The Board of Trustees of Hellgate Elementary School District #4 met in regular session on Monday, June 12th, 2023. The meeting was held in-person. The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman, Tom McLaughlin. Trustees participating were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. Trustee Rich Thornock was absent for the meeting. Superintendent Molly Blakely and District Clerk Justine Reese were present for the meeting. District staff participating were Brent Heist (Assistant Principal for Building 3), Damian Droessler (Bldg. 1 Principal), Brendan Brown (Special Education Director), Sara Bermingham (teacher and HEEA co-president), Kristen Guidoni (teacher and HEEA Treasurer), and Tiffany Hobbs (incoming Building 3 Principal). There were no additional community members present. There were up to 14 total guests/participants in the meeting, in-person.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Superintendent Blakely introduced Tiffany Hobbs as the incoming Intermediate School Principal for the 2023-2024 school year. Tiffany provided a brief working history.

HEEA

Sara Bermingham informed the Board that Kristin will be filling her role as co-president while Sara is out on leave. She thanked Damian Droessler for his years of service at Hellgate Elementary. Sara also thanked the administrative staff for working together on the sick bank leave policy for certified staff.

RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS AND STAFF

Board chairman, Tom McLaughlin thanked Damian Droessler for his nine years of service at Hellgate Elementary and wished him well. Tom also welcomed Kallie and Jacquelyn as new Board members.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Trustees reviewed the monthly newsletter from OPI.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES-Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to approve the minutes from the May 8th, 2023 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Lori Christensen. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES-Special Meeting 5.15.23

A motion was made by Lori Christensen to approve the minutes from the May 15th, 2023 special meeting. The motion was seconded by Tom Cook. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES-Special Meeting 5.18.23

A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to approve the minutes from the May 18th, 2023 special meeting. The motion was seconded by Lori Christensen. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF THE WARRANTS

There was brief discussion about the warrants and a few clarifying questions. A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to approve the May 2023 claims. The motion was seconded by Lori Christensen. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF BUDGET REPORTS

Trustees reviewed the budget reports for May 2023.

REVIEW OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

A motion was made by Lori Christensen to approve the May 2023 Student Activities Report. The motion was seconded by Tom Cook. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE HIRING CLASSIFIED STAFF:

A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to approve the hiring of Ms. Heather Hitt to be a paraprofessional for the 2023-2024 school year and Ms. Elizabeth Ahlin to work in the custodial department for the 2023-2024 school year. There was no discussion on the item. The motion was seconded by Lori Christensen. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

HIRING CERTIFIED STAFF CONSIDERATION:

A motion was made by Lori Christensen to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to hire Ava Burmeister to fulfill a maternity leave from August-November for the 2023-2024 school year. There was no discussion on the topic. The motion was seconded by Rod Sharkey. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT CONSIDERATION:

A motion was made by Tom Cook to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the hiring of Mr. Jonkar Arceniega and Dr. Erin Ellis to be employed during June and July 2023 for a summer tech project. There was no discussion on the item. The motion was seconded by Rod Sharkey. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE RESIGNATIONS:

A motion was made by Lori Christensen to approve the resignation of Ms. Kristine Zimmerman, effective June 8th, 2023. There was no discussion on the topic. The motion was seconded by Kalle Gatzemeier. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE RESIGNATION:

A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to approve the resignation of Mr. Damian Droessler, Building One Principal, effective June 22, 2023. Superintendent Blakely thanked Damian for his years of service and everything he has done for the Hellgate Elementary. Rod Sharkey congratulated Damian on his future endeavors. The motion was seconded by Jacquelyn Ryan. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE HIRING CONSIDERATION

A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to approve the hiring of Ms. Tiffany Hobbs to be the Principal of Building Three, effective August 14, 2023. There was brief discussion on the item. The motion was seconded by Lori Christensen. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR HIRING CONSIDERATION:

A motion was made by Kallie Gatzemeier to approve the hiring of Mr. Taylor Nordby to be the Activities Director for the 2023-2024 school year, effective July 1, 2023. The motion was seconded by Lori Christensen. There was no discussion on the topic. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR HIRING CONSIDERATIONS:

A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to approve the hiring of the following for our Extended School Year program:

- Mr. Brendan Brown Case Manager
- Kendall Alley Speech Pathologist
- Jade Brooks Paraprofessional
- Kami Bourke Paraprofessional
- Ashlyn Schatz-Eason Paraprofessional

The motion was seconded by Jacquelyn Ryan. There was brief discussion on the topic. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER REHIRE CONSIDERATION

A motion was made by Lori Christensen to approve the rehiring of our School Resource Officer for a two-year contract, for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years. The motion was seconded by Kallie Gatzemeier. There was no discussion on the topic. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE HELLGATE TRANSPORTATION SCHOOL BUS ROUTE MILEAGE:

A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to approve the Hellgate Transportation school bus route mileage for the 2023-2024 school year (full detail available in Board Packet). The motion was seconded by Tom Cook. There was no discussion on the topic. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

HELLGATE TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT CONSIDERATION:

A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to approve a new five year contract with Hellgate Transportation (full detail available in Board Packet). The motion was seconded by Lori Christensen. There was no discussion on the topic. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER INDIVIDUAL TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT

A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to offer an Individual Transportation Contract (TR-4) to the parent/guardian of a student who requires transportation per the student's IEP, for the 2023-2024 school year. The motion was seconded by Lori Christensen. There was no discussion on the item. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF USE OF FUNDS FOR BUILDING THREE PROJECT:

A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to approve the request of \$20,000.00 of ESSER funds for an expansion project in building three. This project will allow for an additional classroom to be constructed, thus allowing for added space for students. There was brief discussion on the item. The motion was seconded by Jacquelyn Ryan.

Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

AWARD OF CHROMEBOOK BID:

A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to award the Chromebook purchase request to the chosen bidder, Connections, following the sealed bid procedure (per Board Policy 7012) to procure 490 Chromebooks. The motion was seconded by Lori Christensen. There was discussion on what grade levels would be impacted by this purchase. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF SICK BANK POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

A motion was made by Tom Cook to approve policies and procedures outlined in the Sick Bank Protocol documented that will be a part of our new Collective Bargaining Agreement (full details available in Board Packet). The motion was seconded by Rod Sharkey. There was discussion on how the sick leave bank committee is structured. Kristin Guidoni (sits on the committee) provided an overview of the structure of the policies and procedures. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE DISTRICT SAFE RETURN AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN CONSIDERATION:

A motion was made by Lori Christensen to approve the superintendent's recommendation to approve our bi-annual All Safe Return plan as required by the Office of Public Instruction. See Board Packet for full detail of reopening plan as well as stakeholder feedback from safety survey. The motion was seconded by Rod Sharkey. There was brief discussion on the topic. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rod Sharkey, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Lori Christensen. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Toys for Tots Literacy Grant: Superintendent Blakely informed the Board she applied for a Literacy grant through Toys for Tots and received a large donation of books. The books will be given to students during Title reading nights.

One Book-One Community Grant Wallace Foundation 15K: The district received a one-time payment of \$15,000.00 from the Wallace Foundation to fund a community project that will begin in February 2024.

ESSER III HVAC Building One: When ESSER III base funds were originally budgeted, a portion was set aside to add an HVAC cooling system in Building One. Superintendent Blakely made several points as to why this budgeted item is no longer a priority for the district. The Board was in support of re-budgeting the funds in the future.

New Roof Building 3: Superintendent Blakely gave an overview of the upcoming Building 3 roof repairs that would begin shortly after the school year ended.

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: Damian Droessler, Building One.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next regular meeting of the Board will be July 10, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Kristin Guidoni notified the Board that she recently received a letter from a student teacher's family (the Joskow family), thanking her for her positive impact. The Joskow family generously donated \$750.00 to purchase sheet music for the Hellgate Elementary music department. The trustees and Kristin were very appreciative and thankful toward the family for their generous donation.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Tom McLaughlin, Board Chair

Justine Reese, Business Manager/Clerk