

Hellgate Elementary Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting September 11th, 2023
6:00 p.m.

OPENING

The Board of Trustees of Hellgate Elementary School District #4 met in regular session on Monday, September 11th, 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, Kallie Gatzemeier, Rich Thornock and Jacquelyn Ryan. Trustee Rod Sharkey and Lori Christensen were absent for the meeting. Superintendent Molly Blakely and District Clerk Justine Reese were present for the meeting. District staff participating were Erin Ellis (Curriculum Coordinator), Kristen Guidoni (teacher and HEEA Treasurer), Chris Clevenger (Building 1 Principal), Tiffany Hobbs (Building 3 Principal), Brent Heist (B3 Assistant Principal), and Brendan Brown (Special Ed. Director). Jonathan Karlen, State Representative for House District 96 was in attendance. There were up to 13 total guests/participants in the meeting, in-person.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jonathan Karlen notified the Trustees that he has been communicating with City Council members related to recent traffic changes that have impacted the Hellgate Elementary area. He will continue addressing the traffic concerns with the City and will update the Trustees as there are changes.

HEEA

Kristen Guidoni provided an update to the Trustees. She noted that the energy is very positive on campus and all excited to be back to school.

RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS AND STAFF

The Trustees received a thank you from a middle school student who was able to attend a band camp due to the generosity of private donations from the community.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Trustees reviewed the monthly newsletter from OPI.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES-Regular Meeting 8-14-23

A motion was made by Tom Cook to approve the minutes from the August 14th, 2023 regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Rich Thornock. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rich Thornock, Kallie Gatzemeier and Jacquelyn Ryan. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES-Special Meeting 8-21-23

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve the minutes from the August 21st, 2023 special meeting. The motion was seconded by Jacquelyn Ryan. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rich Thornock, Kallie Gatzemeier and Jacquelyn Ryan. 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 Jacquelyn Ryan to approve the August 2023 claims. The motion was seconded by Kallie Gatzemeier. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rich Thornock, Kallie Gatzemeier and Jacquelyn Ryan. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF BUDGET REPORTS

Trustees reviewed the budget reports for August 2023.

REVIEW OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve the August 2023 Student Activities Report. There was no discussion on the item. The motion was seconded by Kallie Gatzemeier. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rich Thornock, Kallie Gatzemeier and Jacquelyn Ryan. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE HIRING CERTIFIED STAFF

A motion was made by Tom Cook to approve the hiring of Ms. Emily Jones and Ms. Edie Callison to be a sixth grade teachers for the 2023-2024 school year. The motion was seconded by Jacquelyn Ryan. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rich Thornock, Kallie Gatzemeier and Jacquelyn Ryan. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE HIRING CLASSIFIED STAFF

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve the hiring of Nickolas Waguet and Kelly Duff; paraprofessionals; Christopher Abbott; custodian, and Rebecca Hightower, Food Service for the 2023-2024 school year. The motion was seconded by Kallie Gatzemeier. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rich Thornock, Kallie Gatzemeier and Jacquelyn Ryan. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

ACCEPT CLASSIFIED STAFF RESIGNATIONS

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to accept the resignation of Ms. Melissa Bierwag, effective August 21, 2023 from the food service department, Ms. Justine Trimbo as a paraprofessional, effective August 25th, and Mr. Miguel Bravo, effective September 4, 2023 from the custodial department. There was no discussion between the Trustees on the item. The motion was seconded by Jacquelyn Ryan. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rich Thornock, Kallie Gatzemeier and Jacquelyn Ryan. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER FALL COACHING RECOMMENDATIONS

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to accept the recommendation to hire the following coaches for fall athletics:

Head Coaches: Soccer	Head Coach: Flag Football	Assistant Coaches: Flag Football	Head Coach: Girls Volleyball
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sean Kaleva ● Anika Melzer-Roush ● Olivia Moore 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tyler Lind 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tyler Glenn ● Jon Ruud 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bailey Vercruyssen ● Lisa Sharkey
Assistant Coaches: Girls Volleyball	Co-Head Coaches: Cross Country		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rhiannon Roos ● Angela Piazzola ● Carman (CJ) Brandt ● Kylynn Rogers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dale Asanovich ● Michael Straw 		

There was no discussion on the item. The motion was seconded by Tom Cook. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rich Thornock, Kallie Gatzemeier and Jacquelyn Ryan. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE 2023-2024 SCHOOL REOPENING PLAN

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve the Safe Reopening Plan for the 2023-2024 school year, as required by the Office of Public Instruction (See attached document). There was no discussion on the item. The

motion was seconded by Jacquelyn Ryan. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rich Thornock, Kallie Gatzemeier and Jacquelyn Ryan. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE THE SCHOOL SUBSTITUTE LIST

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve the following to be substitutes for the 2023-2024 school year (full list available in board packet). There was no discussion on the item. The motion was seconded by Kallie Gatzemeier. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Tom Cook, Rich Thornock, Kallie Gatzemeier and Jacquelyn Ryan. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Hellgate band students in UM Homecoming Parade, September 30th: Kristen Guidoni presented to the Trustees that the Hellgate Elementary band students would be performing in the UM Homecoming Parade on September 30, 2023. She noted the students did a fundraiser and successfully raised over \$1,000 to purchase uniforms for band performances.

\$5,000 from Unified Champion Schools: Thanks to Brendan Brown, Special Education Director, he secured \$5,000 in new grant funding to support a group of students that will be training and competing in the Special Olympics.

\$10,000 School Safety Grant from OPI: The funding will be utilized to provide Professional Development to school staff focused on suicide awareness and prevention.

YMCA Active 6 Program: The YMCA currently has a program where any 6th grade student may join the YMCA at no cost. The PTA will be doing marketing to spread the word to parents.

Enrollment Data September 2023: Overall Hellgate Elementary has observed a decrease of 36 students overall in enrollment this fall compared to last fall. The district is observing students who begin in Hellgate to stay enrolled until 8th grade graduation or the family moves out of district. There was additional discussion related to the increased housing structures and the potential impact on enrollment.

MSPLIP 2023 Inspection Report: The annual Inspection Report provided by the Montana Schools Property and Liability Insurance Plan was conducted on August 16th, 2023 (see board packet for full detail). Overall, minor infractions were noted and are being addressed by the Director of Facilities.

Washington DC: There will be another group of 8th grades travelling to Washington DC in Spring of 2024 with the organization, World Strides.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports at this meeting.

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

Building 1: Chris Clevenger reported the start of school is going well.

Building 2: Absent

Building 3: Tiffany Hobbs reported a good start to the school year and focusing on PAX with students

Building 4: Absent

NEXT MEETING DATE:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.