

REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SCHOOL DISTRICT #6  
DECEMBER 11, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District Six was held at 6:00 P.M., Monday, December 11, 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  
Cory Dziowgo ..... Superintendent of Schools  
Dustin Zuffelato ..... Business Manager/ Clerk

Call to order at: 6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Riley, second by Heupel, to approve the agenda as presented.  
Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 8-0.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Mumby, second by Hill, to approve the consent agenda as follows:  
Approve November regular board meeting minutes and the November 20th special meeting minutes.  
Approve November bills.  
Approve the investment report.  
Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 8-0

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Public Participation:

Approximately three (3) people participated in the meeting remotely via Zoom. Approximately twenty-one (21) people attended the meeting in person.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

High School Student Body Co-Presidents, Kia Golan and Kenzie West accompanied by Freshman Student Council members presented a written report regarding the recent activities in the High School.

High School Principal, Jon Konen, informed the Board that High School Student, Azreal Lara, won the bareback competition at Nationals.  
Community Member Judy Terito distributed a Hillsdale College publication Imprimis asking the Board to read the main article titled "Inside the Transgender Empire" on their own time.

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REPORTS:

Written Reports:

The Elementary School Principals provided the Board with written reports.

High School Principal, Jon Konen, provided the Board with a written report.

Curriculum Director, Mark McCord, provided the Board with a written report.

Trustee Barbara Riley mentioned the recent proceedings of the Consortium of State School Board Associations (COSSBA) and the Montana School Board Association (MTSBA). The K-12 Vision Group will be meeting in March for strategic planning and board meeting. This will happen in Whitefish, MT.

Verbal Reports:

District Business Manager/Clerk provided the Board with a written report. Clerk Zuffelato met with other districts in the county to discuss the bill regarding out-of-district attendance. This is a topic that the Board will need to discuss further in the future. HB 143 from the 2021 legislative session provided an incentive to schools to increase base pay for teachers. The District's average teacher salary is about \$60,000, base pay needs to be at least 70% of that. The District is close at 69%. All numbers were based on the current year's CBA. Members of the Health Insurance Committee met with representatives of Logan Health last week. The District has had difficulty in the past with Logan's support and wanted to understand the recent Billings Clinic merger. The District's strategic relationship with Logan Health is critical to fully understand when considering the new statewide health insurance trust.

Superintendent Cory Dziowgo mentioned that the District is awaiting the results from OPI for the Comprehensive Needs Assessment. January 2, 2024, is a PIR day training. Mr. Dziowgo is looking for opinions and thoughts for more information to include on the website. The Food Service program has been without its director because of medical needs, there are interviews scheduled tomorrow to address staffing needs within this department.

Board Chair Jill Rocksund discussed the superintendent evaluation.

ACTION/DISCUSSION  
ITEMS:

Action/Discussed Items:

DISCIPLINE DATA  
DISCUSSION

District discipline data was presented by Superintendent Dziowgo. Mr. Dziowgo discussed the role of discipline in a school district. Incidents with insubordination and disobedience lead the pack of issues, followed by bus issues in the elementary level. The high school level is seeing insubordination first, followed by disobedience and attendance. All of the information was taken from Infinite Campus. Issues in transportation are a growing concern, a bus is built to stay safe when all students are seated.

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High School Principal, Konen, is attending the next transportation meeting to help bus drivers interact with students. Discussion regarding the EMOTE program was had. This program is to offer teachers and students support with emotional regulation. The program is designed to help show students that there are people around them who care. The goal is to help students make better choices.

There was a review of the Inclement Weather Procedure Guidelines. This procedure is required to be reviewed annually and the District is not making any changes. The County Superintendents have been talking about late starts at the last meeting and Superintendent Dziowgo would like a conversation about if the District would allow late starts.

Motion by Riley, second by Upton, to approve the Independent Contractor Agreement with speech/language pathologist, Susan Hartman, effective November 5, 2023, to June 7, 2024.

Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 8-0.

A discussion was had regarding the District's ability to claim state and county reimbursement for a mid-day route that transports part-time students from home to school.

Motion by Heupel, second by Mumby, to approve the addition of bus route – Route 20.  
Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0.

Motion by Riley, second by Heupel, to approve the recommended changes to Policy 4330 – Community Use of School Facilities.

Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 8-0.

Motion by Mumby, second by Jacobsmeyer, to approve the recommended changes to Policy 4520 – Cooperative Programs with Other District and Public Agencies.

Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 8-0.

Motion by Upton, second by Cheff, to approve the recommended changes to Policy 4700 – Family and Community Engagement.

Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 8-0.

Motion by Cheff, second by Mumby, to approve recommended changes to Policy 5010 – Equal Employment Opportunity and Nondiscrimination.

Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 8-0.

Motion by Heupel, second by Riley, to approve the recommended changes to Policy 5222 – Evaluation of Non-Administrative Staff.

REVIEW OF  
INCLEMENT WEATHER  
PROCEDURE

MOTION TO APPROVE  
THE INDEPENDENT  
CONTRACT WITH  
SUSAN HARTMAN

MOTION TO APPROVE  
THE ADDITION OF BUS  
RT 20

MOTION TO APPROVE  
CHANGES TO  
POLICY #4330

MOTION TO APPROVE  
CHANGES TO  
POLICY #4520

MOTION TO APPROVE  
CHANGES TO  
POLICY #4700

MOTION TO APPROVE  
CHANGES TO  
POLICY #5010

MOTION TO APPROVE  
CHANGES TO  
POLICY #5222

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Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 8-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE  
CHANGES TO  
POLICY #5226

Motion by Jacobsmeyer, second by Heupel, to approve recommended changes to Policy 5226 – Tobacco Marijuana, Alcohol and Drug-Free Workplace.  
Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 8-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE  
CHANGES TO  
POLICY #5231

Motion by Mumby, second by Upton, to approve recommended changes to Policy 5231 – Personnel Records.  
Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 8-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE  
CHANGES TO  
POLICY #6410

Motion by Heupel, second by Hill, to approve the recommended changes to Policy 6410 – Evaluation of Administrative Staff.  
Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 8-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE  
NEW POLICY #1650

Motion by Mumby, second by Hill, to approve the addition of new Policy 1650 – Public Charter Schools.  
Public comment was requested and Judy - question on last paragraph.  
Passed 8-0.

Presentation by Superintendent Dziowgo, Clerk Zuffelato, and Jackola Engineering regarding the roof project above the classroom wing at the High School. The long-term objective is to give the students a better and more efficient school through a community supported bond project. However, the District also has emergent short-term needs. The roof needs to be replaced this summer in order for the ESSER funded HVAC project to be completed. Furthermore, the temporary trusses installed this Fall to address structural deficiencies are only temporary and it is most advantageous to complete a full roof replacement before next school year. The District proposed a two-pronged approach to the high school facility needs. (1) short-term to ensure the partially completed HVAC project is completed and the roof is replaced this summer (2) comprehensive facility project to address safety, security, energy efficiency, and 21st century learning spaces. The District proposed two alternative (separate) funding mechanisms; (1) short-term building reserve levy (2) general obligation bonds. Utilize a building reserve levy for the emergency needs, such as replacing the roof and completing the HVAC project. Long term would need to be funded by a general obligation bond. Numbers will be refined over the next few weeks in anticipation of conducting a building reserve levy election in May. The District will also propose general fund operational levies in May to continue providing the same programs/staff for next school year.

MOTION TO PROCEED  
WITH DUAL PROJECT/  
FUNDING

Motion by Riley, second by Mumby, to proceed with the dual project/funding to address the short-term and long-term needs separately.  
Public comment was requested and there was none.  
Passed 8-0.

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Personnel:

The Board acknowledged the following resignations previously accepted by the Superintendent: Michelle Robinson – Glacier Gateway Paraeducator, Amy Hanson – Ruder 5th Grade Teacher, Tristen Woody – Ruder Paraeducator, Denise MacDonald – High School Paraeducator and Bus Aide, Dan Ellman – Assistant Mechanic, Kimberly Griggs – Food Service Helper, Jaxon Arndt-Stigall – Custodian, Colten McPhee – High School Paraeducator, Kati Knutson – High School Assistant Track Coach

Motion by Upton, second by Riley, to approve the following Elementary District hiring recommendations: Diane McDonald – Ruder Special Education Teacher, Rubianna Masa – Junior High Campus Professional Development Specialist, Leslie DiMaio – Campus Professional Development Specialist, Courtney McCord – Glacier Gateway Campus Professional Development Specialist, Tricia Hall – Glacier Gateway Campus Professional Development Specialist, Dana Shields – Ruder Campus Professional Development Specialist, Sherri Nissan – Ruder Campus Professional Development Specialist, Rubianna Masa – Junior High Elementary Technology Integration Specialist, Paige Hall – Ruder Elementary Technology Integration Specialist, Dana Shields – Glacier Gateway Elementary Technology Integration Specialist, Paula Koch – Junior High Gifted and Talented Campus Coordinator, Mary Ellen Getts – Glacier Gateway Gifted and Talented Campus Coordinator, Janae Christensen – Ruder Gifted and Talented Campus Coordinator, Samantha Jones – Junior High ESL Campus Coordinator, Callie Moore – Glacier Gateway ESL Campus Coordinator, Bella Calabrese – Ruder ESL Campus Coordinator, Dana Shields – Ruder Campus Lead Mentor

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 7-0.

Motion by Heupel, second by Hill, to approve the following High School/District Wide hiring recommendations: Dan Ellman – Bus Route Driver, Michelle Bates – Bus Route Driver, Andrea Rogers – Dispatcher, Chad Cincis – High School Traffic Education Instructor, Tracy McDowell – Head Drama Coach, Rachel Burke – Assistant Drama Coach, Jaime' Bell – High School Gifted and Talented Campus Coordinator, Jenny Lovering – High School Technology Integration Specialist, Rebecca Bates – High School Technology Software Integration Specialist, Jeanette Price – High School ESL Campus Coordinator, Jeannette Price – High School Campus Professional Development Specialist, Josh Forke – High School Campus Professional Development Specialist, Shelly Gress – High School Campus Mentor

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0.

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

Public comment was requested and there was none.

Passed 8-0.

PERSONNEL:

MOTION TO APPROVE  
ELEMENTARY HIRING  
RECOMMENDATIONS

MOTION TO APPROVE  
HS/DISTRICT-WIDE  
HIRING  
RECOMMENDATIONS

MOTION TO APPROVE  
SUBSTITUE HIRING  
RECOMMENDATIONS

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MISCELLANEOUS  
AND FUTURE  
PLANNING

Miscellaneous and Future Planning:

Superintendent Evaluation's deadline is December 18, with the review in January.

Next Regular Board Meeting - changed from January 8 to January 15 - 6:00 P.M. - District Board Room

Logan Health Meeting - January 16 - Kalispell, MT

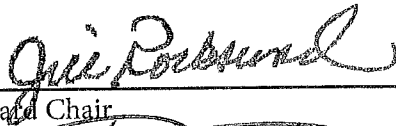
Health Insurance Committee Meeting - January 17 - 4:00 P.M. - Admin Conference Room

Work Session Meeting - Purpose for Superintendent's Evaluation - January 22 - 6:00 P.M. - District Board Room

Schedule Students-on-Board Meeting - Purpose of group and structure.

MEETING  
ADJOURNED

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Chair Rocksund adjourned the meeting at 8:09 P.M.

  
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Board Chair

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