

JAMESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Regular Meeting  
Unofficial Minutes

School board meeting on Monday, September 18, 2023 at 5:15 pm in the Thompson Community room at the Middle School, 203 2 AVE SE, Jamestown.

Present: Heidi Larson, President, Dan Tweten, Vice President, Jamie Bear, Melissa Gleason, Diane Hanson, Gayle Nelson, Jason Rohr, Superintendent, Robert Lech and Kristi Grounds, Business Manager. Aaron Roberts and Steve Veldkamp were absent.

Guests: Scott Geiszler, Laura Weis, Ashlyn Weis, Lynn Kosel, Phil Kroeber, Debbie Krebs, Gabby Tweten, Cody Mickelson, Kim Korstjens and Jameson Korstjens.

Mrs. Bear moved, seconded by Mr. Tweten to approve the consent agenda which consisted of September 5, 2023 regular board meeting minutes, September 13, 2023 finance committee meeting minutes, payment of bills, pledged securities, review of open application for 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to attend Medina Public School for the 2023-2024 school year, 2023-2024 enrollment, class of 2023 student follow-up, home education report and September 11, 2023 health insurance committee minutes. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

The board recognized staff members: Laura Weis, Phil Kroeber, Debbie Krebs, Lynn Kosel and Mike Soulis for 25 years of service to Jamestown Public Schools. Thank you for all you do for our students and district.

Gabby Tweten, President of Student Council, reported on activities they did to show support with writing letters of encouragement to teachers and staff at the high school. A special thank you to Mr. Heinert and Mr. Bata also. The Council did a fundraiser allowing senior students to purchase and decorate a sparking space. Another fundraiser is under way for businesses to purchase a spot in the homecoming parade.

Superintendent Lech reported on busing for other entities. In the past, Jamestown Public Schools has been able to accommodate some bus riders that are not JPS students. The financial increase of 55% to our bus services requires the district to find efficiencies. The criteria for consideration for bus services: capacity of the bus and riders will not be on the bus longer than 90 minutes. Dr. Lech has contacted private schools to look over an application process. If a school participates, a cost sharing agreement would be worked on with these schools.

Superintendent Lech reported on Jamestown Jobs which features jobs available in Jamestown through a preview video on YouTube. Our Food Service Director, Cindy Wall did a feature on JPS food service program which will be available for view on September 27<sup>th</sup>.

Superintendent Lech reported on an online case management service agreement for special education. This service would be a pilot this year to help assist teachers at the high school with the paperwork, so teachers have time with students. Special Education would fund the agreement through a grant. Other online services are being reviewed for the shortage on psychologists, PLC processing and data driven instructions.

Superintendent Lech reported the communication committee, which was established through the negotiations, met to discuss the new NDCC15.1-09-33.01 allowance for the district to give hire on bonuses. They also reviewed overtime processing and the financial impact on

support staff during virtual learning. JEA appreciated the communication at the beginning of the new year for staff to understand some of the new positions of staff.

Superintendent Lech reported the district received notification of a transmission line between Jamestown and Ellendale is proposed. In-Lieu of taxes, however, 75% would be imputed and deducted through the state funding formula with the district.

Superintendent Lech reported JRMCC Pillars of Giving annual donor celebration recognized Jamestown Middle School with Outstanding Seedling Youth Philanthropy Award for their Penny Drive donation to the cancer center.

Superintendent Lech reported the annual agreement for the Wilson and Eagles Arenas increased the usual \$250.00.

Superintendent Lech reported the 2023-2024 draft final budget was reviewed by the Finance committee and approved to bring to the board for review. Final budget approval will be at the October 2 board meeting. The budget does include the vehicle request for the School Resource Officer.

Mr. Tweten moved, seconded by Mrs. Nelson to approve the 2023-2024 Wilson and Eagles Arena Agreement with Jamestown Parks and Recreation in the amount of \$27,750.00. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mrs. Bear to approve the 2023-2024 agreement for special education case management services. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

President Larson reminded the board members that Mr. Rohr made a motion to table the decision on the resource officer vehicle due to information board members wanted. Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mrs. Hanson to move the purchase of a vehicle for the school resource officer back to the table. There was a motion on the table from September 5, 2023 board meeting by Mrs. Nelson and seconded by Mrs. Bear to approve the vehicle. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

President Larson reported there was the general fund balance sheet and the monthly financial reports for board members to review.

Superintendent Lech began the budget hearing at 6 pm. The public notice states the time and we are required to be available for questions from the public. The hearing is required to be completed prior to formal approval of the budget which will be done at the October 2, 2023 meeting.

President Larson reported there is the 2023-2024 final budget attached to the agenda for board members to review. The formula for determining tuition agreements is also provided for information to the board.

Mr. Tweten moved, seconded by Mrs. Hanson to approve the revised support staff wage schedule. There was an addition of a position to the schedule. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Nelson moved seconded by Mrs. Gleason to approve the 2023-2024 extended contracts in semester 1 for Michael Dietz for one additional section of Art 1, Nathaniel Purcell for one additional section of Computer App and Lori Hare for one additional section of Nutrition /Food Prep. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Nelson moved, seconded by Mrs. Bear to approve the second reading of Policy GBAA Teaching About Religion. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

No further business, President Larson adjourned the meeting.