

JAMESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Regular Meeting  
Official Minutes

School board meeting on Monday, October 2, 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, Aaron Roberts, Jason Rohr, Superintendent, Robert Lech and Kristi Grounds, Business Manager. Steve Veldkamp was absent.

No guests.

Mr. Tweten moved, seconded by Mr. Roberts to approve the consent agenda which consisted of September 18, 2023, regular school board meeting minutes, payment of bills, non-resident report, open enrollment applications: 10<sup>th</sup> grader to attend Montpelier Public School and 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders to attend Montpelier Public School for the 2023-2024 school year, 2023-2024 Blue Jay Academy Handbook, horizontal advancement report. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Superintendent Lech reported on elementary resource allocations. Gussner Elementary received an outstanding achievement by being awarded the Blue Ribbon School. This is also about the district as a whole. This gives us an opportunity to review the specific needs per building and how allocations will help their students. We look at the enrollment numbers and teachers as well as the support staff needed. Other areas are reviewed for support for teachers, instructional coaching, professional development for the building and grades levels. Federal requirements for Title I targeted at 35% free and reduced which determinant of economically disadvantaged and define poverty. This is reviewed annually per elementary school. Schools with the greatest economically disadvantaged needs receive the highest levels of funding. Our district has had three schools consistently being Title I schools. At the other schools we adopt a lookalike program to serve as some level of support. Special education is another area that is hard to compare due to a number variables that impact staffing. Counseling service access beyond the baseline which varies upon the neediest students receive additional service through a contract with the Village Family Services. The afterschool program is another area that is dictated by the federal standard of economically disadvantaged. Schools that meet the Title I threshold of 35% are eligible to participate in a grant managed by the district. Our district is fortunate to have active PTOs in every elementary school. There are core people who do the bulk of the work for the PTO and are an important organization to support students and staff.

Superintendent Lech reported the Jamestown Jobs did a great job on the video for food service personnel needs. We have First Community Credit Union, University of Jamestown and Gate City Bank staff volunteers to help serve at lunch time.

Superintendent Lech reported he will bring an updated board education plan due to requests that have been added.

Superintendent Lech reported a change in the technology department due to a recent resignation. An audit of the department was done and restructured of staffing to 3 salaried positions and 3 hourly positions. A request to add an Assistant Technology Director position.

This will bring the majority of duties of the Technology Specialist/communication Coordinator and Network Specialist in the Assistant Technology director position. The remaining duties will be shifted to hourly Technicians. The Technician position in the future will need to increase the base level to attract potential candidates.

Superintendent Lech reported the board resolution is on the agenda to be adopted to address some of the items from negotiations.

Superintendent Lech reported the Teacher Leadership Academy is completing work on new cybersecurity standards and creating implementation plan for Jamestown School District and LaMoure School District.

Superintendent Lech reported there is a revision to the Capital Projects Plan due to adding an additional roofing repair to the high school. Due to heavy snow loads it has done damage to the roof. The maximum cost would be above the reasonable variance of repairs and will request approval of the amendment.

Mrs. Nelson moved, seconded by Mrs. Bear to approve the revised Capital Projects Plan. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Bear moved, seconded by Mrs. Nelson to approve the final 2023-2024 budget. The roof repair came after the budget was finalized. There will be a revision to the budget for this in the future. Roll call vote: Hanson, yes; Bear, yes; Larson, yes; Rohr, yes; Nelson, yes; Tweten, yes; Roberts, yes; Gleason, yes. Passed 8-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Tweten moved, seconded by Mr. Rohr to submit 2023-2024 resolution of tax levies. Roll call vote: Bear, yes; Larson, yes; Rohr, yes; Nelson, yes; Tweten, yes; Roberts, yes; Gleason, yes; Hanson, yes. Passed 8-0. Motion carried.

Mrs. Bear moved, seconded by Mrs. Nelson to approve submission of the CTE STEM Innovation Grant and Building Tomorrows Leaders Grant. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Tweten moved, seconded by Mrs. Nelson to approve adding Assistant Technology Director job description and inclusion on Non-Teaching Professional pay schedule and approval to hire Quentin Petty as Assistant Technology Director at an annual salary of \$60,000. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

The school board was given a superintendent evaluation timeline.

Mrs. Nelson moved, seconded by Mrs. Hanson to approve the tuition agreements for: 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> grade Barnes County North Students to attend Jamestown Public Schools, 8<sup>th</sup> grade Gackle-Streeter student to attend Jamestown Public Schools, 7- Pre-K, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to attend Montpelier Public School, 9<sup>th</sup> grade student to attend Gackle-Streeter Public School and 2-Pre-K students to attend Kensal Public School for the 2023-2024 school year. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Tweten moved, seconded by Mrs. Nelson to adopt the board resolution on negotiations. The resolution was created to have the board put on the strategic plan to be aware of the items and have the communication committee work through them. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Nelson moved, seconded by Mr. Rohr to approve setting the board retreat for November 13, 2023 at 5:15 pm. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

No further business, President Larson adjourned the meeting.