

MOHALL LANSFORD SHERWOOD
BOARD OF EDUCATION PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR MEETING – March 12, 2024
MLS BOARD ROOM/STEM ROOM – 7:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Thurstan Johnson, President; Matt Undlin, Vice President; Andrew Grondahl, Roger Hutchinson, and Terry Savelkoul. ABSENT: Vance Undlin & Sheldon Ackerson. ADM: Keith Campbell, Janet Asheim, and Heidi Newgard. OTHERS: Trevor Savelkoul & Kalli Smith.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 a.m. by President Johnson. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion made by Mr. Hutchinson, second by Mr. Matt Undlin to approve the February 13th, 2024 regular board meeting minutes. M/C. Motion made by Mr. Terry Savelkoul, second by Mr. Hutchinson to approve the February financial reports and payment of the accounts payables as presented. M/C.

ADM. REPORTS:

- A. Mrs. Asheim, Elementary Principal: Last month was reading month. Making most gains with kids at level and kids at literacy level. Classroom teachers are doing a really good job. Professional Development (PD) was done virtually with the snow this month. Pre-K and Kindergarden registration is currently going on right now. Currently have 15 enrolled for Pre-K for next year, but July is when we really know the numbers for next year. 5th & 6th graders will be going to Farm Safety after Spring Break. After School Program will finish up at the end of this month. Currently working on evaluations.
- B. Mrs. Newgard, High School Principal: Informational website was rolled out for Standards Based Grading. Was asked to present at NCEC for Principals. More area schools will be following shortly with standards based grading. Region Band received 3 stars. Working on scheduling, waiting on things until after the budget right now. This will be the last year that we give the ACT as a district-wide test. It will be offered, but it won't be to the entire class moving forward. Currently working on evaluations. Parent/Teacher conferences started last night and it was pretty quiet around here. Spring is typically a lower turnout for P/T conferences. The Lucretia Achzinger scholarship is rolled out. K-6 is rolled out for standards based grading. Next year, JH & High School will be eased into standards based grading. Then the following year it will be required for MLS. September 20th is a PD day this fall, and Fargo Davies is scheduled to be here to work with teachers and visit with school board members and staff. One more group is scheduled to go to Fargo Davies this spring to observe Standards Based Grading: Mr. Savelkoul, Mr. Campbell, Mrs. Bowers, and Mr. Beck will all be going to observe on April 17th, 2024.

- C. Mr. Savelkoul, Athletic Director: Baseball, Softball, and Track all start practices as of next Monday. Currently wrapping up stuff for basketball schedules. Preliminary numbers, we have about 30 for baseball, 30 for track, and 35-40 for softball this year. Question was raised about what we should do with older uniforms not being worn any more? Perhaps we should try to sell them, Mr. Savelkoul will look into it.
- D. Mr. Campbell, Superintendent: We received the Best In Class Pre-K Award for next year totaling \$60,000. Since we've received that award we have waived the Pre-K tuition. We did invest the Pearson Trust into a CD for a higher interest yield per what was decided at the last board meeting. Have been looking at timekeeping systems, looked at outsourcing payroll. Working on budget process with Mrs. Newgard, Claudia, Westhope, and Newburg. Newburg is coming over today for a meeting this afternoon. Westhope Superintendent has assisted with the process as well. Dakota Fire Extinguisher updated the extinguishers again this year. Principals completed a self-evaluation this year. The evaluation process was a little eye opening, but it was raw and honest. A little different process, but hopefully valuable and offers opportunity for improvement. Met with applicants for the technology coordinator position. Mr. Campbell mentioned the possibility of the elimination of property taxes and what it would mean for our local public school funding. It wouldn't eliminate sinking and interest, but it would eliminate a major funding source for schools. He stressed the need to think about ongoing facility needs and how we are going to pay for them. Currently we have more local control, but with the elimination of property taxes would that likely mean more state control? Increased sales taxes? The funding would have to come from somewhere.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. BUILDING COMMITTEE: Toured the school after the last board meeting. Developing a prioritized list of items to be addressed and repaired.
 - i. Flooring: Carpet & Tile; Focus on health & safety issues. Talked about sewer issues. Some additional frozen/leaking lines in Elementary this last week. See about getting the pipes lined vertically by Precision Sewer & Pipe this next summer. Put in a PA system on the playground where we currently don't have one. Looking at adding/starting to carpet the hallways in the Elementary wing – quote of \$11,187 and Fran could install that this summer. Talked about landscaping with the help of Miss Dukart and Vo Ag classes. Gym floor issues were raised and it was suggested to talk to Kenmare. Was \$120,000 - \$150,000 to redo the gym floor but it is something to consider. Matt Undlin thought we could get at least \$75,000 from gaming accounts donated. Vance had told him previously that Citizens

State Bank would likely contribute, too. Also talked about broadcasting games in the concessions area, but there will be a delay. Also discussed adding privacy/bullet proof glass in the office area.

- ii. Motion made by Mr. Hutchinson, second by Mr. Matt Undlin to do the \$11,000 carpet project, and amended to include the High School door #1 entrance. M/C.
- iii. Motion made by Mr. Grondahl, second by Mr. Hutchinson to begin the process to privately fundraise and to name Matt Undlin chair for the gym floor replacement. M/C.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. HIRING:

- a. Softball: Jessica Brooks, Assistant Coach – Motion to hire made by Mr. Terry Savelkoul, second by Mr. Hutchinson. M/C.
- b. Baseball: Roger Erickson, Assistant Coach – Motion to hire made by Mr. Matt Undlin, second by Mr. Grondahl. M/C.
- c. Baseball: Henry Savelkoul, Assistant Coach – Motion to hire if numbers dictate made by Mr. Terry Savelkoul, second by Mr. Hutchinson. M/C.
- d. 3rd Grade Teacher: There is a need for an additional teacher in the elementary as we have a class of 30 students. It is a hard task for any teacher to have 30 students. Recommendation is to advertise and fill an additional elementary teaching position. Motion made by Mr. Matt Undlin, second by Mr. Terry Savelkoul to hire an additional Elementary Teacher. M/C.

B. SCHOOL TRUSTEE ELECTION POLLING PLACE – JUNE 11th: Recommended locations of our annual School Trustee Election is to keep consistent with county voting locations: Renville County Courthouse in Mohall and Lansford Mall Community Room in Lansford, June 11th, 2024 from 8 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Motion made by Mr. Terry Savelkoul, second by Mr. Grondahl to approve the School Trustee Election locations as presented. M/C.

- C. HIRING CERTIFIED STAFF: Motion made by Mr. Hutchinson, second by Mr. Matt Undlin to hire Certified Staff for the 2024-2025 School Year as presented to the board. M/C.
- D. HIRING PRINCIPALS: Motion made by Mr. Matt Undlin, second by Mr. Grondahl to hire Mrs. Asheim as Elementary Principal for the 2024-2025 School Year. M/C. Motion made by Mr. Grondahl, second by Mr. Hutchinson to hire Mrs. Newgard as JR High & High School Principal for the 2024-2025 School Year. M/C.
- E. BUDGET AMENDMENTS: Budget amendments are needed to reflect the approved budget as listed in Webgrants, before the next claim cycle. Motion made by Mr. Matt

Undlin, second by Mr. Grondahl to approve the budget amendments as presented to the board. M/C.

- F. TIME CLOCK PROPOSAL: Currently in need of updating our existing time clock and Mrs. Newgard and Claudia have sat in and reviewed three different time keeping solutions and presented the cost comparison to the board. Discussion was shared regarding the need for working smarter, not harder and the increased efficiencies gained from the proposed solution. Motion made by Mr. Matt Undlin, second by Mr. Grondahl to purchase the Time Clock Plus (TCP) time keeping, leave & attendance and automated sub tracking solution as presented. M/C.
- G. BUSINESS MANAGER EVALUATION: Motion made by Mr. Matt Undlin, second by Mr. Terry Savelkoul to present the Business Manager with an evaluation of Satisfactory. M/C.
- H. SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION: Motion made by Mr. Terry Savelkoul, second by Mr. Grondahl to present the Superintendent with an evaluation of Satisfactory in all areas. M/C.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be held Tuesday, April 9th, 2024 at 7:00 a.m. Motion was made by Mr. Matt Undlin, second by Mr. Terry Savelkoul to adjourn the meeting. M/C.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 a.m.

Thurstan Johnson, President
MLS School Board
MLS School District 001

Claudia Dean, Business Manager
MLS School Board
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