

REGULAR MEETING, JUNE 13, 2023

The trustees of Manhattan School District No. 3, high school and elementary districts, met in regular session, June 13, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Activities Room. Chairman Brownell called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Rob Brownell, Mike Swan, Matt White, Bryan Petersen, Brand Robinson, and Ethan Severson.

Superintendent Brian Ayers, K-4 Principal Neil Harvey, 5-8 Principal Eric Fisher, HS Principal Miranda Howells, Clerk Ann Heisler, and Executive Assistant Jamie Heaps were present throughout the entire proceedings. Guests attending the meeting are on the list attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Brownell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Chairman Brownell recognized the visitors in attendance.

EARLY GRADUATION REQUEST 2023-2024

This agenda action item was moved up to accommodate the family's schedule. Taylor Klompfen addressed the Board and answered questions they had pertaining to his future plans. Ethan Severson made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 early graduation request from Taylor Klompfen pending meeting all graduation requirements. Matt White seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Brownell read the public comment statement, and asked for public comment on any non-agenda items.

Julie Frank addressed the Board to ask them to consider allowing her and her sister, Becky, to enroll their nieces as out of district students for the 2023-2024 school year as they are the guardians for their nieces.

Jesse LeMay addressed the Board to ask them to consider allowing their son to be enrolled as a full-time student in the 2023-2024 school year while continuing to take classes through Acellus Online Academy and completing the online program at our school. Mr. LeMay suggested this option be made available to other students as well, sighting that the traditional school model doesn't fit every child.

Kelly Opperman addressed the Board to ask them to consider allowing her son to enroll as an out of district student for the 2023-2024 school year. She shared that they had to move from their Manhattan home into one in the Belgrade School District. Mrs. Opperman also shared that her son has attended Manhattan Public School since kindergarten and believes that graduating from Manhattan is in the best interest of her son.

CONSENT AGENDA

Matt White made a motion to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: Board Minutes – Regular May 9, 2023; May 2023 Payroll Warrants 3140698-3140742, \$600,190.90; May 2023 Claims Warrants 3081132-3081232, \$367,809.08; May 2023 Student Activities Checks 27390-27437, 27452, \$48,607.04; the current Substitute, Volunteer, Student Worker, and Athletic Worker Lists for the 2022-2023 school year; Unpaid leave request from Kate Davis 5/19/2023 and 5/22/2023 (2 days); Resignation of Krystin Slater as 2nd Grade Teacher effective 6/2/2023; Resignation of Marisa Stewart as High School Math

Teacher effective 6/2/2023; Resignation of Jamie Heaps as District Executive Assistant/Registrar effective 6/16/2023; Resignation of Emily Cortez as Deaf/Hard of Hearing Specialist effective 5/31/2023; Resignation of Mindy Simpkins as Evening Custodian effective 6/6/2023; 2023-2024 proposed % salary increases for Administrators and other Salaried employees; Coaching staff contract renewals for the 2023-2024 school year per the attached list; SSoM – School Services of Montana 2023-2024 Membership dues and MECC – Montana Education Curriculum Consortium 2023-2024 Membership dues; MSGIA Property and Liability Insurance for 2023-2024; and the Obsolete Property Resolution and List of obsolete items. The motion was seconded by Mike Swan and it carried with no dissenting votes. The approved warrant and check listings, the approved substitute, volunteer, student worker, athletic worker lists, the 2023-2024 salaried and administrative % increase, and the list of 2023-2024 coaching staff contract renewals by sport are attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

2023-2024 HEALTH INSURANCE CHANGES TO THE COLLECTIVE GAINING AGREEMENT 2022-2024

Superintendent Ayers reviewed the 2023-2024 negotiated health insurance changes to the 2022-2024 Collective Gaining Agreement which include the following increases to the monthly employer insurance contribution: Employee only \$29-\$58/month increase – Total \$642-\$656/month, Employee/Spouse \$42/month increase – Total \$959/month, Employee/Children \$40/month increase – Total \$918/month, Family \$51/month increase – Total \$1,171/month. The MEA has approved and ratified the proposed agreement. Mike Swan moved to approve the 2023-2024 health insurance changes to the Collective Gaining Agreement as presented. Matt White seconded, which carried unanimously. The approved health insurance changes to the 2023-2024 Agreement are attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

EMPLOYMENT 2023-2024

Brand Robinson made a motion to approve an employment contract with Barbie Potter as a full-time Kitchen Aide effective 5/19/2023 and for the 2023-2024 school year. Mike Swan seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Matt White made a motion to approve an employment contract with Wes Kragt from JH Health/PE to Teacher on Special Assignment – Dean of Students for the 2023-2024 school year. Ethan Severson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Brand Robinson made a motion to increase Tori Bates FTE from .71 HS PE to 1.0 MS PE for the 2023-2024 school year. This change will allow the schools to maintain current course offerings in grades 6-12, allow for a seven-period schedule with common bells, and promotes consistency within the middle school health enhancement program. Mike Swan seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Ethan Severson made a motion to approve an employment contract with Anthony Howell as High School Math teacher for the 2023-2024 school year. Matt White seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Matt White made a motion to approve an employment contract with Donna Cantalupo as High School Assistant Volleyball Coach for the 2023-2024 school year. Ethan Severson seconded the motion and it carried with no dissenting votes.

Mike Swan made a motion to approve an employment contract with Peytynne Bates as Junior High Head Volleyball Coach for the 2023-2024 school year. Bryan Petersen seconded the motion and it carried with no dissenting votes.

2023-2024 NEW HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES

HS Principal Miranda Howells and HS English teacher Lydia Elgas shared information with the Board about recommended new class offerings in the high school. Principal Howells spoke about the Yoga & Mindfulness, Intro to Personal Conditioning, Intro to Business, Baking and Pastry, Fashion and Textiles, Adulting 101, and Psychology classes. Mrs. Elgas spoke about the Film as Literature class. The Board requested to separate Film as Literature from the other recommended classes in order to vote on it separately.

Bryan Petersen made a motion to approve Yoga & Mindfulness, Intro to Personal Conditioning, Intro to Business, Baking and Pastry, Fashion and Textiles, Adulting 101, and Psychology as new classes offered in the 2023-2024 school year. Ethan Severson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Ethan Severson made a motion to approve the Film as Literature as a new class offered in the 2023-2024 school year. Matt White seconded the motion and it carried with a 5-1 vote; Brand Robinson had the one dissenting vote.

2023-2024 HANDBOOKS

K-5 Principal Eric Fisher reviewed the changes made to the K-5 Staff and Student Handbooks for the 2023-2024 school year. Bryan Petersen made a motion to approve the K-5 Staff Handbook as presented with minor language changes. Mike Swan seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Bryan Petersen made a motion to approve the K-5 Student Handbook as presented with minor language changes. Matt White seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

6-12 Principal Miranda Howells reviewed the changes made to the 6-8 Staff and Student Handbooks for the 2023-2024 school year. Brand Robinson made a motion to approve the 6-8 Staff Handbook as presented with minor language changes. Bryan Petersen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mike Swan made a motion to approve the 6-8 Student Handbook as presented with minor language changes. Matt White seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

6-12 Principal Miranda Howells reviewed the changes made to the High School Staff, Student, and Activities Handbooks for the 2023-2024 school year. Ethan Severson made a motion to approve the High School Staff Handbook as presented with minor language changes. Matt White seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Bryan Petersen made a motion to approve the High School Student Handbook as presented with minor language changes. Ethan Severson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Ethan Severson made a motion to approve the Activities Handbook as presented with minor language changes. Matt White seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Superintendent Ayers reviewed the changes made to the District Certified, Classified, and Substitute Handbooks for the 2023-24FY. Bryan Petersen made a motion to approve the District Certified Staff Handbook as presented. Ethan Severson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Mike Swan made a motion to approve the District Classified Staff Handbook as presented. Matt White seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. Ethan Severson made a motion to approve the Substitute Handbook as presented. Brand Robinson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AUDIT SERVICES WITH STROM & ASSOCIATES

Mike Swan moved to approve the proposed Audit Services Contract with Strom and Associates for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2023, June 30, 2024, and June 30, 2025. Matt White seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Superintendent Ayers reviewed the changes to the Manhattan Public School's Strategic Plan. Matt White made a motion to approve the Strategic Plan as presented. Ethan Severson seconded the motion and it carried with no dissenting votes. The Strategic Plan is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

PLAN FOR SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES AND ARP ESSER PLAN

Superintendent Ayers reviewed the changes to the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan for the 2023-2024 school year. Ethan Severson made a motion to approve the Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services as presented. Brand Robinson seconded the motion and it carried with no dissenting votes. The Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

Superintendent Ayers reviewed the changes to the ARP ESSER Plan for the 2023-2024 school year. Bryan Petersen made a motion to approve the ARP ESSER Plan as presented. Rob Brownell seconded the motion and it carried with no dissenting votes. The ARP ESSER Plan is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

BOARD POLICY UPDATE 5251 RESIGNATIONS – 2nd READING

The Board held a 2nd reading on Board Policy 5251 – Resignations. The proposed change would give the Superintendent the authority to accept employee resignations within the district and report the resignations to the Board as an information item at the next regular or special Board meeting. Ethan Severson made a motion to approve the update as presented. Matt White seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The updated policy 5251 is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

TERMINATE AND REMOVE TEMPORARY EMERGENCY BOARD POLICIES

Matt White made a motion to terminate and remove the temporary emergency Board Policies 1900 and 1901 due to the termination of the declared national emergency related to COVID-19. Ethan Severson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

PRINCIPALS' REPORT

K-4 Principal Neil Harvey, 5-8 Principal Eric Fisher and 9-12 Principal Miranda Howells shared information regarding the end of the school year including outcomes of the final state assessments, general culture, and staff and student achievements.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Ayers gave an update on the progress made toward strategic objectives outlined in the Strategic Plan, as well as committee work done throughout the year, and upcoming work to be done with policy updates.

CLAIMS

Vouchered claims for the month of June 2023 were examined and approved for payment.

No further business appearing before the Board, Chairman Brownell adjourned the meeting at 10:38 p.m.

Robert Brownell, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Ann Heisler, District Clerk

Board Approved 7/11/2023