

REGULAR MEETING, MARCH 14, 2023

The trustees of Manhattan School District No. 3, high school and elementary districts, met in regular session, March 14, 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, High School Principal Miranda Howells, 5-8 Principal Eric Fisher, K-4 Principal Neil Harvey, 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.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Brownell read the public comment statement, and asked for public comment on any non-agenda items. No comments were made.

CONSENT AGENDA

Brand Robinson made a motion to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: Board Minutes – Regular February 14, 2023; February 2023 Payroll Warrants 3140571-3140619, \$602,879.36; February 2023 Claims Warrants 3080980-3081035, \$151,756.55; February 2023 Student Activities Checks 27283-27320, 27331-27334, voids 27284, 27285, 27286, 27288 \$9,815.20; the current Substitute, Volunteer, Student Worker, and Athletic Worker Lists for the 2022-2023 school year; Heather Klonsinski discretionary leave request 5/10/2023-5/15/2023 (4 days); Donna Cantalupo retirement as K-4 teacher effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year; Brad Ballantyne retirement as Athletic Director effective at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. The motion was seconded by Matt White and it carried with no dissenting votes. The approved warrant and check listings, and the approved substitute, volunteer, student worker, and athletic worker lists are attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

EMPLOYMENT 2022-2023

The JH Head and Assistant Track Coaches were tabled until next month due to no applications received. Mr. Ballantyne and Mr. Fisher are currently reaching out to their contacts to try to find someone interested in applying for the open positions.

FY22 AUDIT REPORT

Mike Swan moved to approve the audit report for the 2021-2022 fiscal year as completed by Strom & Associates, P.C. The motion was seconded by Brand Robinson, which carried unanimously.

ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION – MAY 2, 2023

The Annual School Election will be held on Tuesday, May 2, 2023. The two Trustees who are up for re-election are Mike Swan and HS Trustee Ethan Severson. Nominating Petitions for the open positions must be filed with the District Clerk by March 23, 2023, in order for the candidate's name to appear on the ballot.

The 2023-2024 General Fund Preliminary Budget Data information was reviewed, along with estimated budget shortages.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees for **Manhattan Elementary School District No. 3**, Gallatin County, State of Montana, will hold the Annual Regular School Election on Tuesday, the 2nd day of May, 2023. Approval of the following additional levies for the 2023-2024 school year will also be requested:

Elementary General Fund – Mike Swan made a motion to approve an additional levy in the amount of \$44,889.30, which is approximately 3.88 mills for the purpose of properly operating and maintaining the Manhattan Elementary School District. Passage of this proposal will increase the annual taxes on a home with an assessed market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$5.24/year and on a home with an assessed market value of \$200,000 by approximately \$10.48/year. The durational limit of the levy is permanent once approved by the voters, assuming the district levies that amount at least once in the next five years. The motion was seconded by Matt White and it carried unanimously.

Elementary Technology Fund – Bryan Petersen made a motion to approve an additional levy in the amount of \$91,500 per year for 10 years and being approximately 7.91 mills for the purpose of purchasing, renting, repairing and maintaining technological equipment, including computers and computer network access, cloud computing services for technology infrastructure, platform, software, network, storage, security, data, database, test environment curriculum, or desktop virtualization purposes, including any subscription or any license-based or pay-per-use service that is accessed over the internet or other remote network to meet the district's information technology and other needs, and the associated technical training for school district personnel. Passage of this proposal will increase the annual taxes on a home with an assessed market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$10.68/year and on a home with an assessed market value of \$200,000 by approximately \$21.36/year. This request is in addition to the \$18,500 previously authorized as a perpetual levy and, if this proposition is approved, will hereby be limited to 10 years. The motion was seconded by Brand Robinson and it carried unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees for **Manhattan High School District No. 3**, Gallatin County, State of Montana, will hold the Annual Regular School Election on Tuesday, the 2nd day of May, 2023. Approval of the following additional levies for the 2023-2024 school year will also be requested:

High School General Fund – Ethan Severson made a motion to approve an additional levy in the amount of \$150,293.31, which is approximately 8.51 mills for the purpose of properly operating and maintaining the Manhattan High School District. Passage of this proposal will increase the annual taxes on a home with an assessed market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$11.49/year and on a home with an assessed market value of \$200,000 by approximately \$22.98/year. The durational limit of the levy is permanent once approved by the voters, assuming the district levies that amount at least once in the next five years. The motion was seconded by Matt White and it carried unanimously.

High School Technology Fund – Mike Swan made a motion to approve an additional levy in the amount of \$30,500 per year for 10 years and being approximately 1.73 mills for the purpose of purchasing, renting, repairing and maintaining technological equipment, including computers and computer network access, cloud computing services for technology infrastructure, platform, software, network, storage, security, data, database, test environment curriculum, or desktop virtualization purposes, including any subscription or any license-

based or pay-per-use service that is accessed over the internet or other remote network to meet the district's information technology and other needs, and the associated technical training for school district personnel. Passage of this proposal will increase the annual taxes on a home with an assessed market value of \$100,000 by approximately \$2.34/year and on a home with an assessed market value of \$200,000 by approximately \$4.68/year. This request is in addition to the \$24,500 previously authorized as a perpetual levy and, if this proposition is approved, will hereby be limited to 10 years. The motion was seconded by Matt White and it carried unanimously.

A summary of the 2023-2024 General Fund Preliminary Budget Data and estimated budget shortages are attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

Bryan Petersen made a motion to adopt a resolution per 20-9-116, MCA, estimating changes in tax revenue and mills for the ensuing fiscal year for the Manhattan Elementary School District No. 3 as noted in the proposed Notice of Intent to Increase Nonvoted Levies, which will be published in the Belgrade News prior to March 31, 2023. The motion was seconded by Matt White, which carried unanimously. The approved Notice of Intent to Increase Nonvoted Levies resolution is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

Ethan Severson made a motion to adopt a resolution per 20-9-116, MCA, estimating changes in tax revenue and mills for the ensuing fiscal year for the Manhattan High School District No. 3 as noted in the proposed Notice of Intent to Increase Nonvoted Levies, which will be published in the Belgrade News prior to March 31, 2023. The motion was seconded by Mike Swan, which carried unanimously. The approved Notice of Intent to Increase Nonvoted Levies resolution is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

UPDATE ON UPGRADE TO INTERCOM SYSTEM

Superintendent Ayers reviewed the timeline for the upgrade to the intercom system. The necessary intercom system upgrade was a result of information gathered after the swatting incident at Manhattan Public Schools in December 2022. High Tech Solutions will have the system upgraded by the end of March 2023.

NEW ELECTIVE COURSES

High School Principal Miranda Howells told the Board that a few high school teachers are creating proposals for possible new elective course offerings. If the determination is made after the school election that the District could offer new electives to high school students, Principal Howells will present those courses to the Board for approval.

PRINCIPALS' REPORT

K-4 Principal Neil Harvey, 5-8 Principal Eric Fisher, and High School Principal Miranda Howells shared information regarding the general culture, past and upcoming activities & events, and student achievement in their buildings. They also shared data regarding winter benchmark assessments.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Ayers gave an update on the previous month's facility use and provided the Trustees with more information on the process of how to implement a reduction in force. The need for the reduction in force is a direct result of the projected budget shortfalls in the elementary and high school districts. Mr. Ayers also shared the strategy the District will implement to disseminate information to stakeholders prior to ballots being mailed out.

CLAIMS

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

No further business appearing before the Board, Chairman Brownell adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Robert Brownell, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Ann Heisler, District Clerk

Board Approved 4/11/2023