REGULAR MEETING, DECEMBER 11, 2023
The trustees of Manhattan School District No. 3, high school and elementary districts, met in regular session, December 11, 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, Brand Robinson, Matt White, and Bryan Petersen.

Members Absent: Ethan Severson.

Superintendent Brian Ayers, 6-12 Principal Miranda Howells, K-5 Principal Jeff Blessum, Clerk Ann Heisler, and Executive Assistant Amanda Dyksterhouse 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.

4th grade teachers Heather Nehring and Donna Cantalupo, along with some of their students, did a presentation on the Titanic and what they learned about the historical and tragic event.

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 November 14, 2023; November 2023 Payroll Warrants 3140949-3140982, $554,304.16; November 2023 Claims Warrants 3081502-3081551, void 3081536, $177,995.06; November 2023 Student Activities Checks 27641-27683, $51,836.55; the current Substitute, Volunteer, Student Worker, and Athletic Worker Lists for the 2023-2024 school year; Coaching contract renewals for Jason Schmidt and Michelle Mayo as 6th Grade Basketball Coaches for the 2023-2024 season; Resignation of Pat Lynch as HS Head Golf for the 2023-2024 season. 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, and athletic worker lists are attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS
DISCRETIONARY LEAVE REQUEST
The Board had another discussion regarding teachers requesting discretionary leave longer than 3 consecutive days given the change to a 4-day school week. The Board emphasized that any discretionary leave requests longer than 3 consecutive days should be limited and reserved for once in a lifetime opportunities and not be requested in consecutive years by the same employee.

Mike Swan made a motion to deny the Discretionary Leave request from Amanda E. Swenson for 1/22/2024-1/26/2024 (4 days). Brand Robinson seconded the motion and it carried with no dissenting votes.

REPLACEMENT OF HIGH SCHOOL EXTERIOR CAMERAS
Bryan Petersen made a motion to approve the proposed replacement of the High School Exterior Cameras from K12 Montana for $35,911.46. Mike Swan seconded the motion and it carried with no dissenting votes.

LEHRKINDS BEVERAGE CONTRACT
After a request by Trustee Swan, the Lehrkinds Beverage Contract was tabled until the next regular Board meeting in January in order to work on the language in the contract.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AGREEMENT 2023-2024
Bryan Petersen made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the one FP-14 Student Attendance Agreement for the 2023-2024 school year received and approved by Willow Creek School District. Matt White seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The FP-14 Student Attendance Agreement from Willow Creek School District is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

DOHERTY BATTING CAGE DESIGN
Mike Swan moved to approve the revised rendering of the Doherty Batting Cage Design to include one back wall closed off and 3 "open" sides. The one wall is more to block the wind, and the siding on the corners are to provide shear for the structure. Bryan Petersen seconded the motion and it carried with no dissenting votes.

BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS
HB279 ENHANCED TAX CREDIT OPPORTUNITY
Superintendent Ayers shared information regarding the HB279 Enhanced Tax Credit Opportunity. Any donations received by the school district must be used for innovative educational programs. All donations must be received by January 17, 2024, in order for the school to apply for the donor's tax credit through the Montana Department of Revenue's (DOR) Education Donations Portal.

BOARD POLICY UPDATES
Regarding the 11/30/2023 MTSBA Board Policy updates, Superintendent Ayers shared that there are a total of 33 policy updates. This includes 24 policy updates that are required, 4 policy updates that are recommended, and 5 policies with legal reference updates. The Policy Committee will be meeting Friday, December 15, 2023, from 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. to begin the discussion on the policy updates, specifically the open enrollment policy update. Any policy committee recommendations will be brought to the full Board for review and approval.

PRINCIPALS' REPORT
The K-5 Principal Jeff Blessum's report is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

The 6-12 Principal Miranda Howells and 6-12 Athletic Director Brad Ballantyne's reports are attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
Superintendent Ayers asked the Board for their direction regarding Facilities Use and the proof of insurance requirements for individuals when they are not part of an established group. The Board is fine with requiring these individuals to fill out waiver forms in lieu of an insurance certificate. This would only apply to individual parents and their kids using the facilities.

Superintendent Ayers updated the Board on the committee work being done by the PIR committee, Building & Facility Planning committee, Wellness committee, Safety committee, Policy committee, Transportation committee, Superintendent Advisory Council, and the MTSS Team.

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

No further business appearing before the Board, Chairman Brownell adjourned the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

_____ ATTEST: _____
Robert Brownell, Chairman Ann Heisler, District Clerk

Board Approved 1/9/2024