

REGULAR MEETING, JUNE 14, 2022

The trustees of Manhattan School District No. 3, high school and elementary districts, met in regular session, June 14, 2022, 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, Bryan Petersen, and Ethan Severson.

Superintendent Brian Ayers, K-4 Principal Neil Harvey, 5-8 Principal Eric Fisher, 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.

Mr. Jeff Blessum was recognized for his service to the Manhattan Public Schools as the interim superintendent for one year and as mentor for the last two years. Mr. Blessum thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve at our school district and for our Trustees and how they care deeply about our students.

Manhattan 5-8 Tigers of the Month Gracie White, Della Sebring, and Mason Reynolds were recognized and congratulated by the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Linsey Kallestad shared concerns with the Board regarding the administrative decision to split the duties of the Student Activities position with the high school office staff rather than have one designated person serving in that role. This decision was made as a result of the failed HS general fund operating levy, which resulted in budget cuts.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mike Swan moved to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: Board Minutes – Regular May 10, 2022; May 2022 Payroll Warrants 40210-40256, 40335, \$611,329.11; May 2022 Claims Warrants 3080400-3080473, voids 3080451, 3080471, \$213,910.39; May 2022 Student Activities Checks 26908-26951, 26972, \$16,406.80; the current Substitute Teacher and Volunteer list for the 2021-2022 school year; Resignation from Wade Jambor as HS Math Teacher effective 6/3/2022; 2022-2023 salary increases for administrators and other salaried employees; 2022-2023 classified staff wage schedule; Discretionary leave request from Kim McCauley for September 6-9, 2022 (4 days); Unpaid leave request from Jordan Harler for May 12-13, May 27, 2022 (2.5 days); School Services of Montana membership dues for 2022-2023; Montana Educational Curriculum Consortium (MECC) membership dues for 2022-2023; MSGIA property and liability insurance for 2022-2023. The motion was seconded by Brand Robinson and it carried with no dissenting votes.

The 2022-2023 list of administrator/other salaries, the 2022-2023 classified staff wage schedule, the approved substitute teacher and volunteer list, and the approved warrant and check listings are attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

COLLECTIVE GAINING AGREEMENT 2022-2024

Superintendent Ayers reviewed the 2022-2024 Collective Gaining Agreement proposal which will be a 2-year agreement and include the following; 5% increase to the base over two years (3% in the 22-23 school year and 2% in the 23-24 school year), which moves the base to \$33,134 in 22-23 and 33,797 in 23-24; increase to the monthly employer insurance contribution: Employee only \$25/month increase - Total \$627/month, Employee/Spouse \$37/month increase – Total \$917/month, Employee/Children \$35/month increase – Total \$878/month, Family \$45/month increase – Total \$1,120/month; and several language changes as proposed. The MEA has approved and ratified the proposed agreement. Mike Swan moved to approve the 2022-2024 Collective Gaining Agreement as presented. Ethan Severson seconded, which carried unanimously. The approved changes to the 2022-2024 Agreement are attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

2022-2023 EMPLOYMENT

Bryan Petersen moved to approve an employment contract with Bridget Royce from 4th grade teacher to 5th grade teacher for the 2022-2023 school year. Mike Swan seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Brand Robinson moved to approve an employment contract with Brad Ballantyne from HS Social Studies teacher to 5-12 Athletic Director for the 2022-2023 school year. Bryan Petersen seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Matt White moved to approve an employment contract with Torger Sikveland from district assessment coordinator to 6th grade teacher for the 2022-2023 school year. Mike Swan seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Matt White moved to approve an employment contract with Adam Cleary as 4th grade teacher for the 2022-2023 school year. Brand Robinson seconded the motion and it carried with no dissenting votes.

Mike Swan moved to approve an employment contract with Sara Hill as 6th grade teacher for the 2022-2023 school year. Matt White seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Ethan Severson moved to approve an employment contract with Alec Nehring as HS Math teacher for the 2022-2023 school year. Brand Robinson seconded the motion and it carried with no dissenting votes.

Mike Swan moved to approve an employment contract with Samantha Ely as HS Math teacher for the 2022-2023 school year. Ethan Severson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Matt White moved to approve an employment contract with Heather Hjelle as HS Social Studies teacher for the 2022-2023 school year. Mike Swan seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Brand Robinson moved to approve an employment contract with Randi Harmon, Anna Thornock, and Johanna Marx as Full-Time Kitchen Aides for the 2022-2023 school year. Ethan Severson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Ethan Severson moved to approve an employment contract with Sarah Keller Jambor as HS Head Cross Country Coach for the 2022-2023 school year. Mike Swan seconded the motion and it carried with no dissenting votes.

OT CONTRACTED SERVICES 2022-2023

Mike Swan moved to approve the contract with Yellowstone Physical Therapy (YPT) for Occupational Therapy services for the 2022-2023 school year. YPT did a great job for us last year and our students benefited from having therapists available on-site to work with them in person. Brand Robinson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

PT CONTRACTED SERVICES 2022-2023

Brand Robinson moved to approve the contract with Yellowstone Physical Therapy (YPT) for Physical Therapy services for the 2022-2023 school year. YPT did a great job for us last year and our students benefited from having therapists available on-site to work with them in person. Matt White seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

BOARD POLICY UPDATE – 2nd READING

The Board held a 2nd reading on Board Policy 5121 – Applicability of Personnel Policies. Mike Swan moved to approve the proposed updates on second reading. Ethan Severson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The approved BP 5121 policy update is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

2022-2023 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Mike Swan moved to approve the 2022-2023 Professional Development Plan as presented by Superintendent Ayers. This plan outlines the opportunities for professional development and highlights a New Teacher Mentor Program available within the district. Matt White seconded the motion and it carried with no dissenting votes.

BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

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

Superintendent Ayers said that he is not recommending any changes to our Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan at this time. This plan will continue into the 2022-2023 school year. School Nurse Maggie Secrest and Superintendent Ayers will continue to be diligent to stay informed on the COVID cases at the school district throughout the 2022-2023 school year.

MANHATTAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES

Superintendent Ayers gave an overview of the District's goal areas (Community Involvement, Enhanced Student Achievement, Technology, Staff, Facilities) and the strategic objectives within each goal that was set by the Strategic Planning Committee.

PRINCIPALS' REPORT

K-4 Principal Neil Harvey shared work that was been done in the K-4 school to address the District's strategic objectives. Mr. Harvey also reviewed data from the spring SBAC and MAPS assessments and reported the end of year events throughout the K-4 grades.

5-8 Principal Eric Fisher shared work that has been done in the 5-8 school to address the District's strategic objectives. Mr. Fisher also reported the end of year events throughout the 5-8 grades and shared the new structure in the 5th and 6th grades for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year.

HS Principal Jason Slater was not in attendance at the Board meeting but provided a written report to the Board.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Ayers informed the Board of the work that was done throughout the District to move toward the achievement of the strategic objectives during the 2021-2022 school year. Mr. Ayers also reported the committee work and advisory council feedback from the past school year. Exit interviews were conducted at the district level in the spring with all staff that would not be returning to Manhattan Public Schools for the upcoming 22-23 school year. The overall consensus of the reason for leaving was shared with the Trustees.

The Manhattan All School Reunion will be held in conjunction with the Manhattan Potato Festival on August 20, 2022. The All School Reunion is sponsored by the Manhattan Public Schools Foundation.

CLAIMS

Vouchered claims for the month of June 2022, were examined and approved for payment.

No further business appearing before the Board, Chairman Brownell adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Robert Brownell, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Ann Heisler, District Clerk

Board Approved 7/12/2022