

REGULAR MEETING, FEBRUARY 8, 2022

The trustees of Manhattan School District No. 3, high school and elementary districts, met in regular session, February 8, 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, High School Principal Jason Slater, 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.

5th grade Tiger of the Month student Logan Casebolt was 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.

Sarah Simser, Rocky Hamilton, Callie Hamilton, Joel Pitsch, Drake Albertson, and Kelly Pavlik addressed the Board of Trustees to share questions and concerns they had with the absence of the current High School Principal's name that was not on the list of recommended principal contract renewals for the 2022-2023 school year.

Bob Penny addressed the Board of Trustees to bring awareness to the way an incident involving his son was handled by the current High School Principal.

CONSENT AGENDA

Brand Robinson made a motion to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: Board Minutes – Regular January 11, 2022, Special January 17, 2022, Special January 28, 2022; January 2022 Payroll Warrants 40042-40077, \$555,376.09; January 2022 Claims Warrants 3080185-3080235, \$191,501.83; January 2022 Student Activities Checks 26754-26813, 26836, void 26785, \$13,710.65; the current Substitute Teacher and Volunteer list for the 2021-2022 school year; Discretionary leave request from Kathleen Walker for April 25-29 (5 days); Discretionary leave request from Jordan Harler for April 11, 12, 20-22 (5 days); Discretionary leave request from Amanda E. Swenson for February 14-17 (4 days); Discretionary leave request from Todd Rosenberger for January 21-28 (6 days). The motion was seconded by Mike Swan and it carried with no dissenting votes. The approved warrant and check listings, the approved substitute teacher and volunteer list, are attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

2022-2023 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Matt White made a motion to approve the proposed school calendar for the 2022-23 school year. Brand Robinson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The approved 2022-2023 school calendar is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION – MAY 3, 2022

The Annual School Election will be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2022. The two Trustees who are up for re-election are Rob Brownell and Brand Robinson. Nominating Petitions for the open positions must be filed with the District Clerk by March 24, 2022, in order for the candidate's name to appear on the ballot.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees for Manhattan Elementary School District No. 3 and Manhattan High School District No. 3, Gallatin County, State of Montana, will hold the Annual Regular School Election on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, which date is not less than seventy (70) days after the passage of this resolution.

The election will be held by mail ballot conducted by the County Election Administrator with all qualified electors in Manhattan Elementary School District No. 3 and Manhattan High School District No. 3 participating.

The purpose of the election is to elect two (2) Trustees for a three-year term from Manhattan School District No. 3.

Bryan Petersen moved to approve the trustee election and additional levies to operate and maintain the General Fund and the Technology Fund for FY 2022-2023 in the Elementary School. Mike Swan seconded and it carried with no dissenting votes.

Ethan Severson moved to approve the trustee election and additional levies to operate and maintain the General Fund and the Technology Fund for FY 2022-2023 in the High School. Matt White seconded the motion and it carried with no dissenting votes.

If it is later determined that any portion of the election is not required, the Board of Trustees authorizes Ann Heisler, school district election administrator, to cancel that portion of the election in accordance with 13-1-304 and 20-3-313, MCA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerk of Manhattan School District No. 3 is hereby directed to notify the County Election Administrator of the date of holding said election, and request the clerk to close regular registration and to prepare and furnish election materials as required by law.

The Gallatin County Election Administrator is further instructed to submit a written mail ballot plan to the office of the Montana Secretary of State in a timely manner and to publish and post notice of the election in a manner and at the times required by law, and to appoint a sufficient number of judges and to conduct the election as required by law.

2021-2022 EMPLOYMENT

Ethan Severson made a motion to approve an employment contract for Adriana Norris as the HS Head Track Coach for the 2021-2022 school year. Mike Swan seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

2022-2023 ADMINISTRATION

Brand Robinson moved to approve a Principal employment contract for the 2022-2023 school year with Neil Harvey as K-4 Principal for 207 days. Bryan Petersen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Matt White moved to approve a Principal employment contract for the 2022-2023 school year with Eric Fisher as 5-8 Principal for 212 days. Mike Swan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

WORK RELEASE REQUESTS

Ethan Severson moved to approve the work release requests from Waylon Dykman and Blaise Harned for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year. Matt White seconded the motion and it carried with no dissenting votes.

LETTER OF AGREEMENT WITH TELESYSTEM SERVICES (TSS)

Mike Swan made a motion to approve the proposed Letter of Agreement with TSS for the school district's KPWS 93.1 FM radio station. Matt White seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The approved Letter of Agreement with TeleSystem Services (TSS) is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

MHSA APPLICATION FOR COOPERATIVE SPONSORSHIP RENEWAL AGREEMENT WITH MCS FOR SPEECH

Ethan Severson made a motion to approve the MHSA Cooperative Sponsorship of Activities Renewal Agreement with Manhattan Christian School for Speech for the school years of 2022-2023, 2023-2024, and 2024-2025. Mike Swan seconded the motion and it carried with no dissenting votes. The approved MHSA Cooperative Sponsorship Renewal Agreement with MCS for Speech is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

MHSA APPLICATION FOR COOPERATIVE SPONSORSHIP RENEWAL AGREEMENT WITH MCS FOR DRAMA

Bryan Petersen made a motion to approve the MHSA Cooperative Sponsorship of Activities Renewal Agreement with Manhattan Christian School for Drama for the school years of 2022-2023, 2023-2024, and 2024-2025. Brand Robinson seconded the motion and it carried with no dissenting votes. The approved MHSA Cooperative Sponsorship Renewal Agreement with MCS for Drama is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

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. School Nurse Maggie Secrest is keeping Superintendent Ayers informed on the COVID cases at the school district, which is being monitored closely.

MEA REQUEST TO OPEN NEGOTIATIONS

Superintendent Ayers reported to the Board that he received a letter from the Manhattan Education Association (MEA) requesting their desire to open negotiations for the Collective Gaining Agreement for the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years. Negotiations are tentatively scheduled to begin in April.

PETITION PROPOSING THE DISTRICT RENAME THE OLD MAIN GYM AFTER JIM ORIET

Superintendent Ayers received a petition signed by district staff members proposing renaming the "Old Main Gym" in memory of Mr. Jim Oriet. The school district does not currently have a board policy regarding the naming of district facilities. Superintendent Ayers will get guidance from Kris Goss from MTSBA about adopting such policy, and present it to the trustees at their next regular meeting.

PRINCIPALS' REPORT

Principal Neil Harvey gave a shout out to the dedication of the teachers in the elementary school and shared upcoming events. Mr. Harvey informed the trustees that the Manhattan

Public School Foundation has agreed to fund the Mystery Science program for another 3 years saving the District just over \$2,500.

5-8 Principal Eric Fisher shared that the Peer Helpers raised \$300 that will be donated to the Manhattan Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. Fisher also shared details of the new Tigers on Track Tutoring program that is available to 5-8 students. There were 132 students in grades 5-8 that were on the Honor Roll in the second quarter.

High School Principal Jason Slater gave a quick overview of the last month including attendance rates and an 83% increase of library book circulation. Activities Director Pat Lynch updated the Trustees on the Athletic and Activities programs in the high school. Congratulations to Speech and Drama for placing 4th at State and to the three State Wrestling qualifiers: Peyton Johnson, Cooper Smith, and Cyrus Richardson.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The school facility use report was given to the trustees. Superintendent Ayers informed the trustees of the increase in vandalism throughout the District, therefore, supervision is being increased throughout the day and communication is going out to the outside groups using the facilities. Mr. Ayers also gave an overview of the spring Adult Education classes and the upcoming committee meetings.

CLAIMS

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

No further business appearing before the Board, Chairman Brownell adjourned the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

Robert Brownell, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Ann Heisler, District Clerk

Board Approved 3/8/2022