

## **REGULAR MEETING, MARCH 9, 2021**

The trustees of Manhattan School District No. 3, high school and elementary districts, met in regular session, March 9, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Activities Room and via Zoom. Chairman Brownell called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Rob Brownell, Dennis Grue via Zoom, Brand Robinson, Ethan Severson, and Matt White via Zoom.

Members Absent: Mike Swan

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 in person 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.

Tigers of the Month 5-8 students Keziah VanZee, Izaiah Johnson, Avery Melling, and Christian Owens 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.

Don Carlson expressed concerns over the school mask policy and that students are being disciplined for not wearing a mask. He mentioned that the Board had previously said that there would not be any punitive consequences for students who did not comply. He also said that the mask mandate is not being applied to all students fairly. Superintendent Ayers will schedule a meeting to discuss these issues and concerns with Mr. Carlson.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Brand Robinson made a motion to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: Board Minutes – Regular February 9, 2021; February 2021 Payroll Warrants 39601-39631, \$577,309.51; February 2021 Claims Warrants 79467-79513, \$149,097.33; February 2021 Student Activities Checks 26373-26422, 26432, \$17,474.28; the current Substitute Teacher and Volunteer list for the 2020-2021 school year; Discretionary leave request from Lisa Calkins, March 8-11, 2021, for a total of 4 days; Discretionary leave request from Todd Rosenberger, May 21-28, 2021, for a total of 6 days; Discretionary leave request from Bev Richardson, May 13-18, 2021, for a total of 4 days; Resignation from Nigel Clark as full-time Custodian; Retirement from High School Teacher Mitch Britzmann at the end of the 2021-2022 school year. The motion was seconded by Ethan Severson 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**

#### **2020-2021 EMPLOYMENT**

Ethan Severson made a motion to approve an employment contract for the 2020-2021 school year, pending a successful background check, with Jackie Johnson as part-time Kitchen Aide. The motion was seconded by Brand Robinson, which carried unanimously.

## **MONFORTON 2020-2021 STUDENT ATTENDANCE AGREEMENT**

Brand Robinson made a motion to approve and acknowledge the FP-14 Student Attendance Agreement for the 2020-2021 school year received from Monforton School District. Ethan Severson seconded, which carried with no dissenting votes. The approved FP-14 Student Attendance Agreement is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

## **ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION – MAY 4, 2021**

The Annual School Election will be held on Tuesday, May 4, 2021. The two Trustees who are up for re-election are Dennis Grue and Matt White. Nominating Petitions for the open positions must be filed with the District Clerk by March 25, 2021, in order for the candidate's name to appear on the ballot.

The 2021-2022 General Fund Preliminary Budget Data information was reviewed.

After discussion, Ethan Severson made a motion to approve the following resolution: 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 4<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021. Approval of additional levies in the amount of \$143,673.16, which is approximately 9.73 mills for the purpose of properly operating and maintaining the Manhattan High School District for the 2021-2022 school year will be requested. Brand Robinson seconded the motion, which carried with no dissenting votes.

A summary of the 2021-2022 General Fund Preliminary Budget Data is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

Brand Robinson made a motion to adopt a resolution per 20-9-116, MCA, estimating changes in tax revenue and mills for the ensuing fiscal year as noted in the proposed Notice of Intent to Increase/(Decrease) Nonvoted Levies, which will be published in the Belgrade News prior to March 31, 2021. The motion was seconded by Ethan Severson, which carried unanimously. The approved Notice of Intent to Increase/(Decrease) Nonvoted Levies resolution is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

## **BOARD POLICY UPDATES – SECOND READING**

The Board held a second reading on the following policies: 3123 Attendance Policy-Truancy, 3310 Student Discipline, 4315 Visitor and Spectator Conduct, 4332 Conduct on School Property, 5223 Personal Conduct, 5226 Drug-Free Workplace.

Ethan Severson moved to approve 3123 Attendance Policy-Truancy as proposed. The motion was seconded by Brand Robinson and it carried with no dissenting votes.

Brand Robinson moved to approve 3310 Student Discipline, 4315 Visitor and Spectator Conduct, 4332 Conduct on School Property, 5223 Personal Conduct, 5226 Drug-Free Workplace as proposed. The motion was seconded by Ethan Severson, which carried with no dissenting votes.

The approved policies 3123 Attendance Policy-Truancy, 3310 Student Discipline, 4315 Visitor and Spectator Conduct, 4332 Conduct on School Property, 5223 Personal Conduct, 5226 Drug-Free Workplace are attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

**FY20 AUDIT REPORT**

Ethan Severson moved to approve the audit report for the 2019-2020 fiscal year as completed by Strom & Associates, P.C. The motion was seconded by Brand Robinson, which carried unanimously.

**PRINCIPALS' REPORT**

K-4 Principal Neil Harvey, 5-8 Principal Eric Fisher, and High School Principal Jason Slater updated the Board on upcoming events and athletic/activities in each of their schools, projects they have been working on, reading week, teacher and student recognition, academics, attendance, and remote learning.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Ayers gave a report to the Board on the following topics:

1. Thank you to our website coordinator Dan Heisler and Jamie Heaps for their work in getting our new website up & running. Please send pictures of any events happening within the school to highlight the events on the school website.
2. The superintendent's office is working on our human resources to have more consistent processes and procedures, moving towards an electronic platform.
3. The next newsletter will go out around March 31, 2021, and will focus on the Annual School Election in May 2021.
4. The school district is working with the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce to partner with them for possibly changing the site of the Manhattan Potato Festival on August 21, 2021, to the school district grounds.

**CLAIMS**

Vouchered claims for the month of March 2021, were examined and approved for payment.

No further business appearing before the Board, Chairman Brownell adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

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Robert Brownell, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ann Heisler, District Clerk

**Board Approved 4/13/2021**