

SPECIAL MEETING, JUNE 27, 2019

The trustees of Manhattan School District No. 3, high school and elementary districts, met in special session, June 27, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Activities Room. Chairman Brownell called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Rob Brownell, Dennis Grue, Mike Swan, Ethan Severson, and Matt White.

Members Absent: Brand Robinson

High School Principal Jason Slater, 5-8 Principal Eric Fisher, Clerk Ann Heisler, and Elizabeth Kaleva 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.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS:

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

The Board interviewed the following Interim Superintendent Candidates: Jeff Blessum and Lance Pearson.

After the formal Board interviews, Chairman Brownell determined that the matter of the reference and background checks reviewed by Elizabeth Kaleva involves individual privacy and public disclosure would not be in the best interest of the individuals involved. He called an Executive Session at 7:15 p.m.

Following Executive Session, Chairman Brownell reconvened the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

After additional discussion, Dennis Grue moved to hire Jeff Blessum as the Interim Superintendent for the 2019-2020 school year. The motion was seconded by Mike Swan and it carried with no dissenting votes. Mike Swan made a motion to allow Elizabeth Kaleva to negotiate a contract with Jeff Blessum for the 2019-2020 school year. Matt White seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

PURCHASE ACTIVITY BUSES

Trustee Mike Swan reviewed the information and discussion from a recent meeting with Superintendent Chauvet, Trustee Swan, and several representatives from Harlow's Bus Sales, about the proposed purchase of two coach buses for \$100,000. Our current bus transportation contract with Harlow's would need to be amended to include the maintenance and operating expenses on the two proposed buses if Manhattan School purchased them and Harlow's managed them. The current orange Tiger Bus is owned by Harlow's and it would continue to

be used for shorter trips. Harlow's said that they will work with the school and no longer hold us accountable to the 7000 miles/year minimum on the Tiger Bus as stated in the current contract.

There were several unanswered questions from Trustees that included the cost of the additional maintenance on the coach buses, the warranty on the coach buses, if there is an option of leasing the two coach buses instead of purchasing them, and the cost comparison of running the district-owned coach buses vs. the cost of continuing to use the contracted yellow buses and the Tiger Bus.

The activity bus purchase decision was tabled until the July meeting and Trustee Mike Swan will gather more information and get answers to the Trustees questions from Harlow's Bus.

No further business appearing before the Board, Chairman Brownell adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Robert Brownell, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Ann Heisler, District Clerk

Board Approved 7/9/19