

MOHALL LANSFORD SHERWOOD
BOARD OF EDUCATION PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR MEETING – April 9, 2024
MLS BOARD ROOM/STEM ROOM – 7:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Thurstan Johnson, President; Matt Undlin, Vice President; Roger Hutchinson, Andrew Grondahl, Sheldon Ackerson, Terry Savelkoul & Vance Undlin. ABSENT: None. ADM: Keith Campbell, Janet Asheim, and Heidi Newgard. OTHERS: Trevor Savelkoul & Kalli Smith.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 a.m. by President Johnson. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion made by Mr. Hutchinson, second by Mr. Terry Savelkoul to approve the March 12th, 2024 regular board meeting minutes. M/C. Motion made by Mr. Vance Undlin, second by Mr. Ackerson to approve the March financial reports and payment of the accounts payables as presented. M/C.

ADM. REPORTS:

- A. Mrs. Asheim, Elementary Principal: Elementary world had 94% participation rate for parent-teacher conferences. Grades 6-8 finished up battle of the books. Elementary Music Festival is coming up later this month. Shared a little on MTSS - process for working through academic as well as behavioral learning challenges.
- B. Mrs. Newgard, High School Principal: Community Volunteer Day was this fall, so it will be school as usual on the day of the Music Festival this year. Attended the Minot State University Career Fair. Saw a lot of different recruiting tools and visited with a lot of history teachers. MAV Hour social group – once a month they go over to Bottineau to work on social skills. Planning has begun for selecting flowers and preparing for the senior slideshow for graduation. We will be having grades 6-11 pre-register for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year soon. The JR/SR Banquet and Prom were held last week and both went well. We have state testing now this week. ACT test results were similar to last years'. Overall MLS students' test scores were better than area schools.
- C. Mr. Savelkoul, Athletic Director: Boys golf had their first practice yesterday. This year they have 11 in HS and 6 in JH. Track has 14 HS boys and 6 JH boys this years, 3 HS girls and 6 JH girls. Overall Track has 17 HS athletes and 12 JH athletes. For baseball, we have 6 HS and 6 JH boys playing this year from MLS. For Softball, we have 4 HS and 2 JH girls playing this year from MLS. We will be receiving 2 donations from Gooseneck. Al Scherr is donating his portion toward LED lights for the basketball backboards and Cody Beaver is donating his portion to MLS Track & Field.
- D. Mr. Campbell, Superintendent: The carpet project will begin as soon as school is out. There is continual work on plumbing issues. The VoAg program will have a landscaping

class next year, so they will be involved in that project. Discussion was had on the preliminary budget and fiscal projections. State aid is currently 49% and Federal program funds will be decreasing by \$500,000 next year alone. Title and federal grant funding is all based on Free & Reduced applications that are turned in. Our percentage for the district is low, which impacts our ability to receive many of the grant funds that we have been applying for. We currently have over 30 children that are homeschooled in the district, decreasing our per pupil state aid payment. We have an increase of \$170,000 in teacher salaries alone for this next school year's expenditures. We are, and have been adding on in terms of providing services, but those things cost. We were previously at 81 mills, now currently at 80 mills. It was shared that the board does have the potential to raise mill permissibly up to 12 mills through a miscellaneous fund. We've added a lot while having declining enrollment.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. RESIGNATIONS:

- a. Tracy Henry, Elementary Teacher – Motion to approve the resignation made by Mr. Matt Undlin, second by Mr. Grondahl. M/C.
- b. Kalli Smith, Elementary SPED Teacher – Motion to approve the resignation made by Mr. Vance Undlin, second by Mr. Hutchinson. M/C.
- c. Emily Elhard, Elementary Teacher – Motion to approve the resignation made by Mr. Hutchinson, second by Mr. Terry Savelkoul. M/C.
- d. Drama Advisor – Alexis Genareo – Motion to approve the resignation as drama advisor made by Mr. Hutchinson, second by Mr. Ackerson. M/C.
- e. Question was raised, "Should we be concerned?" Response from Mr. Campbell was: "Yes, definitely. We are competing with a lot of schools for teachers." Discussion was had regarding: could we support them in a different way, how much of it is life changes? These are warning signs and certainly an opportunity for us to learn how we can do better. Exit surveys? NDSBA is not big on recommending surveys, but we could do them.

B. HIRING:

- a. Jennifer Wenstad, Elementary Teacher – Motion was made to hire by Mr. Vance Undlin, second by Mr. Grondahl. M/C.
- b. Technology Coordinator – We interviewed 2 applicants, but both turned us down. We are interviewing another person tomorrow. We will keep working on the hiring portion.

C. INVESTING BUILDING FUND & MMA FUNDS: Discussion was raised last month about moving money from the building fund and reserve fund (MMA) to high-yield savings

accounts or CD's, but we would need a motion to consider. Motion was made by Mr. Ackerson, second by Mr. Matt Undlin to give Mr. Campbell the authority to decide the investment amount(s) for the Building Fund and Money Market Account/Reserve Fund. M/C.

- D. HIRING NON-CERTIFIED STAFF: Motion made by Mr. Vance Undlin, second by Mr. Terry Savelkoul to hire all Non-Certified Staff for the 2024-2025 School Year as presented to the board. M/C.
- E. HIRING ALL STIPEND POSITIONS (EXCEPT SPRING COACHES): Motion made by Mr. Terry Savelkoul, second by Mr. Ackerson to hire all stipend positions for the 2024-2025 School Year with the exception of spring coaching staff. M/C.
- F. BEST IN CLASS, READING CORPS, & MATH CORPS:
 - a. Hiring Tutors - Motion made by Mr. Vance Undlin, second by Mr. Grondahl to approve the hiring of math and reading tutors. M/C.
- G. APPROVE SUMMER SCHOOL APPLICATION – DRIVERS ED & EXT. AG: Motion made by Mr. Terry Savelkoul, second by Mr. Hutchinson to approve the summer school application for Drivers Ed and Extended Ag Ed. M/C.
- H. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ESTABLISHMENT & MAINTENANCE OF MISC. FUND:
 - a. Approval of levy up to 12 mills – Motion was made by Mr. Vance Undlin, second by Mr. Grondahl to approve the establishment and maintenance of the Misc. Fund. M/C.
- I. SPEED & AGILITY TRAINING PROPOSAL: Sarah Dufner is a business owner that is requesting permission to use our facility to offer a speed and agility training for area youth. They would have to have their own liability insurance. January 2023 Board Minutes would be a good reference of the last time we had a similar proposal. This training will be offered by certified athletic trainers for 1.5 hrs per day, 2 times a week, for 8 weeks. Discussion was had regarding what or if a fee should be charged. With precedence in mind from January 2023, a motion was made by Mr. Vance Undlin, second by Mr. Hutchinson to allow Sarah Dufner to hold the training at the MLS School for a fee of \$50 per hour. Opposed was Mr. Matt Undlin. M/C.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. ACTIVITY COMMITTEE - Gym Floor Update: Currently have \$2,750 in the account, but have raised \$49,000 in expected donations. Have received a lot of traction from gaming and businesses. Mrs. Newgard will add information to the Facebook page.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be held Tuesday, May 14th, 2024 at 7:00 a.m. Motion was made by Mr. Terry Savelkoul, second by Mr. Matt Undlin to adjourn the meeting. M/C.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

Thurstan Johnson, President
MLS School Board
MLS School District 001

Claudia Dean, Business Manager
MLS School Board
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