

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, EAST HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 9

Call to Order: Trustees of School District No. 9 held a meeting on July 8, 2024. Chairman, Scott Walter called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

Attendance and Introduction of Board Members

Trustees Present: Chairman Scott Walter, Vice Chair Tyrel Murfitt, Stacy Baird, Mark Diehl, Martin Balukas, Marcia Ellermeyer (@ 5:37), and Tristan Ulmer (@ 5:58)

Superintendent Dan Rispens, Clerk Jill Hoogerheide, and Director of Information Systems Brandon Hansen

Visitors: Trish Klock, Guy McDermott, Maddie Surginer, Rick McEwan, Megan Surginer, Belle Surginer, Holly Ingeman, Jon McEwan, Shari Northcott, Cassie Rice- Wetzel, Patti McLean, Joe Defilippis, Luke Gospie, Sherry Underwood, Margie McEwan, Camy Dusenberry, Taylor Field, Chad Field, KD Jones, Luke Osthie, Marissa Osthie, Sloane Osthie, Madison Hogue, Kima Rosling, Kyle Rosling, Ella Pickett, Kylee Wetzel, Cassie Rice-Wetzel

Review the Agenda

No comments

Hear the Public

Megan Surginer spoke to the Board regarding her time as the EHHS Softball coach and her connection to the East Helena District and community.

Holly Ingeman continued to read Megan Surginer's statement regarding her experience as a softball coach.

Jon McEwan continued to read Megan Surginer's statement regarding her experience as a softball coach.

Shari Northcott continued to read Megan Surginer's statement regarding her experience as a softball coach. She asked the Board to look at their transparency regarding hiring athletics positions in the future.

Patti McLean addressed the Board to speak in support of Megan Surginer.

Joe Defilippis spoke to the Board in support of Megan Surginer.

Luke Osthie addressed the Board in support of Megan Surginer.

Sherry Underwood addressed the Board in support of Megan Surginer.

Rich McEwan spoke to the Board in support of Megan Surginer.

Stacy Pervis read a letter she wrote in support of Megan Surginer.

Guy McDermott read a letter in support of Megan Surginer.

Maddie Surginer read a letter in support of Megan Surginer.

Belle Surginer spoke to the Board regarding her time in the EHHS softball program and her support for Megan Surginer.

Taylor Field spoke in support of Megan Surginer.

Cassie Rice-Wetzel spoke in support of Megan Surginer.

Reports

Trustee and Committee Reports of the K-12 Board

Board Chair Walter solicited reports from the Trustees and Committees.

Chairman Walter spoke a bit about the recent COSBA meeting.

No other reports from the Committees and Trustees.

Strategic Planning – Scan for Future Needs

Chairman Walter solicited comments and observations regarding the current strategic plan and planning needs.

Superintendent Rispens spoke a bit about the grant for the future of Valley Drive.

Notifications of Retirements and Resignations

Nothing to report at this time.

Consent Action Items

Minutes of the Regular Meeting June 10, 2024 and Special Meeting June 27, 2024

Approval of the former and new warrants (Claims #50111-50155) and (Payroll #66358-66426)

Personnel Actions

Recommendation of Employment:

- Mariah Sprunger Paraprofessional
- Brooklyn Purcell EHHS Head Cheer Coach
- Rosie Kraft EHHS Assistant Cheer Coach
- Jayden Yackley 227 Academy 6th – 8th Teacher

Surrounding School District Student Enrollment Approval

East Helena School District Students Requesting Enrollment in Other School Districts for the Remainder of the 2023-2024 School Year:

Helena

- 10th grade – 1
- 11th grade- 1

Jefferson High

10th grade - 1

East Helena School District Students Attending Other School Districts for 2024-2025 School Year:

Helena

- 6th grade – 1
- 9th grade - 1
- 10th grade- 1

Jefferson High

Montana City

Chairman Walter wanted to point out a misspelled name in June 10th Board minutes.

Motion by Trustee Diehl, seconded by Vice Chair Murfitt to approve the consent action items as presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Unfinished Business

Student Travel Report – Washington DC

Camy Dusenberry spoke to the Board about the recent student trip she led to Washington DC. She wanted to thank the Board for the experience and showed a slideshow highlighting some of the wonderful places they were able to visit. She had an amazing experience and hopes to be able to do something similar in the future.

Clean School Bus Rebate Discussion

Superintendent Rispens shared information regarding the Clean School Bus Rebate Program and our progress with Lion Electric.

Boiler Replacement Progress Report

Superintendent Rispens shared information about the progress made on the boiler installation at Radley and Eastgate. He also updated the Board on the current financial status of the project.

FY '25 Budget Projections and Report

Superintendent Rispens presented updated preliminary budget projections including permissive levy considerations.

Summer Maintenance and Improvement Project Report

Superintendent Rispens shared information about improvement projects taking place throughout the district this summer.

Grant Update – TA Grant – Lewis Street Sidewalk Construction

Superintendent Rispens updated the Board regarding the Lewis Street sidewalk project started by Superintendent Whitmoyer roughly 5 years ago.

New Business

Head Start Program Lease Consideration

Superintendent Rispens reported that it is time to renew our lease agreement with Head Start for their use of space at Eastgate School.

Motion by Trustee Ulmer seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to renew the lease agreement with Head Start for the 24-25 school year. Unanimous vote for the motion.

MTSBA Bylaws, Resolutions and Officers Review and Consideration

Chairman Walter reported that the MTSBA did not have a quorum at their annual business meeting in June. Each member district needs to review the documents and vote on them.

Principles and Guidelines

Motion by Vice Chair Murfitt seconded by Trustee Baird to approve the Principals and Guidelines as presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Foundational Elements of MTSBA's DNA

Motion by Vice Chair Murfitt seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to approve the foundational elements of MTSBA's DNA as presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

FY26 Dues Revenue Estimate

Motion by Vice Chair Murfitt seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to approve the new dues and fee structure. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Vision Based Strategic Advocacy Resolution and Gap Analysis Resolution

Motion by Vice Chair Murfitt seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to approve the revisions of the resolutions as presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Nomination of Krystal Zentner - MTSBA President-Elect
Nomination of Rick Cummings – MTSBA Vice President

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer seconded by Trustee Diehl to approve the nominations for the MTSBA officers. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Motion by Vice Chair Murfitt seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to appoint Chairman Walter to submit the Board's votes to MTSBA. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Accreditation Update – Preliminary Results

Superintendent Rispens presented the Board with the preliminary accreditation reports that were released from OPI on July 1st.

Policy Review First Reading

- 2309 School Library Programs
- 2311 Instructional Materials
- 2314 Instructional and Library Materials Review
- 2314(F) Request for Reconsideration Form

The Board agreed the next step should be to have the Policy Committee meet to review.

Document Shredding Request

Superintendent Rispens reported that the Business Office is requesting permission to shred documents in storage that are outside statutory requirements.

Motion by Trustee Balukas, seconded by Trustee Ulmer to approve shredding of outdated documents outside the statutory requirements. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Contract Considerations

Superintendent Rispens asked the Board to consider renewing the contract with Helena Orthopedic Clinic for athletic training services.

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer, seconded by Vice Chair Murfitt to renew the three-year contract with Helena Orthopedic Clinic for EHHS athletic training services. Unanimous vote for the motion.

MCEL Planning – October 2024 Hilton Garden Inn Missoula

Superintendent Rispens reported that the dates for the next Montana Conference for Educational Leadership will be October 16th -18th in Missoula. He encouraged the Board to check their calendars and let him know if they would like to attend so that reservations and registrations can be submitted.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items

The next regular meeting will be held on August 12th @ 5:30 East Valley Middle School.

Submitted by: Jill Hoogerheide
Board Clerk, Jill Hoogerheide

8/12/24
Date

Approved by: Scott A. Walker
Chairman, Board of Trustees

AUGUST 12, 2024
Date