

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 March 11, 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, Tristan Ulmer, Martin Balukas, Marcia Ellermeyer and Mark Diehl (5:43)

Superintendent Dan Rispens, Clerk Jill Hoogerheide, and Activities Director Shaun Murgel.

Principals and Vice Principals: Brandon Crusat, Michael Kemper, Duane Schlabach, Gus Somerfeld, Lynsi Morris, and Brian Kessler

Visitors: Abigayle Bishop, Eli Erdahl, Cooper Dighans, Tim Baird, Kaylee Sutton, Kevin Dighans, David Powell, Paige Clayton, Jamie Clayton, Andrew Maxness, Adrienne Simonson, Marc Weniger, Becca Weniger, Slade Olson, Avery Hager, Chaser Hager, Killian Snarr, Evan Lane, Christa Schoenfeld, Phoebe Longshore, Colby Longshore, Sway Longshore, Cain Longshore, Asa Longshore, Jack Taylor, Kodi Novak, Tucker Petty, Bearek Shuman, Karla Layson, Randy Gillett, Rori Schoenfeld, Dymon Root, Jordan Kambic, Deondray Ellis, Jill Cohenaur, Mary Smith, Kate Johnson, Beth Norberg, Bridget Williams, Jessica Smith, Casey Gergen, Jason Cobb, Andrew Boedecker, Riley Sampson

Via Zoom: Cole Bass, Brandon Hansen, Sonny Tapia, Troy's phone, Team Dusenberry, Kari Speicher, Katy Hauer, Crystal, Nick's iphone, Chris and Stacy Baird, Daniel Shults, Jen Hager, Alyssa Salerno, Tamika Schoppe, Rick, Simonson, Shana Dachs, Troy Arntson, Marne Bender, Carrie Clement, Jon Cantrell, Jill Cohenour

Review the Agenda

No comments

Hear the Public

No comments

Reports

Student Report

The EHHS fall and winter athletes were recognized for their accomplishments:

Coach Karla Layson presented the Volleyball team

Coach Jon Moore presented Speech and Debate

Coach Jon Henneman presented the Swimming team

Coach Tim Baird presented the Wrestling team

Coach Ty Ridgeway presented the Boys Basketball team

Administrator Report

EVMS Principal Lynsi Morris reported that 8th grade went skiing and had a band and choir concert the same day. This Thursday, the 6th graders will go skiing. Lynsi also wanted the Board to know that there is a Jazz festival coming soon in Missoula and that EVMS will be participating in the upcoming Parent College with EHHS.

Radley Principal Gus Somerfeld wanted to elaborate on his board report. The staff spent the last early out planning and brainstorming ideas to continually improve their students' academic growth. The intent is to use future early out days to continue to come up with creative ideas for increasing academic achievement.

Gus also introduced Kate Peterson from NCCE who wanted presented KD Jones with a plaque for the NCCE 24: Outstanding Technology Educator of the Year. KD was recognized for her positive attitude, peer and student interactions and her innovation.

Eastgate and Prickly Pear Elementary Principal Brandon Crusat spoke about next year's plan regarding specials classes. The goal is to move specials onto a trimester schedule to ensure all students get an equal amount of library, gym and music. He also updated us on Kindergarten registration numbers which are pretty equal to the last couple years at this time.

EVMS Vice Principal Michael Kemper reported a bit about office referrals and some of the ways that the Admin team are supporting the students.

EHHS Principal Brian Kessler reported about the MTSS grant and the parent college coming up. They are hoping for a higher attendance then in the past and have made some changes so that other events don't conflict with the Parent College schedule.

EHHS Vice Principal Duane Schlabach reported that they are working hard to keep the referral shift steady. February had an increase in office referrals from January.

Activities Director, Shaun Murgel reported about all the sports coming up over spring break. Track, softball and baseball are starting to practice and games are starting quickly.

Trustee and Committee Reports of the K-12 Board

Board Chair Walter solicited reports from the Trustees and Committees.

Board Chair Walter reported about the latest COSSBA and MTSBA meetings.

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.

Notifications of Retirements and Resignations

The Following Staff Resignations Have Previously Been Accepted:

- Nancy Bailey Teacher – EHHS
- Dawes Elwood Teacher – EHHS
- Madison Beason Paraprofessional
- Derik Chaney School Counselor
- Alicia Lloyd Teacher – EVMS
- Kaitlyn Caltabiano Teacher – EHHS/EVMS

Consent Action Items

Minutes of the February 12, 2024 Regular Board Meeting and Special Board Meeting February 23, 2024

Approval of the former and new warrants (Claims #49589-49678) and (Payroll #65083-65243)

Personnel Actions

Recommendation of Employment:

- Madison Beason Substitute
- CJ Hansen Summer School Lead Teacher
- Amy Pollington Summer School Lead Teacher
- Kenrick Leistiko Substitute Custodian
- Abigail Cook Student Para/Mentor
- Cassie Goulart Student Para/Mentor
- Emma Stapley Student Para/Mentor
- Karlee Erickson Student Para/Mentor
- Mallory Noem Student Para/Mentor
- Ansleigh Held Student Para/Mentor
- Maya Westerhold Student Para/Mentor
- Ashley Carpenter Student Para/Mentor
- Melinda Yeary Summer Program Teacher
- Kayla Graham Summer Program Teacher
- Rachel Beveridge Summer Program Teacher
- Jenni Krause Summer Program Teacher
- Patti McLean Summer Program Teacher
- Monica Foster Summer Program Para
- Kendra Elgen Summer Program Para

- Troy Arntson 5-8 Intramural Basketball Coach
- Jaicee Senecal 5-8 Intramural Basketball Coach
- Veronica Rubio-Pratt 5-8 Boys Basketball Coach
- Rick Thompson EHHS Boys Head Soccer Coach

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer, seconded by Vice Chair Murfitt to approve the consent agenda as presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Unfinished Business

Update Regarding TA Grant for Lewis Street Sidewalk

Superintendent Rispens reported about the Transportation Alternative Grant which was submitted to install a sidewalk between PPE and EVMS to complete connectivity between campuses. There have been some changes to the project over time, but the project is on schedule.

Non-resident Application Update

Superintendent Rispens reported about the applications received so far for non-resident status.

Strategic Plan Review

Superintendent Rispens presented plan language related to the definition of quality education.

Motion by Trustee Baird, seconded by Trustee Ulmer to approve the updated plan. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Discussion of Procedure 3141(P) – Non-Resident Student Enrollment Procedures

Superintendent Rispens presented Procedure 3141(P) for discussion.

Kate Johnson had a question regarding the priority list and Employee's children on the priority list.

Mary Smith had a comment regarding Employee's children on the priority list.

David Powell had a comment regarding the procedures regarding Employee's children on the priority list.

Motion by Vice Chair Murfitt, seconded by Trustee Balukas to table the discussion of Procedure 3141(P). Unanimous vote for the motion.

HB 352 Update and Assessment Adoption

Principal Crusat reported about HB 352 and recommended an assessment tool for staff to use to qualify students for our program.

Motion by Trustee Baird, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to approve the assessment tool. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Budget Update and Mill Levy Consideration

The Board was asked to prioritize programs for inclusion in a mill levy request.

Motion by Trustee Ulmer, seconded by Vice Chair Murfitt to set the levy request at \$387,242.00.

Unanimous vote for the motion.

New Business

East Helena Lead Mitigation

Bridget Williams and Jessica Smith from the EPA and Beth Norberg from Lewis and County Health shared information regarding the lead mitigation and answered questions from the Board regarding the new threshold for lead contamination.

Consideration of Student Representative

Sage Clayton from EHHS Student Council presented information to the Trustees about the prospect of including a student representative on the Board.

Motion by Trustee Ulmer, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to authorize the Superintendent to begin developing policy to include a student representative on the Board. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Notice of Intent Regarding Permissive Levies – Resolution #237

Superintendent Rispens presented Resolution #237 to estimate and provide notice to the taxpayers about our intentions in regard to permissive levies under HB 307.

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer, seconded by Trustee Balukas to approve Resolution #237.

Unanimous vote for the motion.

Social Studies Materials 6-12 Adoption

Superintendent Rispens presented the social studies 6-12 curriculum materials to be purchased with approval.

Motion by Vice Chair Murfitt, seconded by Trustee Balukas to approve the Social Studies Materials purchase. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Termination of Probationary Employment

Superintendent Rispens asked the Board to terminate the employment of S.P. This is a termination without cause of an employee during their probationary period.

Motion by Trustee Balukas, seconded by Trustee Diehl to terminate the employment of S.P.

Unanimous vote for the motion.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items

The next regular meeting will be held on April 8th, 2024 @ 5:30 East Valley Middle School..

Submitted by: _____

Board Clerk, Jill Hoogerheide

Date

Approved by: _____

Chairman, Board of Trustees

Date