

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 May 8, 2023.

Trustees Present: Chairman, Scott Walter, Trustees Tyrel Murfitt, Stacy Baird, Mark Diehl, and Marcia Ellermeyer. Superintendent Dan Rispens and Clerk Kim Aarstad, Assistant Clerk, Jill Hoogerheide.

Principals: Brian Kessler, Brandon Crusat, Gus Somerfeld, Vice Principals, Duane Schlabach and Michael Kemper, Athletic Director, Shaun Murgel and Technology Coordinator, Brandon Hansen

Visitors: Camy Dusenberry, Kate Johnson, Katrina Chaney, Cody Criner & Jeff Stoltz

Visitors on Zoom: Cole Bass, Patti McLean, Jana Nygaard & Mary Smith

Review the Agenda

Hear the Public

No one addressed the Board.

Reports

Student Reports

Principal Kessler introduced two of the district Valedictorians, Taylor Lindsey & Jaydee Huschka who have been selected to be the speakers at Graduation. Principal Kessler also reported that Jaydee also attended the state music festival in Missoula and received a superior rating in three categories.

Administrators Report

Principal Crusat reported the Prickly Pear and Eastgate started the benchmark testing today.

Principal Somerfeld reported the Smarter Balance testing has been completed.

Principal Morris reported that ELA was just finished, a few of the students were not able to finish the testing because of rescheduled track meets, so administrators will make sure that all students are able to take the required tests before the end of the year. Teacher appreciation was last week.

Vice Principal Kemper reported on discipline issues at EVMS and reported that track will be finishing up soon.

Principal Kessler reported that the district had received the data from the RHB screening, staff will be looking at this data in the near future. ACT testing data has also been received. On 5/11/2023 he and Mr. Rispens will be going to the Office of Public Instruction meeting, to get the final certification for East Helena High School.

Vice Principal Schlabach reported on the discipline issues on EHHS.

High School Athletic Director Shaun Murgel, reported Spring Sports will be finishing up this month. Helena Motors has recently donated a 2023 vehicle to East Helena & Helena for a raffle. Cost of the tickets will be \$10.00.

Brandon Hansen, Technology Coordinator, reported that ACT testing went very well. Infinite Campus is still being worked on and will be ready for next year.

Trustee and Committee Reports of the K-12 Board

Meetings with the infrastructure and personnel committee will be discussed in the agenda

Strategic Planning - Scan for Future Needs

Superintendent Rispens reported that he had recently met with the Executive Director of Habitat for Humanities. Habitat has recently purchased two plots from METG, and is estimating 900 new homes can be built in the two plots. Habitat is willing to discuss the needs for property for a future school site.

Notifications of Retirement and Resignations

Superintendent Rispens reported that he had recently accepted the following resignations:

- | | | |
|----|---------------|-----------|
| i. | Robyn Arntson | - Teacher |
| ii | Audrey Howard | - TOSA |

Consent Action Item

- A. Minutes - April 10, 2023 Regular meeting.
- B. Approval of the May former and new warrants (Claims 47286 - _____ and Payroll 63286 - _____).
- C. Personnel Actions - Recommendation of employment:

- i. Jenni Krause - Summer School Instructor
- ii. Camryn Beck - Summer School Instructor
- iii. Christina Power - Elementary Teacher
- iv. Carl Moore - Bus Driver
- v. Kara Solan - Elementary Teacher
- vi. Richard Leistiko - Custodian
- vii. Abigail Lynes - English Teacher
- viii. Samantha Burke - Elementary Teacher
- ix. Laura Helgeson - Paraprofessional

2023-2024 Hiring Recommendation

Principal Crusat recommend the following tenured staff members be rehired for the 2023-24 school year:

Certified Staff Recommendation for 2023-24

Bender, Marne	Dachs, Shana	Fetherston, Tana	Griffiths, Katie
Hager, Jen	Heidinger, McKenzie	Johnson, Kate	Kjorstad, Jillian
Krause, Jenni	Lunday, Nancy	Mikesell, Ashlee	Odegard, Nikki
Odermann, Jannice	Ophus, Kristin	Petersen, Kara	Phelps, Kelsey
Salerno, Alyssa	Sandau, Sarah	Simonson, Adrienne	Vetsch, Erin
Warner, Jenn			

The following **nontenured** staff be rehired for the 2023-24 school year:

Beck, Camryn	Beveridge, Rachel	Graham, Kayla	Power, Christina
Shaul, Alyssa	Stipcich, Taylor		

The following **nontenured** staff be rehired for the 2023-24 school year and be awarded the status of tenure:

Chaney, Derik	Gallups, Brandy	Haas, Jolette	Hansen, Catherine
Krantz, Matthew	Pollington, Amy		

Classified Staff Recommendation for 2023-24

The following **classified** staff be rehired for the 2023-24 school year.

Boltz, Laura	Burke, Samantha	Clark, Natalie	Elgen, Kendra
Emmons, Ella	Ferguson, Tauron	Foster, Monica	Gallups, Kyra
Helfert, Doreen	Kalous, Bethany	Kalous, Kari	Kuhl, Joseph
Madsen, Erika	McLaughlin, Connie	Mergenthaler, Hillary	
Merriman, Philesha	Rivers, Caitlin	Schwaller, Carrie	Tyler, Lew
Widhalm, Kelli			

Principal Somerfeld recommend the following tenured staff members be rehired for the 2023-24 school year:

Bright, Rachel	Clement, Carrie	Cloeren, Michael	Countryman, Heather
Dusenberry, Camilla	Ferro, Ashley	Haines, Tricia	Ireland, Scott
Jones, KD	Layson, Karla	Mazanec, Traci	Metzger, Kim
Penner, Julie	Reiff, Anna	Scoles, Jennifer	Senecal, Katherine
Speicher, Kari	Teders, Vashti		

The following **nontenured** staff be rehired for the 2023-24 school year:

Fox, Jewel	Olson, Karly	Rubio-Pratt, Veronica	Solan, Kara
Snarr, Karley			

I recommend the following **nontenured** staff not be rehired for the 2023-24 school year:
Clanin, Jessica

The following **nontenured** staff be rehired for the 2023-24 school year and be awarded the status of tenure:

Finstad, Erin	McLean, Patti	Norling, Dani
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Classified Staff Recommendation for 2023-24

The following **classified** staff be rehired for the 2023-24 school year.

Adamson, Angela	Blaskovich, Patti	Cranmore, Sarah	Dunlap, Debbie
Ereth, Trina	Gunderson, Sharyn	Higgins, Stephanie	Lashway, Michelle
Smith, Emily	Stafford, Ashley	Super, Mary	Terry, MaryAnn
Vallance, Dante	Yeary, Melinda		

Principal Morris recommend the following tenured staff members be rehired for the 2023-24 school year:

Certified Staff Recommendation for 2022-23

Arntson, Troy	Bender, Marne	Brown, Bryanna
Cobb, Jason	Dawes, Staci	Gates,Carolynn
Hash, Nicole	Horne, Cory	McLaughlin, Whitney
McMahon, Diana	Metzger, Kimberly	Mortieau, Lisa
Murphree, Kaitlyn	Pritchard, Erik	Schoppe, Tamika

Somerfeld, Holly
Walsh, Beth

VanNice, Kevin

VanderZanden, Katie

The following **nontenured** staff be rehired for the 2022-23 school year:

Berg, Christina
Elliott, Andrew
Lampman, Evan
Senecal, Jaicee

Caltabiano, Kaitlyn
Gergen, Casey
Lloyd, Alicia

Cantrell, Jon
Howard, Audrey
Lance, Sophia

The following **nontenured** staff be rehired for the 2022-23 school year and be awarded the status of tenure:

Menage, Emmanuelle

Wigen, Jodi

Classified Staff Recommendation for 2022-23

The following **classified** staff be rehired for the 2022-23 school year.

Hines, Jennifer
Meeker, Jacqueline
McCall, Ember

Lucero, Stormi
Thomas, Beth
Palmer, Summer

Kellerman, Kathryn
Weber, Alyssa
Valvoda, Teri

Principal Kessler recommend the following tenured staff members be rehired for the 2022-23 school year:

Certified Staff Recommendation for 2023-24

Ty Ridgeway
Cole Bass
Sarah Cobb

Carson Bender
Tamika Schoppe
Victoria Curtiss

Jana Nygaard
Ashley Torgerson
Whitney Mitchell

The following **nontenured** staff be rehired for the 2023-24 school year:

Bret Charlton
Shelby Holmes
Riley Sampson
Andrew Boedecker
Hope Hamilton
Kelli Kerpa

Elizabeth Clarkson
Tyler Murray
Kaitlyn Caltabiano
Amanda Countryman
Ethan Hoffman
Tabitha Smail

JD Ferris
Brad Paskey
Rebecca Bergman
Andrew Elliot
Audrey Howard
Anna Spoja

The following **nontenured** staff be rehired for the 2023-24 school year and be awarded the status of tenure:

Dawes Elwood
Emma Menage

Casey Harris
Jon Moore

Angela Huschka
Christa Schoenfeld

Classified Staff Recommendation for 2023-24

The following **classified** staff be rehired for the 2023-24 school year.

Tammi Daum	Tonya Hauck	Sherylle Ito
Jenny Paszkiet	Alex Reid	Sydnee Clairmont
Bridget Guerin		

Superintendent Rispens recommend the following staff members be rehired for the 2023-24 school year:

Food Service Staff

Aaron Strong	Diane Harrison	Joan Lizar	Izabella TwoTeeth
Victoria Kraft,	Joe Guerin	Karen Chaffins	Blanca Saur
Renee Slocum	Kaydee Strum	Kayla Groat	Kim Powell

Maintenance/Custodial Staff

Liam Gallups	Michael Sloan	Harold Olson
DeLane Erickson	Rick Kraus	
Patrick Moore	Dennis Briggs	

Bus Drivers

Randy Vose	Hank Flatow	Lester White	Ralph White
Kelly Allen	Stuart Beagles	Douglas Hollingshead	
Carl Moore	Joseph Krall	Randy Semers	

Administrative Staff

Gus Somerfeld	Brandon Crusat	Brandon Hansen	Jill Hoogerheide
Jennifer Wiedbusch	Steve Skains	Michelle Olds	Jennifer Cordell
Kim Aarstad	Shaun Murgel	Michael Kemper	Kaylee May
Janice Osborne	Brian Kessler	Nick Turner	Lynsi Morris
Duane Schlabach	Kaylee May		

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

Unfinished Business

Legislative Advocacy Update

Chairman Walter and Superintendent Rispens updated the Board on the finished legislative session and discussed the bills that will impact the school district.

Budget Update and Review

Superintendent Rispens and Clerk Aarstad discussed the status of the district FY24 budget.

New Business

Non-Renewal of Certified, Non-Tenured Staff

Superintendent Rispens reported that the Board had received two recommendations for non renewal.

Motion by Trustee Balukas, seconded by Trustee Murfitt to non renew the teaching contract for Jessica Clanin. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Motion by Trustee Balukas, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to non renew the teaching contract for Lianne Ewals. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Certification of the Election

Clerk Aarstad reported on the election results for the May 8, 2023 Trustee election. Results are attached to the minutes.

Motion by Trustee Murfitt seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to approve the Certification of Election. Unanimous vote for the motion

Oath of Office for Newly Elected Trustees

Lewis & Clark County Superintendent of Schools, Katrina Chaney administered the oath of office to Martin Balukas, Mark Diehl and Tristan Ulmer.

Reorganization of the Board

Chairman Walter turned the meeting over to Superintendent Rispens to get nominations for Board Chair.

Trustee Ellermeyer nominated Trustee Walter to be Chairman of the Board.

Motion by Trustee Diehl, seconded by Trustee Balukas to close the nomination and appoint Scott Walter as Board Chairman. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Superintendent Rispens turned the meeting over to Chairman Walter.

Chairman Walter called for nominations for Vice Chairman of the Board.

Trustee Ellemeyer nominated Trustee Murfitt to be Vice Chairman of the Board.

Motion by Trustee Diehl , seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to close the nomination and appoint Trustee Murfitt as Board Vice Chairman. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Board Committee Appointments

Chairman Walter established the following Board committees.

Infrastructure & Transportation

Tyrel Murfitt
Tristan Ulmer
Scott Walter

Bargaining (Certified)

Mark Diehl
Marcia Ellermeyer
Scott Walter

Bargaining (Classified)

Mark Diehl
Tyrel Murfitt
Stacy Baird

Budget, Personnel & Insurance

Martin Balukas
Marcia Ellermeyer
Tristan Ulmer

Policy Review & Oversight

Stacy Baird
Martin Balukas
Tyrel Murfitt

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Martin Balukas

Tyrel Murfitt

Tristan Ulmer

Representatives of Long-Term Infrastructure Committee

Stacy Baird

Scott Walter

Selection of a Business Manager

Motion by Trustee Balukas, seconded by Trustee Baird to offer Jill Hoogerheide a contract as the new East Helena Business Manager. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Appointment of Clerk

Motion by Trustee Murfitt, seconded by Trustee Baird to appoint Jill Hoogerheide as the K-12 East Helena School Board Clerk for the 2023-2023 school year. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Consideration of SRO Contract

Superintendent Rispens reported that the original 3 year contract for SRO Services at EHHS with the Lewis & Clark County Sheriff's Office has expired. The Sheriff's Department submitted a new contract that will supersede the current contract for the EVMS DARE/SRO Officer.

Motion by Trustee Balukas, seconded by Trustee Diehl to approve the new SRO contract and to give Superintendent Rispens the authority to negotiate the termination of the last contract. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Consideration of Student out of State Travel Request

Camy Dusenberry, Radley Elementary Teacher, discussed a plan for an educational trip in the summer of 2024.

Motion by Trustee Balukas, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to approve the outstate travel request as presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Request to Establish a Student Activity Account

Superintendent Rispens requested a student activity account be made for depositing funds and making payments for the trip.

Motion by Trustee Balukas, seconded by Trustee Ulmer to approve the new Student Activity Account as requested. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Workman's Compensation Carrier Update

Superintendent Rispens and Clerk Aarstad reported that they had compared pricing between the District's current work comp carrier, State Fund and MSGIA. After looking over the presented rates the district will stay with the State Fund for another year.

Consideration of EHEA MOU for Sick Leave Donation for Maternity/Paternity

Superintendent Rispens presented an MOU for the EHEA current CBA which has become cumbersome and difficult to manage for the business office and employees. The proposed language adjustment will treat sick leave donations for maternity/paternity the same as for any other illness. This will assist the business office in tracking donations and use of donated leave with assisting teachers in their planning for these types of leave.

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer, seconded by Trustee Diehl to approve the MOU adjusting maternity/paternity leave. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Setting Administrative Salaries for 2023-2024

Superintendent Rispens presented the recommendations for school administration staff for 2023-2024 school year.

Motion by Trustee Balukas, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to provide a salary increase to the administrative staff as presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Driver's Education Vehicle Purchase

Superintendent Rispens presented a purchase agreement to purchase a new driver's ed vehicle.

Motion by Trustee Balukas , seconded by Trustee Diehl to approve the purchase of a new driver's education vehicle. Unanimous vote for the motion.

MTSBA Training and Opportunities

Scott Walter, President of MTSBA, presented the Board with information about upcoming training events for Trustees and opportunities to be involved in MTSBA advocacy.

Future meeting Dates and Agenda Items

Special Discipline Hearing may be held on June 1, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the East Valley Middle School Library

The next regular meeting will be held on June 12, 2023 at 5:30 p.m in the East Valley Middle School Library.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
District Clerk, Kim Aarsad

Approved by: _____ Date _____
Chairman, Board of Trustees