

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 September 12, 2022. Chairman Scott Walter called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Attendance and Introduction of Board Members

Trustees Present: Chairman Scott Walter, Trustees Stacy Baird, Breck Scheet, Mark Diehl, Martin Balukas, Marcia Ellermeyer and Tyrel Murfitt. Superintendent Dan Rispens and Clerk Kim Aarstad.

Principals: Duane Schlabach, Lynsi Morris, Michael Kemper, Brandon Crusat & Gus Somerfeld. Athletic Director, Shaun Murgel, Bus Supervisor, Nick Turner, and Technology Coordinator, Brandon Hansen.

Visitors: Cami Dusenberry, Cole Bass, Nick Turner, Heather Countryman, Mary Smith, Dan Karlin, Katherine Senecal, Audrey Howard, Mary Super, Kari Speicher, Hope Hamilton, Ethan Hoffman, Mandy Countryman, Julie Penner, Karley Snarr, Rebecca Bergman, Megan Bonde, Sarah Cranmore Andromeda Abarr, Tabitha Smail, Camryn Beck, Clancy Casey, Robyn Mohs, Carrie Clement, Evan Lane, Kathy Brandt, Zach Butler and Alyssa Shaul

Visitors on Zoom: Kate Johnson, Traci Mazanec, Megan Michelotti, Erin Finstad, Aric Curtiss, Vicki Curtiss and Isaac Mazanec.

Review the Agenda

Hear the Public

Mary Smith discussed a letter that out of district parents received letting them know that there would not be a guarantee that their children will be allowed in the district each year, and expressed concern about the letter.

Dan Karlyn also expressed concern about the letter that he received on out of district tuition.

Kayla Peachey reported that growth in the district will continue and the district needs to fix the bus drivers pay scale.

Zach Butler, discussed that bus #8 is arriving earlier than what was reported in the calendar. And that the district needs to work on keeping teachers happy and allowing their children to come to our school district, which means we need to allow them to stay as tuition students if needed. Mr. Butler also reported on additional construction that will be coming in the Red Fox Subdivision.

Reports

Principal & Technology Reports

Principal Morris introduced her new staff and reported that EVMS will have a Volleyball game on 9/13/2022.

Principal Crusat introduced his new staff and discussed the Stuff the Bus grant that Prickly Pear had received.

Principal Somerfeld introduced his new staff and reported that Radley is working on getting more incentive programs for students.

Principal Kessler introduced new staff and reported that EHHS is working on the school goals.

Vice Principal Kemper reported on discipline issues at EVMS.

Vice Principal Schlabach reported on the discipline issues on EHHS.

Athletic Director, Shaun Murgel, updated the Board on the student activities since school started.

Brandon Hansen reported that he had been busy getting student information in and ready for Fall count.

Student Report

Evan Lane reported that the Link Crew welcomed all in coming freshmen this year, and It went really well.

Trustee and Committee Reports of the K-12 Board

Chairman Walter reported the Infrastructure Committee will meet again on October 24, 2022 and that COSBA is starting out really strong.

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Rispens discussed the student count that the district currently has, with over 600 students in EHHS. Superintendent Rispens also asked that the Principal's discuss the first day of school.

Nick Turner also discussed district transportation and discussed the growth that the district has been having to deal with this year.

Superintendent Rispens also discussed the chiller issues at EVMS, and discussed the letter that was sent to out to out district parents.

Strategic Planning - Scan for Future Needs

Superintendent Rispens reported that an Infrastructure committee held a meeting on August 22, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. Superintendent Rispens also reported that in the near future the administration staff will be looking at the short term objectives in the strategic plan.

Notifications of Retirement and Resignations

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

- | | | |
|-----|----------------|--------------------|
| i. | Megan Suringer | - Radley Secretary |
| ii. | Amy Wark | - Sub Custodian |

Consent Action Items

- A. Minutes of the August 8, 2022 Regular Board Meeting.
- B. Approval of the August former and new warrants (Claims #- 46631 - 46715) and Payroll # 61934 - 62059).
- C.. Personnel Actions - Recommendation of employment

- | | | |
|-------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| i. | Shelby Holmes | -EVMS Volleyball Coach |
| ii. | Makayla McDouough | -EVMS Volleyball Coach |
| iii. | Dani Norling | -Intramural Soccer Coach |
| iv. | Stephanie Ward | -Cheer Coach |
| v. | MaryAnn Terry | -Radley Secretary |
| vi. | Laura Smith | -Paraprofessional |
| vii. | Aylssa Weber | -Paraprofessional |
| viii. | Kelli Widhaim | -Paraprofessional |
| ix. | Mike Warner | -Assistant Coach - Boys Soccer |
| x. | Janis Torgeson | -Kitchen Aid 1 Position |
| xi. | Victoria Kraft | -Kitchen Aid 1 Position |

xii.	Evan Lampman	-Swim Coach
xiii.	Katheryn Kellerman	-Paraprofessional
xiv.	Ashley Stafford	-Paraprofessional
xv.	Kelli Kerpa	-TRIO Talent Search Coordinator EHHS
xvi.	Ethan Hoffman	-TRIO Talent Search Coordinator EHHS
xvii.	Lisa Mortieau	-TRIO Talent Search Coordinator EVMS
xviii.	Jodi Wigen	-TRIO Talent Search Coordinator EVMS

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

New Business

Unfinished Business

EHPS Covid - Update

Superintendent Rispens updated the Board on the ongoing efforts of the teachers and administration to educate and protect kids from the COVID virus.

Consideration of Head Wrestling Coach

Superintendent Rispens asked that the Board consider a personnel action to hire Tim Baird, husband of Board Member Stacy Baird, for the position of Head Wrestling Coach. The District has followed policy and state nepotism laws by posting this action in the Independent record.

Motion by Trustee Balukas, seconded by Trustee Murfitt to hire Tim Baird as the assistant wrestling coach.

Roll Call is as follows:

“Yes” Trustee Ellermeyer, Trustee Diehl, Trustee Scheet, Trustee Balukas, Trustee Walter and Trustee Murfitt.

Abstain - Trustee Baird

Motion carried.

Out of State Travel request for EHHS Band

EHHS Band Director, Cole Bass presented a proposal for an out of State Trip for the EHHS Band.

Motion by Trustee Scheet , seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to approve Mr. Bass’s travel request. Unanimous vote for the motion.

21st Century (TIGER After School Program) update and approval

TIGER Program Coordinator Heather Countryman presented information on the East Helena TIGER After School Program. Monies from the 21st Century Program will be used to operate the program for the year.

Motion by Trustee Balukas, seconded by Trustee Baird to approve the operation of the 21st Century Learning Center in the East Helena School System. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Ending the COVID 19 Emergency Declaration and removal of the 1900 Policy Series

Superintendent Rispens reported that as the COVID 19 pandemic is winding down from pandemic to an endemic, and that it is time to consider removing the Emergency Declaration and the 1900 policies from the Board policy manual.

Motion by Trustee Murfitt , seconded by Trustee Baird to end the emergency declaration for East Helena School District. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Board Policy Review - 1st Reading Board Policy 3145 - Foreign Exchange Students

Superintendent Rispens and Principal Kessler present Board Policy 3145 for the Boards consideration. Superintendent Rispens would like to see the number of foreign exchange students allowed at 6 students.

Motion by Trustee Scheet , seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to approve the 1st reading of Board Policy 3145, Foreign Exchange Students, as presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Consideration of Memorandum of Understanding with EHEA and EHESA

Superintendent Rispens presented a Memorandum of Understanding with EHEA and EHESA for the Board's consideration. The MOU addresses outdated language regarding the District's Insurance Committee.

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

Creation of Student Activity Accounts: EHHS Robotics, French Club, K-4 General Music and 6-8 Choir/General Music

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer, seconded by Trustee Scheet to approve the creation of student activity accounts: EHHS Robotics, French Club, K-4 General Music and 6-8 Choir/General Music. Unanimous vote for the motion.

RBMH MOU for Mental Health Screening

Superintendent Rispens presented a MOU with the Rural Behavioral Health Institute. Rural Behavioral Mental Health would like to help support our efforts around youth mental health screening.

Motion by Trustee Balukas seconded by Trustee Baird to approve the MOU with Rural Behavioral Health Institute. Unanimous vote for the motion. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Consideration of Superintendent's request to attend National Conference Training

Superintendent Rispens asked that the Board approve two separate conferences he would like to attend, one is a Youth Mental Health Conference in Salt Lake City in October and the other is the National Superintendent Conference in San Antonio in February.

Motion by Trustee Balukas, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to approve Superintendent Rispens travel request. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Future meeting Dates and Agenda Items

The next regular meeting will be held on October 10, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the East Valley Middle School Library.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm

Submitted by: _____
District Clerk, Kim Aarstad

Approved by: _____
Chairman, Board of Trustees