

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 February 14, 2022.

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

Principals: Brian Kessler, Brenda Stoltz, Brandon Crusat, Gus Somerfeld, Vice Principals, Krista Swindel and Shaun Murgel and Technology Coordinator, Brandon Hansen.

Visitors: Justin & Tanessa Cloninger, Kim Metzger, Mark Smith, Kelly Clagg, Robyn Mohs & Adrienne Simonson.

Visitors on Zoom: Brian Daum, KD Jones

Review the Agenda

Hear the Public

Justin & Tanessa Cloninger, parents of Dakota Petersen, a wrestler at EHHS, expressed concern about the girls wrestling program .

Kelly Clagg also discussed the wrestling program within the district and at EVMS

Reports

Principal Report

Principal Crusat reported that he just returned from a MCLSDP conference in New Orleans, and discussed the focus folders.

Principal Kessler reported that the Registration process will start on 2/15/2022. The new student hand book has been updated. Working on reading scores within the high school. 22 students have been enrolled in the alternative school program. \$200.00 was raised by the National Honor Society Penny Drive. Students will be working on art murals within the building, Principal Kessler introduced JROTC Instructor Lieutenant Colonel Mark Smith to the Board and the Public.

Lieutenant Colonel Smith discussed the JROTC program.

Principal Stoltz reported that 6th grade mental screening was completed last week, 7th grade will be finished next week. Girls Basketball will be completed in the next couple of weeks. Students were able to sign up for a ice fishing class.

Principal Somerfeld reported that the last benchmark testing was completed and that Radley has some massive gains from the fall testing. Mr. Somerfeld also congratulated the district Robotics team who competed with over 60 teams and all three East Helena teams will be advancing to the next tournament in Bozeman.

Krista Swindell, EVMS Vice Principal, reported on the current discipline report.

Shaun Murgel, EHHS Vice Principal, reported on current discipline issues, and reported that winter sports will be over in the next few weeks, and that the district will need to decide if they are going to offer a baseball program.

Technology Coordinator, Brandon Hansen, reported on the technology in the district.

Student Report

No Report

Trustee and Committee Reports of the K-12 Board

No committee reports. Chairman Walter reported that MTSBA will be holding a two day workshop to discuss the Strategic plan for MTSBA.

Strategic Planning - Scan for Future Needs

Superintendent Rispens reported that the district will need to discuss the future infrastructure plan for the district. Board will meet with Debra Silk on March 7, 2022 to discuss the results from the survey.

Notifications of Retirement and Resignations

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

- i. James Huber - Paraprofessional
- ii. Austin Waldbillig - High School English Teacher

Consent Action Item

- A. Minutes from the January 10, 2022 and Special Meeting from February 1, 2022
- B. Approval of the September former and new warrants (Claims 46061 - 46136 and Payroll 60276 - 60438).
- C. Personnel Actions - Recommendation of employment

i.	Kaydee Strum	-Kitchen Aid
ii.	Kaitlyn Caltabiano	-Substitute
iii.	Ryan Murgel	-EHHS Head Tennis Coach
iv.	Megan Murgel	-EHHS Tennis Assistant Coach
v.	Megan Surginer	-EHHS Softball Head Coach
vi.	Kima Rosling	-EHHS Assistant Softball Coach
vii.	Jon Moore	-EHHS Head Track Coach
viii.	Delane Erickson	-Assistant Wrestling Coach
ix.	Elizabeth Thomas	-Substitute
x.	Hayleigh Holmlund	-Substitute
xi.	Megan Surginer	-Summer PALS Lead Teacher
xii.	Amy Pollington	-Summer PALS Lead Teacher
xiii.	Michelle Olds	-Assistant Foods Supervisor
xiv.	Debbie Dunlap	-Summer PALS Secretary
xv.	Bret Charlton	-EHHS Assistant Track Coach
xvi.	Riley Sampson	-EHHS Assistant Track Coach

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer, seconded by Trustee Murfitt to approve the February warrants and Personnel actions as presented. Approval of minutes will be approved in a separate motion. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Trustee Murfitt asked Clerk Aarstad to change the January minutes as follows: School Board Evaluation of Superintendent to, Vice Chairman Tyrel Murfitt. (Not Vice Chairman Walter), and asked that the clerk look over the minutes of the February 1st Special Board meeting for spelling errors.

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer, seconded by Trustee Murfitt to approve the minutes as corrected. Unanimous vote for the motion.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COVID Update

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

TA Grant Contract Review

Superintendent Rispens reported on the Transportation Alternatives Grant. The project will install a permanent sidewalk along Lewis Street between EVMS and Valley Drive as well as a sidewalk along Valley Drive past the Cemetery. There is a match requirement for this project of \$67,000.00.

Motion by Trustee Scheet, seconded by Trustee Diehl to approve the Transportation Alternative Grant. Unanimous vote for the motion.

2022-23 Preliminary Budget Projections

Superintendent Rispens presented the 2022-2023 preliminary budget.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Resolution #228 Calling for a Mail Ballot Election

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer, seconded by Trustee Baird to approve Resolution #228, Calling for a Mail Ballot Election. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Consideration of Crest insignia to represent EHHS

Superintendent Rispens presented the artwork from Jostens for the High School Crest. The crest will represent the school for decades to come.

Motion by Trustee Murfitt, seconded by Trustee Diehl to approve the new EHHS Crest. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Consideration of Resolution #227 - East Helena Heritage Day, "2/27"

Superintendent Rispens presented Resolution #227 for the board's consideration. Superintendent Rispens explained that February 27 has gained notoriety among the longtime East Helena locals as East Helena Day. The date is based on the landline phone prefix "227" which was typical for East Helena residences. The proposed resolution makes it official that February 27 is East Helena Heritage Day.

Motion by Trustee Diehl, seconded by Trustee Scheet to approve Resolution #227, making February 27 as East Helena Heritage Day. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Insurance Update

Kim Aarstad, Business Manager/Clerk updated the Board on the Self Insurance Program.

2022-2023 Academic Calendar Consideration

Superintendent Rispens presented three 2022-2023 school calendars for Board approval. Superintendent Rispens mentioned that the calendar does not include Helena Vigilante Day. A discussion followed, the Board was in agreement that for the 2022-2023 school calendar will not have the Vigilante Day as a day off.

Motion by Trustee Murfitt, seconded by Trustee Balukas to approve Calendar A for the 2022-2023 school year. Unanimous vote for the motion. See attached calendar.

Indian Education Activity Update

Kim Metzger updated the Board on the Indian Ed program. Currently there are 133 children registered for the program.

School Board Evaluation of Clerk/Business Manager.

Chairman Walter adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Chairman Walter called the meeting back into session at 8:09 p.m.

Motion by Trustee Scheet, seconded by Trustee Diehl to extend Clerk Aarstad's contract for one more year. Unanimous vote for the motion.

FUTURE MEETING DATES AND AGENDA ITEMS

Special Meeting Consideration - Strategic Planning possible dates March 2,3,7,8,9

Regular Meeting – March 14th, 2022 @ East Valley Middle School

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
District Clerk, Kim Aarstad

Approved by: _____ Date _____
Chairman, Board of Trustees