

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 January 10, 2022

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

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

Visitors: Kate Johnson, Kaylyn Harris, Cathy Carlson, Robyn Mohs & Adriene Simonson.

Visitors on Zoom: Brian Daum

Review the Agenda

Hear the Public

Kaylyn Harris discussed the P-K program.

Brian Daum discussed the traffic patterns around the school buildings.

Cathy Carlson thanked the Board for allowing the mass choice policy within the district.

Reports

Principal Report

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

Principal Stoltz reported that EVMS is currently working on student ski trips, and that the 7th graders will be doing an ice fishing trip on the 11th. Parent-Teacher conferences will be held in February.

Principal Somerfeld reported that parent-teachers conferences will be held in the first week of February. NAP testing will be held at the same time.

Principal Crusat reported that Kindergarten registration opened January 1, 2022. In 2021 the district had 54 Kinderclub applications, with 36 children enrolled in the program. In January 2022, the current enrollment applications are at 20.

Kindergarten enrollment as of January 1, 2021 was 28 and in January ,2022 the district currently has 60 registrations.

Principal Kessler reported that JROTC program director, Colonel Smith began working at EHHS on January 4, 2022. Jana Nygaard is currently working on bench mark testing.

Shaun Murgel, EHHS Vice Principal, reported on current discipline issues, and reported that winter sports is now in full swing.

Technology Coordinator, Brandon Hansen, reported on the technology in the district & reported that he had recently held a meeting with the Technology Committee.

Student Report

No Report

Trustee and Committee Reports of the K-12 Board

No committee reports.

Strategic Planning - Scan for Future Needs

Superintendent Rispens reported that the Strategic Planning survey has been sent out. Debra Silk is working on compiling the survey results.

Notifications of Retirement and Resignations

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

- i. Shawna Pratt - Paraprofessional

Consent Action Item

- A. Minutes from December 13, 2021
- B. Approval of the September former and new warrants (Claims 46000 - 46060 and Payroll 60141 - 60275.
- C. Personnel Actions - Recommendation of employment

- | | | |
|-------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| i. | Kaydee Strum | - Substitute/Kitchen |
| ii. | Jolene Price | - Kitchen Aid |
| iii. | Michael Jenks | - Paraprofessional |
| iv. | Kyle Yeary | - Custodian |
| v. | Colonel Smith | - JROTC |
| vi. | Gus Somerfeld | - Summer School K-5 Administrator |
| vii. | Shaun Murgel | - Summer School 6-12 Administrator |
| viii. | Mikhail Schmaizried | - Bus Driver |
| ix. | Philesha Merriman | - Instructional Tutor |
| x. | Jill Hoogerheide | - Assistant Clerk |
| xi. | Karley Snarr | - Substitute |
| xii. | Brynn Mortieau | - Substitute |
| xiii. | Kristin Snowden | - Substitute |
| xiv. | Emily Haerter | - Substitute |

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer, seconded by Trustee Baird to approve the consent agenda as presented. 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.

Robyn Mohs discussed the quarantine guidance based on vaccination status, which was handed out at the meeting.

HB279 Update

Superintendent Rispens updated the Board on the new tax credit created by HB279 in the 2021 Legislative Session. The maximum \$1,000,000.00 tax credit was collected by 8:06 am.

MTSBA Recommendation of EHPS Board Policy - 2nd Reading Board Policy 3231 & 5223

Superintendent Rispens presented Board Policy 3231, Searches and Seizures and Board Policy 5223, Personal Conduct for 2nd reading.

Motion by Trustee Balukas, seconded by Trustee Diehl to approve the 2nd reading of Board policy 3231 as presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Motion by Trustee Diehl, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to approve the 2nd reading of Board Policy as amended. Unanimous vote for the motion.

New Business

Board Policy Review - 1st Reading Policy 3100

Superintendent Rispens presented Board Policy 3100, authorized the administration to operate the district age excepted kindergarten program (Kindercubs).

Trustee reviewed the policy and made no changes.

Request for permission - JROTC Air Rifle storage on the EHHS Campus

Superintendent Rispens reported that the new JROTC program has a marksmanship component and requires air rifles for the program. These rifles will need to be cataloged and stored securely on EHHS property.

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer, seconded by Trustee Diehl to move that the Board of Trustees authorized the JROTC program to possess and store air rifles at East Helena High School in accordance with Policy 3311 and Section 45-8-361, MCA and delegate authority to the administration to develop necessary procedures and protocols to ensure the rifles are properly cataloged, maintained and stored in accordance with the motion. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Community Correspondence Update

Superintendent Rispens discussed a couple of letters that the district has received for community developments and projects.

TA Grant Contract Review

Superintendent Rispens reported that the Transportation Alternative grant will provide safe routes for school children throughout the district. The last installment will provide a sidewalk along Lewis Street between EVMS and Montana Street/Valley Drive as well as a sidewalk along the cemetery portion of Montana Street.

District has not received the Final agreement for the Grant so the contract will be discussed at the February Board meeting.

Consideration of DQ VW Settlement Grant Application - Fully Electric School Bus

Superintendent Rispens asked that the Board consider pursuing the DEQ grant to provide 80% funding for a fully electric school bus. The new electric bus will replace an existing dirty diesel bus.

Motion by Trustee Balukas, seconded by Trustee Scheet to pursue the DEQ grant, Unanimous vote for the motion.

School Board Evaluation of the Superintendent

Vice Chairman Murfitt adjourned the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

Vice Chairman Murfitt called the meeting back into session at 7:19 p.m.

Future meeting Dates and Agenda Items

The next regular meeting will be held on February 14, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Eastgate Elementary.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
District Clerk, Kim Aarstad

Approved by: _____ Date _____
Chairman, Board of Trustees