

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 December 13, 2021. 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, Martin Balukas, Breck Scheet and Tyrel Murfitt. 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: Shana Dachs, Adrienne Simonson and Jeff Darling

Visitors on Zoom: Tyler Manning & Brian Daum

Review the Agenda

Hear the Public

No one addressed the Board

Reports

Principal Report

Principal Somerfeld gave a huge shout out to the staff who worked setup for the Christmas programs. KD Jones, school Librarian, applied for an opportunity to have an author visit the students at Radley Elementary. Matthew Swanson (author) and Robbi Behr (illustrator) will visit Radley in May. Discipline referrals were up in November but there have also been 15 positive office referrals.

Principal Stoltz reported that EVMS 8th grade students have participated in a Mental Health Screening. Charts were included with the agenda minutes. Principal Stoltz and Counselor Kevin VanNice have been working on the NAP testing. Students are holding a spirit week this week for the boys basketball tournament that will be held this weekend, The 7th & -8th grade choir/band concert will be held 12/16/2021. Staff has begun working on the 2021-2022 schedule and an ice fishing trip is being planned for the 7th grade students.

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

Principal Kessler reported that he had been working on establishing the alternative school program. The district has received between 20 to 25 applications for the students to transfer into the program. Mental screening has been completed for the EHHS 9th graders. The 10th/11th graders screening will be completed after the Christmas break. Holiday giving has been going great. Key Club has received over 652 pounds of food for the food pantry, Mrs. Schonfeld has started a hygiene fundraiser with ½ of these items collected being donated to the Placer Foundation.

Shaun Murgel, EHHS Vice Principal, reported on current discipline issues.

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

Student Report

Jeff Darling, Girls Soccer Coach, introduced some of the girls from the team, and discussed the 2020-2021 soccer program.

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 not been sent out.

Superintendent Rispens also updated the Board on the current student enrollment and discussed future subdivisions that could be put in our district boundary.

Notifications of Retirement and Resignations

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

The following staff has turned in their resignations:

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|------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| i. | Tyler Anfinson | - CTE/Culinary Arts Teacher |
| ii. | Kandis Benton | - Custodian |
| lii. | Todd Samson | - Science Teacher |

Recommended Termination of Probationary Employment

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| i. | Kelsie Thompson | - Building Secretary |
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Consent Action Item

- A. Minutes from the November 8, 2021 - Trustee Murfitt's name was spelled wrong on page 3 of the minutes. Clerk Aarstad will make this correction.
- B. Approval of the September former and new warrants (Claims 45938 - 45999 and Payroll 59997 - 60140).
- C. Personnel Actions - Recommendation of employment

i.	Amy Wark	- Substitute Custodian
ii.	Rainer Murgel	- Substitute Custodian
iii.	Brittany Hiatt	- Paraprofessional
iv.	Ember Titland	- Building Secretary
v.	Kendall Staples	- Substitute
vi.	Anthony Warner	- Substitute
vii.	Brenda Graham	- Substitute
viii.	Sharon Witham	- Substitute
ix.	Mary Holbrook	- Substitute
x.	Jolene Price	- Substitute/Kitchen

Motion by Trustee Murfitt, seconded by Trustee Scheet 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. This is the first month that the school nurse reported there were no new COVID cases this month.

MTSBA Recommendation of EHPS Board Policy - 2nd Reading Board Policy 5223 & 5140

Superintendent Rispens presented Board Policy 5223, Personal Conduct and Board Policy 5140, Classified Employment and Assignment for the Board Consideration.

Motion by Trustee Scheet, seconded by Trustee Diehl to approve Board policy 5223 as presented and revised.

Motion by Trustee Balukas, seconded by Baird to table the Board Policy 5223 pending legal verification of the policy.

"Yes" Trustee Baird, Trustee Diehl, Trustee Balukas, Trustee Scheet, Chairman Walter

“No” Trustee Murfitt
Motion carried

Motion by Trustee Balukas, seconded by Trustee Murfitt to approve Board Policy 5140 as presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Collection of Superintendent's Evaluation

Chairman Walter reminded the Board to turn in the Superintendent's evaluation.

New Business

MOU for EHESA

Superintendent Rispens presented an MOU with the EHESA that allows classified employees to work outside their classification during school breaks.

Motion by Trustee Baird, seconded by Trustee Diehl to approve the EHESA MOU as presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Final Audit Report

Clerk Aarstad discussed the 2020-2021 Audit report.

Board Policy Review - 1st Reading Policy 3231

Superintendent Rispens presented Board Policy 3231, Searches & Seizure for Board Approval.

Motion by Trustee Murfitt, seconded by Trustee Diehl to approve the 1st reading of Board Policy 3231. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Review of Academic Assessments Results

Superintendent Rispens presented the results of the 2020-2021 Smarter Balance Statewide assessments for Reading and Math.

JROTC Curriculum Review

Superintendent Rispens reported that the district had been awarded the States second official JROTC program. The first instructor should be on board in the next month. JROTC classes use a prescribed curriculum from cadet command and the resource document requires approval from the trustees.

Motion by Trustee Balukas, seconded by Trustee Scheet to approve the JROTC resource document.

Trustee Murfitt mentioned that the Board and staff should look at the current Board Policies to make sure that the district policies will allow the weapons listed in the curriculum to be used with the program.

Unanimous vote for the motion.

HB279 - Tax Credits for Qualified Educational Contributions

Superintendent Rispens discussed House Bill 279. This new law allows for direct state income tax credits for qualified donations to public and private schools beginning in 2022. Superintendent Rispens discussed the limits and allowances to the new law.

Future meeting Dates and Agenda Items

The next regular meeting will be held on December 13, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in the Radley Elementary School Gym.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
District Clerk, Kim Aarstad

Approved by: _____
Chairman, Board of Trustees Date