

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 November 8, 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, Marcia Ellermeyer, Breck Scheet and Tyrel Murfitt. Trustee Balukas attended the meeting on zoom and Trustee Diehl attended the meeting by phone. 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: Patrick Webb, Kate Johnson, Tim Baird, Tanner Baird, Sydney Baird, Sandra Milsten, Cathy Carlson, Cole Bass and Robyn Mohs.

Visitors on Zoom: Martin Balukas

Review the Agenda

Hear the Public

Patric Webb discussed the district holding a COVID vaccine clinic in the school.

Robin Mohs also discussed the possibility of the district holding COVID clinics.

Kathy Carlson stated she would hate to see the district showing support for any COVID clinic.

Reports

Principal Reports

Principal Kessler reported that he and Jana Nygaard were able to attend the PBIS Conference virtually. Discussed the Benchmark data testing and ICEP testing for the 9th grade students.

Principal Somerfeld reported that Radley has been using Book Taco to track progress and monitor independent reading progress. In October the Radley students read over 9 million words. Final goal is to beat last year's total word count of 118 million.

Principal Crusat reported that Governor Gianforte had visited Prickly Pear Elementary on November 8, 2021. Principal Crusat also discussed the new reading curriculum.

Principal Stoltz reported that parent/teacher conferences were held on November 1-5th. Seventh grade students attended Shrek the Musical on November 5th. Boys Basketball has begun with the first game being held tonight, November 8, 2021.

Krista Swindell, EVMS Vice Principal, discussed the current discipline report.

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

Technology Coordinator, Brandon Hansen, reported that we have been busy learning the district technology systems.

Student Report

Cameron Mitchell, EHHS Student Body President, reported that they have been going over the previous school events and the student body has decided to plan EHHS events earlier in the year. Cameron also reported that the student body council has been working on establishing a constitution for EHHS.

Trustee and Committee Reports of the K-12 Board

No committee reports.

Chairman Walter reported that MTSBA has recently terminated their membership with the National School Board Association.

Strategic Planning - Scan for Future Needs.

Superintendent Rispens shared the strategic planning survey which was submitted by Debra Silk. Board was in agreement to put out the survey.

Notifications of Retirement and Resignations

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

- i. Jessica Holton
- ii. Tyler Anfinson

Consent Action Item

- A. Minutes of the October 11, 2021 regular meeting - Minutes were pulled for further discussion.
- B. Approval of the September former and new warrants (Claims 45860 - 45937 and Payroll 59839 - 59996).
- C. Personnel Actions - Recommendation of employment

- | | | |
|-------|----------------|--------------------|
| I. | Amy Skains | - Substitute |
| ii. | Trina Ereth | - Substitute |
| iii. | Bryan Winkler | - Substitute |
| iv. | Joe Shupe | - Substitute |
| v. | Matt Edwards | - Substitute |
| vi. | Mark Smith | - JROTC Instructor |
| vii. | Tasha Dearborn | - TRIO Coordinator |
| viii. | Kelli Kerpa | - TRIO Coordinator |

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer, seconded by Trustee Murfitt to approve the former and new warrants, and Personnel Actions. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Chairman Walter asked Clerk Aarstad to add Matthew Krantz to the minutes.

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer seconded by Trustee Baird to approve the October 11, 2021 regular meeting as amended. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Unfinished Business

Personnel Action - Consideration of Assistant Wrestling Coach

Board Chairman, Scott Walter asked that the Board consider a personnel action to hire Tim Baird, husband of Board Member Stacy Baird for the position of assistant wrestling coach. The District has followed policy and state nepotism laws by posting this action in the Independent record on October 17, 2021.

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer, 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.

Mark Diehl left the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

EHPS 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.

MTSBA Recommendations of EHPS Board Policy - 2nd Reading Board Policies: 1135; 1210; 1420; 2050; 2140; 2167; 2168; 2240; 3121; 3222; 3231; 3235; 4125; 5223; 5314; 7251

Motion by Trustee Baird, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to approve the second reading of board policies 1135, School Board Advocacy, 1210, Qualifications, Terms & Duties of Board Officers, 1420, School Board Meeting Procedures, 2050, Student Instruction, 2140, Guidance & Counseling, 2167, Correspondence Courses, 2168, Distance, Online & Technology-Delivered Learning, 2240, Summer School, 3121, Enrollment & Attendance Records, 3222, Distribution and Posting of Student Materials, 3231 Searches & Seizure, 3235, Video Surveillance, 4125, District Social Media Presence, 5314, Substitutes, 7251, Disposal & Sale of school District Property. Policy 5223, Personal Conduct was pulled for further clarification. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Martin Balukas left the meeting at 6:35.

MCEL Update & Reflections

Superintendent Rispens and board members discussed some of the meeting topics they were able to attend at the virtual MCEL conference.

New Business

Prickly Pear Coop Lease Renewal

Superintendent Rispens presented the Prickly Pear Co-op building lease.

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer, seconded by Trustee Scheet to approve the 2 year Prickly Pear Co-op Lease. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Policy Series Review 1st Reading 5140 & 8211

Superintendent Rispens presented Board Policy 5140, Classified Employment & Assignment & Board Policy 8211, Procurement Policy Using Federal Funds.

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer, seconded by Trustee Murfitt to approve the 1st reading of Board Policy 5140 as amended. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Motion by Trustee Scheet, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to table Policy 8211, Procurement Policy Using Federal Funds. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Consideration of DEQ Clean Diesel Bus Grant Opportunities

Superintendent Rispens shared some information on the VW settlement and the DEQ Clean Diesel Grant to replace and upgrade the district bus fleet.

Motion by Trustee Murfitt, seconded by Trustee Scheet to give Superintendent Rispens the approval to move forward with applying for a clean diesel bus grant and VW electric bus grant. Unanimous vote for the motion.

County Election Resolution

Clerk Aarstad presented an Election Resolution for the Boards consideration. This resolution will allow Lewis & Clark County to hold all school district elections. Clerk Aarstad explained that with the new changes in school election laws she would like to have the county hold the district's May election if it is needed.

Motion by Trustee Scheet, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to approve the election Resolution as presented. unanimous vote for the motion.

Distribution of Superintendent's Evaluation

Chairman Walter handed out the survey tool to be used to do the Superintendent evaluation. Written comments will not be put into the final report.

Future meeting Dates and Agenda Items

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

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
District Clerk, Kim Aarstad

Approved by: _____
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Date

