

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 August 9, 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, Breck Scheet, Mark Diehl, Martin Balukas, Marcia Ellermeyer and Tyrel Murfitt. Superintendent Dan Rispens and Clerk Kim Aarstad.

Principals: Brian Kessler, Brenda Stoltz, Brandon Crusat, Gus Somerfeld, VP, Krista Swindel attended on Zoom, Vice Principal, Shaun Murgel, Bus Supervisor, Nick Turner, and Technology Coordinator, DJ Howell.

Visitors: Kate Johnson, Adrienne Simonson, Nick Turner, John Preblix, Cindy Roscoe, Clancy Casey, Ester Darling, Tawnia Poland, Charles Poland, Shelby Saarinen, Cathay Carlson, Pamela Raney, Jamie Berg, David Raney & Patrick Webb

Visitors on Zoom: Katy Hauer, Julie Martinsen, Melissa Rambo, Amber & Ross Barnes, Sybil Shults, Clancy Casey, Shauna Rode, Ashley Ferro, Crystal Thompson, Damara King, Jared Weaver, Jodi Wigen, KD Jones, Karla Layson, Lona McClanahan, Shad Frank, Traci Mazanec, Tyler Manning, Erin Carpenter, Janene Felter, Ericka Weaver, Lee Musgjerd, Anna Reiff, Adam Meier

Review the Agenda

Hear the Public

Kathy Calson asked about the mask policy and asked if there would be any discussion on the mask mandates. Kathy handed out some additional information on the mask requirements.

Patrick Webb discussed his daughter attending the district and expressed concern about children wearing masks in the district.

Jamie Berg asked the Board about who would make the decision on if the children will be required to wear masks this school year.

Lee Musgjerd discussed her daughter who is a Junior in High School, and the year that she has been having since she started high school. Would like to see the students get back to normal.

Tonya Polland discussed how her children have been suffering because of the COVID and the state of her children's mental health.

Julie Martinsen stated that the mask mandate is necessary. Until all children can receive their vaccinations.

Amber & Ross Barnes would like to have masks optional until the Covid & Delta Variant numbers decrease, and children are able to get their vaccinations.

Melissa Rambo stated that she would not like to see the district require masks at school this year.

Clancy Casey stated this should not have become an issue, masks are important and work. She asked that the district reinstate the mask mandate.

Shana Rhode stated that she was not for the mask mandate and discussed the issues her daughter has had the last year.

Sybil Shults stated that she believes in freedom of choice on whether children should be required to wear masks.

Mark Diehl arrived at the meeting at 5:39 p.m.

Reports

Trustee and Committee Reports of the K-12 Board

No Report

Notifications of Retirement and Resignations

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

- | | | |
|------|----------------|--------------------|
| I. | Brad O'Neil | - Paraprofessional |
| ii. | Shad Frank | - Paraprofessional |
| iii. | Carlie Olivas | - TOSA |
| iv. | McKenzie Holst | - Paraprofessional |

Administrator Introductions

Superintendent Rispens introduced the 2021-2022 administration team to the Board.

Strategic Plan, Scanning Future Needs

Superintendent Rispens discussed the last strategic plan meeting that was held on July 26, 2021.

Consent Action Items

- A. Minutes of the July 12, 2021 Regular Board Meeting and July 26, 2021 special meeting.
- B. Approval of the August former and new warrants (Claims #- 45561 - 45683) and Payroll # 59545 -59543).

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer, seconded by Trustee Murfitt to approve the Minutes and warrants as presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

C. Personnel Actions - Recommendation of employment

- | | | |
|-------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| i. | Cali Cook | - Paraprofessional/EVMS |
| ii | Ella Emmons | - Paraprofessional/Eastgate |
| iii. | Wendy Jorgenson | - Bus Driver |
| iv. | Ryan Jorgenson | - Bus Driver |
| v. | Susan Hoving | - Paraprofessional |
| vi. | Alex Reid | - Instructional Tutor |
| vii. | Jaquelyn Meeker | - Paraprofessional |
| viii. | Michael Evans | - Tosa |

Motion by Trustee Scheet, seconded by Trustee Diehl to approve the Personnel actions presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Unfinished Business

Building Construction Change Order Update

Superintendent Rispens updated the Board on the building schedule and the progress of the new addition to the High School.

Facilities Upgrades and Summer Construction Updates

Superintendent Rispens updated the Board about the upgrades and summer work being done throughout the district in preparation for the 2021-2022 school year.

MTSBA Recommendation of EHPS Policy Review 2nd Reading of Board Policies 3310, 3311, 4315, 4332 & 5223

Superintendent Rispens presented Board Policies 3310, Student Discipline, 3311, Firearms & Other Weapons, 4315, Visitor & Spectator Conduct, 4332, Conduct on School Property & 5223, Personal Conduct for Board Approval.

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer, seconded by Trustee Balukas to approve the second reading of Board Policies, 3310, 3311, 4315, 4332 and 5223 as presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

COVID update

Superintendent Rispens updated the Board and Community on the efforts of the teachers and administration to educate and protect kids from the COVID virus. Building principals reported on how each school will operate at the beginning of the school year. Shaun Murgel reported that any child that is riding a school bus will be required to wear a mask, including students in athletics.

New Business

TFS Report Approval

Motion by Trustee Murfitt, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to approve the 2020-2021 TFS report. Unanimous vote for the motion

Final Budget Approval

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer, seconded by Trustee Scheet to approve the 2021-2022 final budget. Unanimous vote for the motion.

School Coronavirus Relief Fund Update

Superintendent Rispens updated the Board on the Coronavirus Relief fund balances and future needs.

Pamela Rainey asked if we would be reporting this funding somewhere. Superintendent Rispens reported that it would be reported at the Office of Public Instruction.

EHPS Board Policy Review - MTSBA Recommended revisions 1st Reading Board Policies 2170(p) Digital Academy Classes, 2332 - Religion & Religious Activities, 2600 (P-F) Work Based Learning Program, 3121- Enrollment & Attendance Records, 3150 - Part Time Attendance, 3233 - Student Use of Building: Equal Access, 3311 - Firearms & other Weapons, 3413 - Student Immunizations, 3510 - School Sponsored Student Activities, 3550 (F) - Student Clubs, 4211 - District and School Name, Logo, Imagery and Colors, 4331 - Use of School Property for Posting Notices.

Motion by Trustee Balukas, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer approve Board policies 2170, 2332, 2600, 3121, 3150, 3413, 3510, 3550 4211 & 4331. Policy 3223, 3311 were pulled from the first reading, and to be discussed with MTSBA. Exclusive of the forms and procedures that will not be included. Unanimous vote for the motion

Extension of Emergency Declaration due to COVID 19 Pandemic.

Superintendent Rispens discussed extending the emergency declaration due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. This will include an emergency revision of Policy 1900 to adjust the end date of the declaration. The extension provides the District with needed flexibility regarding modes of instructions delivery and accreditation rules.

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer seconded by Trustee Scheet to approve the extension of the emergency declaration to June 30, 2022. Unanimous vote for the motion,

Future meeting Dates and Agenda Items

The next regular meeting will be held on September 13, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in the East Helena High School.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm

Submitted by: _____
District Clerk, Kim Aarstad

Approved by: _____
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Date

