

Hellgate Elementary Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting November 11, 2024

6:00 p.m.

OPENING

The Board of Trustees of Hellgate Elementary School District #4 met in regular session on Monday, November 11th, 2024. The meeting was held in-person. The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman, Tom McLaughlin. Trustees participating were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Kallie Gatzemeier, Jacquelyn Ryan and Rod Sharkey. Trustees Lori Christensen and Tom Cook were absent for the meeting. Superintendent Molly Blakely and District Clerk Justine Reese were present for the meeting. District staff participating included Erin Ellis (Curriculum Coordinator), Tiffany Hobbs (Bldg. 3 Principal), Brendan Brown (Spec.Ed. Director), Jordan Capp (Teacher), and Sara Bermingham (Teacher/HEEA). There were no community members participating. There were up to 12 total guests/participants in the meeting, in-person.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jordan Capp informed the Trustees that the Robotics Program was invited to a scrimmage in Kalispell in preparation for upcoming competitions.

HEEA

Sara Bermingham represented the HEEA and provided a brief report.

RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS AND STAFF

Tom McLaughlin thanked the veterans in attendance and district-wide for their service.

BOARD CORRESPONDENCE

Trustees reviewed the monthly newsletter from OPI.

REVIEW OF THE MINUTES-REGULAR MEETING 10-14-2024

A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to approve the minutes from the October 14th, 2024 regular meeting. There was no discussion on the topic. The motion was seconded by Rich Thornock. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Jacquelyn Ryan, Kallie Gatzemeier and Rod Sharkey. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF THE WARRANTS-OCTOBER 2024

A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to approve the October 2024 claims. The motion was seconded by Kallie Gatzemeier. There clarifying questions from the Trustees. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Jacquelyn Ryan, Kallie Gatzemeier and Rod Sharkey. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF BUDGET REPORTS

Trustees reviewed the budget reports for October 2024.

REVIEW OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve the October 2024 Student Activities Report. There was no discussion on the item. The motion was seconded by Rod Sharkey. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Jacquelyn Ryan, Kallie Gatzemeier and Rod Sharkey. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

CLASSIFIED STAFF RESIGNATION:

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve the resignation of Ms. April Spletto, paraprofessional, effective October 16, 2024 (letter included in official board packet). There was no discussion on the topic. The motion was seconded by Rod Sharkey. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Jacquelyn Ryan, Kallie Gatzemeier and Rod Sharkey. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

CLASSIFIED STAFF HIRING CONSIDERATION:

A motion was made by Rod Sharkey to approve the hiring of Ms. Kimberly Hernandez and Ms. Laura Young as part-time paraprofessionals for the 2024-2025 school year effective October 24, 2024. There clarifying questions regarding the item. The motion was seconded by Kallie Gatzemeier. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Jacquelyn Ryan, Kallie Gatzemeier and Rod Sharkey. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

MATERNITY LEAVE HIRING CONSIDERATION:

A motion was made by Rich Thornock motion to approve the hiring of Ms. Sara Shermer to be a long-term maternity substitute, effective January 6, 2025. There were clarifying questions regarding the item. The motion was seconded by Jacquelyn Ryan. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Jacquelyn Ryan, Kallie Gatzemeier and Rod Sharkey. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

MULTI-DISTRICT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT CONSIDERATION:

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve a three-year multi-district participation agreement with The Montana Schools Unemployment Insurance Program (MTSUP) effective July 2024-June 2027. There was no discussion on the item. The motion was seconded by Rod Sharkey. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Jacquelyn Ryan, Kallie Gatzemeier and Rod Sharkey. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

SUBSTITUTE APPROVAL LIST CONSIDERATION

A motion was made by Rich Thornock to approve the hiring of the following new substitutes for the 24-25 school year: Braxton Hill. There was brief discussion on the item. The motion was seconded by Kallie Gatzemeier. Voting in favor of the motion were: Tom McLaughlin, Rich Thornock, Jacquelyn Ryan, Kallie Gatzemeier and Rod Sharkey. Voting against the motion were none. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Town Pump Grant: The District was awarded \$5,000 from Town Pump for the purpose of purchasing healthy snacks for students.

Special Education Grant: Mr. Brown applied for a Special Education Exceptional Needs grant to offset the cost of the Life Skills program and was awarded \$56,000 for the current fiscal year.

Providence Mental Health Services: Providence Mental Health Services is interested in working with Hellgate Elementary to secure space on campus to provide services.

TEDD Update: There has been a TEDD established within Hellgate Elementary's boundaries (Grant Creek area). Superintendent Blakely provided an overview of the County meetings to the Trustees, noting the County announced their intent to not include permissive levies in the TEDD.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There were no committee reports at the meeting.

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS

Building 1: Absent

Building 2: Absent

Building 3: Tiffany Hobbs provided an update to the Trustees. Parent Teacher conferences are beginning and teachers are preparing for that. MAST testing has completed. Hellgate was selected for an OPI test audit, Emily Jones classroom was selected for the onsite review. Run Free Missoula has been in contact with Tiffany Hobbs in hopes of establishing an afterschool program.

Building 4: Absent

NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next regular meeting of the Board will be December 9th, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:18 pm.

Tom McLaughlin, Board Chair

Justine Reese, Business Manager/Clerk