

REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SCHOOL DISTRICT #6
DECEMBER 9, 2024

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of School District Six was held at 6:00 P.M., Monday, December 9, 2024, in the Boardroom of the administration offices at 501 Sixth Avenue West, Columbia Falls, Montana.

PRESENT:

Jill Rocksund Board Chair
Barbara Riley Vice Chair
Megan Upton Trustee
Justin Cheff Trustee
Keri Hill Trustee
Heather Mumby Trustee
Amanda Pacheco Trustee
Casey Heupel Trustee
Cory Dziowgo Superintendent of Schools
Dustin Zuffelato Business Manager/Clerk

Call to order at 6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Heupel, second by Cheff, to approve the agenda as presented.
Public comment was requested and there was none.
Passed 8-0.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Upton, second by Hill, to approve the consent agenda as follows:
Approve November bills.
Approve the investment report.
Public comment was requested and there was none.
Passed 8-0

APPROVE CONSENT
AGENDA

Public Participation:
Approximately six (6) people participated in the meeting remotely via Google Meets.
Approximately fifteen (15) people attended the meeting in person.

PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION:

Student Body Representatives, Rafe Rusche, talked about the new Bleed Blue logos for student tee-shirts, the upcoming winter assembly, and that all teachers have new wooden name signs for the classrooms. The Special Olympics team has twenty athletes participating in the Holiday Bowl. The holiday band and choir concerts are coming up before the break, as well as the Jazz Café. Junior Azreal Lara has won the Junior World Finals Senior Bareback Championship for the second year in a row.

Written Reports:
The Elementary School Principals provided the Board with written reports.

REPORTS:

High School Principal, Joshua Gibbs, provided the Board with a written report.

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Special Education Director, Michelle Swank, provided the Board with a written report.

Curriculum Director, Mark McCord, provided the Board with a written report.

Committees provided the Board with written reports on the District's Website.

Verbal Reports:

Trustee Barbara Riley provided the Board with the recent proceedings of the Consortium of State School Board Associations (COSSBA) and the Montana School Board Association (MTSBA). "The Great Work of Montana's Public Schools" handout was shared from the MCEL Conference. The publication is preparation for the upcoming State Legislative session. School related groups are working on language for new bills to be presented during the session. The Montana School Insurance Alliance plan needs to be approved by the State Insurance Commission. The original law authorizing this new statewide health insurance program may have new bills proposed to provide amendments making it possible to accomplish the objectives and realize the forty million dollars startup fund appropriated. The plan currently needs one hundred fifty districts and twelve thousand covered lives to get going. The group will start meeting with districts in January 2025.

District Business Manager/Clerk provided the Board with a written report. Mr. Zuffelato reminded trustees that are up for reelection that the deadline to turn in applications is March 27, 2025. Trustees Casey Heupel, Heather Mumby, and Justin Cheff are up for reelection. The transportation department has had some recent resignations that has refueled a contingency plan. The District is trying to work through the rough spots and will come up with alternative options to transport students to school and activity trips. Details should be considered by the Transportation Committee.

Superintendent Cory Dziowgo attended the legislative summit conducted in Kalispell and there were over fifty individuals in attendance. The main takeaway is that as many public education supporters as possible need to be in Helena. The High School lights are going up on the first floor. Floor coverings have a lot of damage and one room still needs to be abated. The District is still working with the insurance company regarding the condition of the lockers as they were damaged when removed and re-installed. The Transportation Committee needs to meet to come up with contingency plans and the Policy Committee needs to chat about the out-of-district attendance policy.

Board Chair Jill Rocksund had nothing to report in this meeting.

ACTION/
DISCUSSION ITEMS:
MTSS PRESENTATION

Action/Discussed Items:

Presentation on MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) was conducted by Curriculum Director Mark McCord, School Psychologist Trina Crowe and Teacher Dana Shields. The District is implementing a system level change to provide academic and behavior support to all students.

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Motion by Mumby, second by Riley, to approve the snow removal agreement with TS Spraying and Snow Removal LLC for the High School.

Public comment was requested and TS Spray owner Mr. Turner addressed the Board with the details about his business and experience serving other schools in Bozeman and Belgrade.

Passed 8-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE
THE SNOW REMOVAL
AGREEMENT WITH TS
SPRAYING AND SNOW
REMOVAL LLC

Personnel:

The Board acknowledged the following resignations previously accepted by the Superintendent: Jessica Hancock – Ruder Special Education Paraeducator; Andrea Rogers – Dispatcher; Kurt Rogers – Bus Driver; Dawn Garwood – Hot Lunch Helper; Rachel Burke – High School Drama Coach; Tracy McDowell – High School Assistant Drama Coach; Doug Dougherty – High School Maintenance; Trey Buckallew – Assistant Wrestling Coach

PERSONNEL:

Motion by Cheff, second by Upton, to approve the following High School/District Wide hiring recommendations: Jenasis Falbogart – Part-Time Custodian; Johnny Carmona – Custodian; Dawn Garwood – Custodian; Jewel Huntsman – Hot Lunch Helper/Floater; Heather Ronne – Hot Lunch Helper/Floater; Aaron Wiersma – Director of IT; Kristina Counts – CDL Activity Bus Driver; Trey Buckallew – CDL Activity Bus Driver
Public comment was requested and there was none.
Passed 8-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE
HS AND DISTRICT-
WIDE HIRING
RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion by Upton, second by Cheff, to approve the substitute hiring recommendations.
Public comment was requested and there was none.
Passed 8-0.

MOTION TO APPROVE
SUBSTITUTE HIRING
RECOMMENDATIONS

Miscellaneous and Future Planning:

MTSBA Collective Bargaining Training – December 17, 2024 – 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Health Insurance Committee Meeting – December 18, 2024 – 4:00 P.M.

Policy Committee Meeting – January 8, 2025 – 4:00 P.M.


Transportation Committee will check with West Glacier School District for a time that works to continue discussions regarding the Byrd Contract.

Superintendent Evaluation Meeting will be after the Regular Board Meeting, in executive session, on January 13, 2025.


MISCELLANEOUS
AND FUTURE
PLANNING:

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Chair Rocksund adjourned the meeting at 6:59 P.M.

MEETING
ADJOURNED



Board Chair



Business Manager/Clerk