

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – October 14, 2013

The Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a Regular meeting on October 14, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. in the Joliet School Library Room. Board members present were Justin Oswald, Dawn Blain, Corie Mydland, Sharon Songstad, Clinton Kramer, Melvin Stene and Brad Stephenson. Also present were Jeff Bermes, Superintendent, Jeanne Carroll, District Clerk/Business Manager and Marilyn Vukonich, High School Principal.

Melvin Stene, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Justin Oswald made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Clinton Kramer seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Melvin Stene explained and asked for public comment. There was none.

Reports

Item #1 Student Board

There was no report.

Item #2 Buildings and Grounds Update

Mr. Bermes said the extension for the pole barn has gravel. They are waiting for nicer weather for the concrete. The cameras are in. He invited the board to come look at them in his office. He will be running a pilot with one camera with audio in a bus.

Correspondence

Item #1 Thank You

This is a thank you from the Williams family in the loss of their mother.

Unfinished Business

Item #1 Student Dress Policy

Student board members are present for the Head Band policy. They had sample wording, which will be changed to width not thickness of the headbands allowed. Mr. Bermes said it's okay with him as long as the headbands are not abused. If there are 3 or 4 kids with the same head band, they're gone. Justin Oswald made a motion to change the student dress policy to allow head bands with limits. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Item #2 Litigation Update

Mr. Bermes said Jeff Weldon is here to talk about the lawsuit Matt Anthony filed against the school, Mrs. Vukonich and Mr. Bermes. Mr. Weldon said this is in the early stage and he will try to get it dismissed as early as possible. The motion is in court. The Board adjourned into Executive Session to discuss litigation strategy, as permitted by Montana law, at 7:10 p.m.. The Board will also consider a motion to defend and indemnify employees. The Board came back into Regular session at 7:26 p.m.

Item #4 Indemnification of Employees

Corie Mydland made a motion for the District to provide a defense in this matter and indemnify Mr. Jeff Bermes and Mrs. Marilyn Vukonich, pursuant to Montana law. Mont. Code Ann.2-9-305. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Item #3 Boys Basketball Fundraiser

Mr. Burke said Mr. Bermes said there is a little hesitation on this idea and there are some questions that need to be answered. Tony Branger they said need to make sure the school's funds are expended equally. He would like to do it the way they do it at Skyview. The account is called Boys Basketball and is separate from the school accounts. Mr. Burke said this is done with itemized receipts, etc. Mr. Bermes said he followed up on it. Other schools are doing it. Mr. Bermes said he feels we need to give everyone the same opportunity. Mr. Bermes said he is now comfortable with the idea and would like to allow the fundraising for the boys basketball program. The Board would still like to look at the team suits first. Corie Mydland asked how much is raised per player. Mr. Burke said it is about \$150/per player for the team travel suits and food. The travel suits would possibly be done through Universal Athletics. Justin Oswald made a motion to approve the fundraiser and the boys basketball travel suits purchasing. Clinton Kramer seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Reports

Item #1 Lunch Room

The lunch ladies are Linda Mickle, Helen Biorn, Kelly Songstad and Amber Hogg. Linda said they are serving full breakfasts every morning and have from 40-60 kids every morning. Lunches being served are between 300 to 330 every day. Leftovers are put out the next day. There is good morale in the kitchen. Mr. Bermes said he is sending Linda to the OPI training this week. Their hours have been a little more. Mr. Bermes said the kids are very happy and his hat is off to them. He also asked if anyone knows of anyone who would like to substitute in the kitchen to let him know. The Board thanked the ladies for attending.

New Business

Item # 3 Maintenance Request

Mr. Bermes said Russ Salo is here because they are using either Russ or Jeff's 4 wheel drive pickup for pulling buses out. He said it is \$750/bus to use a wrecker. Russ said over the years, it's usually 3 or 4 times per year this needs to be done. Either they are using Russ' truck and or truck and trailer to haul heavy loads. The school has a light two wheel drive leased from the city. He's wondered about liability. Melvin asked what kind of truck they are thinking they need. Russ said a ¾ ton, 4 wheel drive would be his preference. The Board said to start looking for a used pickup that would fit their needs. They will do some research. Dawn said the cost of buying a pickup would far outweigh the liability cost. The Board said to come back if they find something. The Board thanked Russ for attending the meeting.

Item #1 Hiring of Extra-Curricular Positions

Bob Reed, Mr. Bermes and Mrs. Vukonich interviewed Kerri Clement and Annette Worden for the Assistant Speech and Drama coach. Mr. Bermes recommended keeping the hiring on-staff with Kerri Clement. Brad Stephenson made a motion to hire Kerri Clement as Assistant Speech and Drama coach. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried. Mr. Bermes said he'd take care of hiring the track coach and middle school basketball assistant at the November meeting.

Item #2 Enrollment Update

Mr. Bermes said last year on count day our total enrollment was 381. This year on count day it is 356. He said the count days will increase to 3 days per year, starting with this year. He said he has heard there are 70-80 places in the Joliet District for sale.

Superintendent's/Principal's/AD's/Business Manager's Reports

Mr. Bermes said we have finished junior high football and have one week of junior high volleyball left. Volleyball tournament schedules will be coming out and passes will be forthcoming. Senior night for cross country and football will be October 18th. Football seniors will be introduced before the game and will be done for cross country at halftime. Volleyball seniors will be introduced on October 22nd before the start of the varsity game. Big Timber will be here and it will be pack the gym in pink. Volleyball tournaments will take three teams to Districts. Also, he talked about 6th grade participation in basketball. He is going to wait until after the first official junior high practice to determine the need for 6th graders in the program. He said this would eliminate some of the confusion and give us solid numbers to work with, before determining the need for 6th graders.

Allen Eik will be driving for Expedition Yellowstone in November. For testing and common core, we are sitting well in the tech funds, so he has given permission to buy 30 computers for a mobile lab. He said we need it for all the testing.

There will be a safety meeting in November. Quake Down is a new state-wide earthquake drill.

MCEL is this week on Thursday and Friday in Billings. The teachers will be in Belgrade for MEA days. He said some of them will be mapping out common core here Wednesday afternoon. He said the discipline in the elementary has been very good so far. We are well on our way in common core.

Mrs. Vukonich said she is very happy with the new teachers. Mr. Burke will be able to use the promethiean board through the Perkins grant. It was just approved. She said there is mandatory 9th period for the high school for two days per week. The Billings Symphony String Quartet was here today. In January, we are sending the elementary to Columbus to see the Billings Symphony at 10 am on January 24th. The kids go to NILE tomorrow. Eleven students qualified to go to Dickinson with the choir. There will be soup at 5:30 p.m. on October 24th.

Items for the Next Agenda – November 11, 2013 at 7 PM—Regular Meeting

- Item #1
- Item #2
- Item #3
- Item #4

The next Regular Board meeting will be held on November 11, 2013 at 7 p.m. in the Library.

Corie Mydland made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Brad Stephenson seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Approved _____

Clerk _____

Chairman _____

