

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – August 8, 2022

The Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a regular meeting on August 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Joliet School Library. Board Members present were Dawn Blain, Justin Oswald, Ken Adams, Amanda Dinsdale, Kathy Grewell, Jason Stene, Doug Whitehead and Karin Williams. Also present were Clark Begger, Superintendent; Mandi Hernandez, 6-12 Principal; Theresa Keel, K-5 Principal; and Felicia Smith, District Clerk/Business Manager. Visitors in attendance were: Samuel Smith, Terra Rockhold Stene, Sarrah Walstad, Tammie Grewell, Jennifer Ingraham and Stacie Nardinger.

Dawn Blain called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Blain welcomed guests, explained procedure and asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

Consent Agenda: Claim Warrants 99710-99712 & 50090-50132; Payroll Warrants ACH 85721-85724 & 63127-63134; Minutes: 07/11/2022; Hiring: Estelle Whitman, MS/HS Math Teacher; Amber O'Rourke, Head MS/HS Cheer; Karen McKay: Concert Band, High School Play, Honor Band, Swing Choir, and Pep Band Director; Substitute Teacher list approved. Ken Adams made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Kathy Grewell seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

IV. Reports

- a. Athletic Director – Ms. Hernandez notified the Board that impact testing was held earlier today. The coaches meeting will be held August 10th at 5:00 p.m., followed by parent meetings at 6:00 p.m. High school practices begin on August 12th.
- b. High School Principal – Ms. Hernandez stated the master schedule is complete and preparations are being made for school to begin.
- c. K-5 Principal – Ms. Keel stated teacher schedules are completed. She is familiarizing herself with employees, and is working on testing coordination.
- d. Business Manager/Clerk – Ms. Smith indicated that the audit has been completed for the 2021-22 school year. The Trustee's Financial Summary is currently being input into the OPI MAEFAIRS system and a copy will be provided at the August 18th meeting.
- e. Building Report – The high school bathrooms should be completed by the first day of school. Classrooms in the elementary are available to teachers; the middle school and high school classrooms will be completed soon. The football field is an ongoing project with aerating, seeding and watering.
- f. Transportation – Mr. Smith stated that the extended stop arms are installed on all but one bus. He was reviewed the routes with Ms. Brookings and GPS routes for the county transportation meeting have been completed. All non-emergent repairs on the buses are finished. Tire repairs are on the schedule. Drivers must log all hours/miles per the State of Montana, this may necessitate additional drivers going along on long trips to spell off a driver who has reached their driving limit. The County is reviewing the district boundaries for transportation routes. Mr. Smith is working on some type of accountability system for employees utilizing school vehicles.

V. Action Items

A. Unfinished Business

1. Second Reading of Policies 1105 and 3416 – As a result of the recent restructuring of the Board of Trustees, the District needs to update Policy 1105 to reflect those changes. Policy 3416 is being updated so that it is compliant with law and best practice

Justin Oswald made a motion to approve the second reading of Policy 1105 and Policy 3416. Karin Williams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

B. New Business

1. First Reading of Policies 6121, 3121 and 2510 – The policy committee met to review these policies on July 21, 2022. The committee is recommending approval of these policies based on recommendations from MTSBA and changes necessary to the organizational chart of the District.

Ken Adams made a motion to approve the first reading of Policies 6121, 3121 and 2510. Amanda Dinsdale seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

2. Personnel

- a. Hiring

Supt. Begger recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Terra Stene as the Assistant MS/HS Cross Country Coach for the 2022 season.

Karin Williams made a motion to hire Terra Stene as the Assistant MS/HS Cross Country Coach for the 2022 season. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion carried 7-0-1, with Jason Stene abstaining (B).

Supt. Begger recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Allie Blain as an Assistant Middle School Volleyball Coach for the 2022-23 season.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Allie Blain as an Assistant Middle School Volleyball Coach for the 2022-23 season. Ken Adams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion carried 6-0-1, with Dawn Blain abstaining (E).

Supt. Begger recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Savvy Weimer as the Head Middle School Volleyball Coach for the 2022-23 season.

Ken Adams made a motion to hire Savvy Weimer as the Head Middle School Volleyball Coach for the 2022-23 season. Amanda Dinsdale seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 7-0 (E).

Supt. Begger recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Nathan Oren as an elementary teacher for the 2022-23 school year.

Justin Oswald made a motion to hire Nathan Oren as an elementary teacher for the 2022-23 school year. Amanda Dinsdale seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 7-0 (E).

Supt. Begger recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Barry Rowlison as the 5-12 Administrative Supervisor Athletic Director for the 2022-23 school year.

Karin Williams made a motion to hire Barry Rowlison as the 5-12 Administrative Supervisor Athletic Director for the 2022-23 school year. Jason Stene seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

3. Handbooks – All handbooks have been reviewed and updated with necessary changes. One major substantive change to the MS/HS Student Handbook is related to student cell phone use. There was discussion among the Board members about minor typographical errors that should be fixed.

Ken Adams made a motion to table the approval of the handbooks until the August 18, 2022 meeting. Amanda Dinsdale seconded the motion. There was board discussion on cell phone policy enforcement by staff. Public Comment: Jenny Ingraham comment on the cell phone policy and smart watches; Sarrah Walstad asked about when handbooks will need to be signed; Tammy Grewell commented regarding teachers monitoring the cell phone use, and how that would be difficult for them. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

4. 8th Grade Participation in High School Activities – Mr. Begger gave an overview of the options available to the Board if they chose to implement 8th grade participation in high school activities.

Justin Oswald made a motion to approve Option 4 – Allow coaches to decide if/when they want/need 8th grade participation with administration approval. Jason Stene seconded the motion. There was board discussion regarding the genesis of this conversation and the opinion of administration: Mrs. Hernandez indicated that the conversation began at the MHS level; Mr. Begger stated that Option 4 would be the best way to integrate 8th grade students into high school sports. There was no public comment. The motion carried 7-1, with Doug Whitehead voting No (B).

5. Bus Route Recommendations/Approval of Routes & Student Crossings – Mr. Begger relayed that the bus routes and crossings provided to the Board in the packet had been approved by the Carbon County Transportation Committee on August 2, 2022. The District works to limit student crossings, while at the same time working with parents to limit the time a student spends on the bus. Past practice has been to have parents sign a letter requesting their child be allow to cross the road. Laurel School District has requested permission to enter the Joliet School District on one of its routes.

Ken Adams made a motion to approve the District's four bus routes, designated student crossings and permit the Laurel District to enter into Joliet's district. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion carried 8-0 (B).

VI. Informational – Mr. Begger provided the Board with the following information: Committee Minutes from July 19, July 21, and July 27; A hiring update; The 6-12 Master Schedule; New Teacher Orientation on August 1, 2022; Open House on August 23, 2022 from 5-7 p.m.; Reader Board update; and Safe Return to School & Continuity of Services Plan

VII. Discussion Items
Policy Committee – Annual Review of Policies
Hiring Committee – Review of Hiring Procedures

VIII. Correspondence – Correspondence was provided to the Board.

IX. Items for Next Agenda
School Safety Plan
Exterior Grounds Walkthrough

X. Next Board Meeting Date
The budget adoption meeting will be August 18, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Joliet School Library. The next regular Board meeting will be held September 12, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Joliet School Library.

XI. Executive Session – Dawn Blain determined that the discussion relates to a matter of individual privacy that clearly exceeds the merits of public disclosure and closed the public meeting and went into Executive Session. Ms. Keel was excused from the meeting.

Executive Session began at 7:30 p.m. The trustees returned to regular session at 8:12 p.m.

Karin Williams made a motion to accept student #56 for the 2022-23 school year pending receipt of records from the previous district, with no undue hardship on the District. Ken Adams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (H).

XII. Adjournment
Ms. Blain adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Approved 9/12/22
Board Chair Dawn Blain

Clerk [Signature]