

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – December 14, 2020

The Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a regular meeting on December 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Board Members present were Melvin Stene, Justin Oswald, Sharon Songstad, Dawn Blain, Doug Whitehead, and Josh Bachler. Also present were Allison Evertz, Superintendent, Clark Begger, Elementary/MS Principal, and Felicia Smith, District Clerk/Business Manager. Visitors in attendance were: Mandi Hernandez, Stacie Nardinger, Janice Ward, Jennifer Simons, Danielle Sullivan, Lucy Jensen, Timothy Matthews, Terra Rockhold Stene, Marriah Anderson, Monica Salo, Sue Anderson, and Mary Koon.

Melvin Stene called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Stene welcomed guests, explained procedure and asked for public comment.

Doug Whitehead made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

IV. Reports

- a. Student Council – Mandi Hernandez reported the council is providing a 12 Days of Christmas for the staff: activities include, coffee day, Christmas sweater contest, re-gift exchange, donut day, and ice cream day. The council has received many thanks from teachers and staff for their efforts. The council is contemplating more service activities and possibly holding a dance.
- b. Athletic Director – Mandi Hernandez reported that there are 27 athletes for high school boys' basketball; and 18 for high school girls' basketball. Practices began on Monday and games will begin after the break. There are 33 athletes in the 7-8 grade boys' basketball program and there will be another 5-6 grade team starting at the end of January. There is currently no information regarding spectators for basketball games from Carbon County Health.
- c. Building Report – A building report was provided in the Board packet for review. Superintendent Evertz passed along that Mr. Salo wanted to acknowledge and send kudos to the janitorial staff for all their hard work.

V. Correspondence – Correspondence was provided to the Board.

VI. Unfinished Business

- a. Policy 7425F-Class Fundraising – The advent of COVID-19 and the ensuing cancellation of various activities for students necessitated changes in the financial management of funds collected by clubs and/or classes. Montana School Boards Association has updated this policy to reflect the ability, under specific circumstances, for some flexibility in the use of funds raised by students.

Justin Oswald made a motion to approve the second reading of Policy 7425F. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

VII. New Business

- a. Exterior Grounds Prioritized List – Superintendent Evertz reviewed the list of exterior projects to be completed and highlighted those items that have already been accomplished.
- b. Bus Driver Compensation – The District finds itself in desperate need of bus drivers with little prospects due to the opportunity for driver's to go elsewhere and get paid a better wage. The

District pays for CDL licenses, training and physicals for drivers. School bus drivers often work split shifts, and because they are part-time do not receive most of the benefits enjoyed by other district employees. For this reason, Superintendent Evertz recommends a \$2 increase to both the Activity Rate and the Route Rate.

Josh Bachler made a motion to approve the \$2 increase to the Activity Rate and Route Rate, retroactive to December 1, 2020. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- c. District and JTA Negotiations – The District and the JTA have been engaging in an Interest Based Bargaining model this year. This is a collaborative approach to negotiations, in which agreements are based on mutual and individual interests. The IBB negotiations came to a successful close on December 9, 2020. A collective bargaining agreement will be presented at the January Board meeting for ratification.
- d. e-Mist Update – The District purchased two e-Mist foggers at the beginning of June and they arrived mid-October. Both foggers broke down and required two weeks to repair. We had a few adjustments with the chemicals used to avoid possible reactions. The disinfectant used costs the district roughly \$112.26 per day to sanitize the school using the foggers.
- e. K-5 Distance Learning Platform – The Administration has reviewed various distance learning platforms for use by the K-5 distance learners. The Board was presented with the information and Mr. Matthews answered questions posed by the Board.

Dawn Blain made a motion to approve a partnership with Greenways Academy, who specializes in K-5 distance education (with some individual planning for students provided). Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- f. MTSBA Dues Increase – The Montana School Boards Association provided an proposed increase to the annual dues paid by its members.

Doug Whitehead made a motion to approve the MTSBA dues increase. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- g. Resolution for Disposal -- There are several items that have outlived their usefulness in the District or have been stored unnecessarily in a state of disrepair. With storage limitations on campus, it is advantageous to open these items up to the community. Items include: library books; 18 desktop computers with Windows 7; 47 old phones; a football scoreboard; Walker riding lawnmower; and items from the IT department.

Dawn Blain made a motion to approve the Resolution to Dispose of School Property. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion, and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- h. Free Lunch Schoolwide – Multiple departments coordinated to fill out applications required for the “Summer Food Service Program”, which provides free breakfast and lunch to all students. This program has been extended to schools for the entire school year. The effective date of the free meals was December 1, 2020.

- i. Additional CRF – The Governor’s office sent a questionnaire to all districts in late October regarding use the CRF money and a necessity for more funds. Because of the District’s response to the questionnaire, Joliet Elementary received an additional \$20,893 and the High School received an additional \$9,056 in coronavirus relief funds. Additionally, funds were provided for technology purchases related to COVID: the Elementary received \$10,000 and the High School received \$7,000.
- j. Retirement Incentive Package – The District would like to offer two retirement incentive packages this year which would consist of paying one year of insurance premiums for up to two teachers who have worked 25+ years.

Justin Oswald made a motion to approve the offering of a retirement incentive package to two 25+ year teachers to pay insurance premiums for one year. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion, and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

VIII. Personnel

a. Resignations

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board accept the resignation of Rachel Herrington from the position of Head Cross Country Coach.

Dawn Blain made a motion to accept the resignation of Rachel Herrington. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

b. Hiring

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Kaleb Price for the position of Head Cross Country Coach.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to hire Kaleb Price as the Head Cross Country Coach. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Loren Bangert as the High School Boys’ Basketball JV coach for the 2020-21 school year.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to hire Loren Bangert as the High School Boys’ Basketball JV coach for the 2020-21 school year. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Brenton Seymour as the High School Boys’ C Squad Basketball coach for the 2020-21 school year.

Josh Bachler made a motion to hire Brenton Seymour as the High School Boys’ C Squad Basketball coach for the 2020-21 school year. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Chad Massar as the National Honor Society advisor for the 2020-21 school year.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to hire Chad Massar as the National Honor Society advisor for the 2020-21 school year. Josh Bachler seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

IX. Superintendent/Principal/Business Manager Reports

Superintendent – Ms. Evertz advised the Board on: terms of employment accreditation and master schedule progress; holiday concerts; SAM Legislative Network 2021; phone update; chromebooks; 9th period for Mrs. Peters; speech and drama program; career center and soccer conversations.

Principal – Mr. Begger provided the Board an update on: K-7 instruction; elementary IAT meeting; textbook adoption; and Christmas concerts.

Business Manager – Ms. Smith provided the Board with reports of all claims paid, payroll disbursements, and a financial statement.

X. Items for Next Agenda

Common Core Curriculum
PIR
CBA Ratification

XI. Next Board Meeting Date

The next regular Board meeting will be held January 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Joliet School Library.

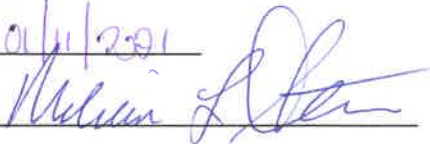
XII. Adjournment

Doug Whitehead made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 p.m. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Approved

01/11/2021

Chairman



Clerk

