

THE REGULAR MEETING of the BOARD OF TRUSTEES of Bigfork Elementary School and Bigfork High School, District No 38, Flathead and Lake Counties, was called to order by Chairperson Sandry on January 15, 2020, at 5:00 pm in the high school library.

Trustees in attendance: Paul Sandry, Zack Anderson, Dan Elwell, Jessica Martinz, Aaron Parish and Christina Relyea

Trustees Absent: Dana Whitney

Also in attendance were Superintendent Matt Jensen, Business Manager Lacey Porrovecchio, Principals Mark Hansen, Charlie Appleby and Brenda Clarke, staff members and community members.

Pledge of Allegiance

Comments on non-agenda items:

Parent Shawna Schara, spoke on behalf of her husband who couldn't attend, and accused Mr. Jensen of mishandling Mr. Melkioty's departure. She told the trustees her son is a better student because of Mr. Melkioty and wished him the best. Mrs. Schara told trustees they should consider Mr. Jensen the liability.

Board Chair Sandry told Mrs. Schara the board is unable to comment on personnel issues.

Parent Wendy Miller spoke in support of Mr. Melkioty. She said she was not trying to save his job, just the way in which it was handled. She explained her son became a better student because of Mr. Melkioty. She expressed her dissatisfaction with Mr. Jensen. Ms. Miller told trustees they should take the administrative handling of Mr. Melkioty seriously.

A motion to approve the agenda with the addendum was made by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Elwell, and **approved** by unanimous vote of the elementary and high school trustees.

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Relyea, and **approved** by unanimous vote of the elementary and high school trustees.

- Consideration of Regular Board Meeting Minutes for December 11, 2019
- Consideration of All Bill Approval Lists
- Consideration of Student Activity Reports for November and December, 2019
- Consideration of Transportation Interlocal Agreement with Creston School District
- Consideration of Acceptance of Anonymous Donations
 1. \$5,000 to High School Swim Program
 2. \$10,000 to High School Wrestling Program
- Consideration of Acceptance of Booster Club 2019 Golf Classic Event Donations
 1. \$8,969.73 to High School Golf Program
 2. \$5,500 to High School Swim Program
 3. \$5,500 to High School Soccer Program
- Consideration of Acceptance of Flathead Lake Lodge Donation
 1. \$2,000 to Elementary Library
- Consideration of Personnel – *Any offer of employment is contingent upon receipt of satisfactory criminal history background check and for some positions receipt of satisfactory pre-employment screening.*
 1. Classified Personnel Recommended for Consideration
 - a. Lori Davis, Paraprofessional
 2. Substitute Personnel Recommended for Consideration
 - a. Lacie Devine, K-8 Substitute Teacher
 - b. Jeannine Reichenbach, K-12 Substitute Teacher
 3. Extra-Curricular Personnel Recommended for Consideration
 - a. Elise Van Valkenburg, Co-Middle School Study Backs
 - b. Patrick Johnston, Co-Middle School Study Backs
 - c. Leslie Stodghill, Special Olympics
 4. Certified Personnel Resignations
 - a. Joe Pitts, June 2020
 - b. Shauna Pitts, June 2020

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Mr. Jensen told trustees the Office of Public Instruction just completed a 5 year monitoring audit of the special education department. There were no corrections or findings. He complimented Mr. Porrovecchio and the special education department. Mr. Jensen and Mr. Hansen told trustees Bigfork High School received the Academic Excellence Award for 2019 from MHSA for Class B. Mr. Jensen asked the trustees to schedule school visits with the principals. Monday will be the third full day of staff professional development. Lastly, he talked about the general fund levy timeline. He would like to send a letter to the community in February. Trustees Martinz, Relyea and Anderson will help with the letter.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. April, 2021 Middle School Close Up Trip and Fundraising – Julie Bonner told the trustees this will be the 6th trip to Washington D.C. The trip will be offered to Swan River seventh and eighth graders in addition to our students. Students raise funds at the school carnival, bingo nights and selling raffle tickets.

Board discussion followed.

A motion to approve the April, 2021 Middle School Close Up Trip was made by Trustee Relyea, seconded by Trustee Anderson, and approved by unanimous vote of the elementary trustees.

A motion to approve the Close Up trip fundraising was made by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Relyea, and approved by unanimous vote of the elementary trustees.

- B. 2020-21 School Year Calendar – Matt Jensen proposed a school calendar starting before Labor Day and ending June 10, 2021. The calendar does not have a snow day, spring break aligns with Kalispell School District and has a late start every Wednesday. The calendar has 179 student days.

Trustee Parish had concerns regarding late start Wednesdays being disruptive for families and all students getting out of school at the same time because of parking lot congestion. Mr. Jensen explained the intent is to have staff on campus to monitor students on Wednesdays if they are dropped off early. The elementary start time could change in the future if parking lot congestion is a problem. Board discussion followed.

A motion to approve the 2020-21 School Year Calendar as recommended was made by Trustee Martinz, seconded by Trustee Elwell, and approved with affirmative votes from Trustees Anderson, Relyea, Sandry, Martinz and Elwell. Trustee Parish opposed.

- C. Records Destruction Document – Lacey Porrovecchio told trustees the district office is continuing to go through old documents. She requested approval to destroy election records per the state Record Retention Schedule.

A motion to approve the Records as proposed was made by Trustee Relyea, seconded by Trustee Martinz, and approved by unanimous vote of the elementary and high school trustees.

- D. High School General Fund Budget Amendment – Lacey Porrovecchio told trustees this is the final piece of the high school general fund budget amendment process. The increase is \$31,449.80 in additional state funds due to the unanticipated enrollment increase.

A motion to approve the High School General Fund Budget Amendment was made by Trustee Elwell, seconded by Trustee Martinz, and approved by unanimous vote of the elementary and high school trustees.

- E. Bigfork Elementary Flex Fund Budget Amendment – Lacey Porrovecchio told trustees this amendment is \$66,847 in additional state funds because the district was awarded the Transformational Learning Grant.

A motion to approve the Bigfork Elementary Flex Fund Budget Amendment was made by Trustee Relyea, seconded by Trustee Anderson, and approved by unanimous vote of the elementary trustees.

- F. Bigfork High School Flex Fund Budget Amendment – Lacey Porrovecchio told trustees this amendment is \$39,751.25 in additional state funds because the district was awarded the Transformational Learning Grant.

A motion to approve the Bigfork High School Flex Fund Budget Amendment was made by Trustee Elwell, seconded by Trustee Relyea, and approved by unanimous vote of the elementary and high school trustees.

- G. Memorandum of Understanding with BAEA – Matt Jensen asked the board to approve an agreement with teachers Joe and Shauna Pitts. Sabbatical leave is not addressed in the collective bargaining agreement. He explained the terms of the agreement.

Trustee Elwell asked about their tenure. Mr. Jensen explained they would lose tenure.

A motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with BAEA as recommended was made by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Martinz, and approved by unanimous vote of the elementary and high school trustees.

- H. Transportation Route 19D – Rob Tracy told trustees this will be a new route to Evergreen School District for a pre-k student in our district.

Community member Suzanne Childers asked for clarification on bus mileage reimbursement rates.

A motion to approve Transportation Route 19D as recommended was made by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Parish, and approved by unanimous vote of the elementary and high school trustees.

- I. Transportation Route IM20C – Rob Tracy told trustees this will be a morning route for the Intermountain kids. Their school day starts later than the regular school day. The students are able to ride the regular route buses home.

A motion to approve the Transportation Route IM20C as proposed was made by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Relyea, and approved by unanimous vote of the elementary and high school trustees.

- J. Transportation and Maintenance Snow Removal Vehicles Purchase – Mike McGill & Rob Tracy. Mike McGill asked trustees to approve the purchase of a used dump truck with a snow blade. He explained the many ways he could use a dump truck and estimated it would pay for itself in 3 years. Mr. Jensen told trustees it would be paid one third out of transportation and one third from the general funds. Mike also asked trustees for approval to purchase a used three quarter ton pickup. The newer truck could do some of the plowing and haul the school trailer. It would replace the 1995 Ford. Rob Tracy told the board the current truck is inadequate for the needs of the campus.

Board discussion followed.

A motion to approve moving forward with vehicle purchases as proposed was made by Trustee Martinz, seconded by Trustee Parish, and approved by unanimous vote of the elementary and high school trustees.

- K. Audit Conclusion Governance Letter – Trustee Elwell recapped the audit report given by Jon Mahrt from Denning, Downey & Associates at the Finance Committee meeting last week. He explained the district audit was unqualified, which means a clean opinion, and there were no findings. Lacey Porrovecchio told trustees the secretaries and the ladies in the district office have done a great job making sure we have the documentation needed for the audit.
- L. Intermountain MOU Addendum – Matt Jensen explained the addendum does not change the amount we pay or the number of kids we can have in the program. The addendum allows for a 6-8 program, held in a classroom off of the elementary gym for 2nd semester of this school year only. He explained there will likely not be an available classroom next school year.

Board discussion followed.

A motion to approve the Intermountain MOU Addendum as proposed was made by Trustee Anderson, seconded by Trustee Martinz, and approved by unanimous vote of the elementary and high school trustees.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

January 15, 2020

- A. Finance Committee Meeting Update – Trustee Elwell shared the Levy Considerations document discussed at the Finance Committee meeting last week. He also shared a revised version of the Levy Considerations that has percentage ranges instead of dollar amounts. He said it will give the public a general idea on how the funds would be spent if the levies pass. Sixty to seventy percent will go to salary and benefits.

PRINCIPAL REPORTS

Mark Hansen reported on the band concert, Mrs. Tunnel's upcoming return to school, in-school field trips, National Honor Society induction and upcoming finals. Mr. Hansen also asked for volunteer judges for the state speech meet at the end of the month.

Brenda Clarke talked to the trustees about the High Trust Workshop, an author visit in the spring, reading and writing work, and the fire drill held that morning.

Charlie Appleby told the trustees about winter activity day and talked about the takeaways from the fire drill.

EXECUTIVE SESSION Litigation Strategy- Closed session in accordance with Section 2-3-203(4)(a), MCA

Began at: 6:13

Ended at: 6:42

FUTURE MEETING SCHEULE

All School Board meetings are held at 5 pm in the high school library, unless otherwise noted.

- o Wednesday, February 12, 2020
- o Wednesday, March 11, 2020
- o Wednesday, April 8, 2019

A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Martinz, seconded by Trustee Relyea, and **approved** by unanimous vote of the elementary and high school trustees.

Adjourned: 6:42 pm

District Clerk

Chairperson