

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – May 10, 2021

The Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a regular meeting on May 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Joliet School Library. Board Members present were Melvin Stene (via phone), Justin Oswald, Sharon Songstad, Doug Whitehead, Dawn Blain, and Kathy Grewell. Also present were Allison Evertz, Superintendent, Clark Begger, Elementary/MS Principal, and Felicia Smith, District Clerk/Business Manager. Visitors in attendance were: Mandi Hernandez, Cody Dworshak, Stacie Nardinger, Terra Rockhold Stene, Thad Miller, Ben Miller, Ceston Dimond, Tucker Carpenter, and Karin Williams.

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

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

IV. Reports

- a. Student Council – Cody Dworshak reported that the Student Council has organized the student/faculty games, which will take place May 19th. The school and community are invited to the games. May 14th is the deadline to submit applications for next year's Student Council.
- b. Athletic Director – Mandi Hernandez reported that 6th Grade and Middle School track ended last week. The spring Activity Banquet will be held May 20th. District track will be held May 14th. There will be camps this summer for Volleyball, run by Coach Webber; and Basketball run by Coach Denham.
- c. Building Report – A building report was provided in the Board packet for review.
- d. Envirothon Team – The Joliet Envirothon team expressed appreciation for being supported in going to the Envirothon this year. Two teams from Joliet competed: the Joliet Team and the Joliet FFA Team. The team showed the Board what their presentation was regarding ground water management.

V. Correspondence – Correspondence was provided to the Board.

VI. Unfinished Business

- a. First Reading of Open Campus Lunch Policy – The Board was presented with the final language for the Open Campus Lunch Policy.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to approve the first reading of the Open Campus Lunch Policy. Kathy Grewell seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- b. Tractor Purchase – New bids have been received, per the request of the Board on April 12, 2021. The two bids were provided to the Board with different option packages.

Doug Whitehead made a motion to approve the purchase of a Toolcat using Bid #1 for \$62,988.00. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

VII. New Business

- a. Contract With Rock Creek Associates – Amanda Lewis is our on-campus independent, licensed social worker. The debilitating impacts of poor mental health and lack of coping mechanisms puts students at a disadvantage. For these reasons, it is vital that we continue our contract partnership with qualified mental healthcare providers.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to renew the contract with Rock Creek Associates, which will continue from year to year, unless cancelled by either party. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- b. HB 267 Extended Stop Arms – HB 267 aims to improve student safety while unloading and loading the school buses. The bill states that when a stop requires a student to cross a roadway, the school bus must be equipped with an extended stop-arm that partially obstructs the roadway. The cost of the arms is \$2,500 per bus, installed. It would cost \$12,500 for the five route buses, and \$22,500 for all nine buses. Buses may not pass inspection without these stop arms installed, but we cannot get a definitive answer on that. The Board suggested getting the extended arms installed in the 5 route buses first.
- c. Distance Learning Options – ESSER II and ESSER III, along with our transformational learning grant, provide for learning loss and online learning options. Our learning community is familiar with Apex and Greenways, and we plan to keep one of the aides as a combined distance learning coordinator and Dyslexia trainer.

Dawn Blain made a motion to purchase Apex and Greenways Academy for the 2021-22 school year. Kathy Grewell seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- d. Accreditation Report from OPI – There are three rankings from OPI for accreditation: Regular, Advice and Deficiency. Joliet elementary and high school both received “Advice”, which was due to a class being mislabeled as “video” instead of a writing class that compared videos; and an elementary teacher needing to finish their Praxis. The middle school received “Regular” status. The correction plan was written for the Advice rankings, and has been submitted.
- e. MHSA Membership Dues – The annual MHSA application and fees, catastrophic insurance, and concussion insurance remittance forms are due for the upcoming school year. The total cost for all activities and insurance is \$4,052.00.

Dawn Blain made a motion to approve and sign the remittance paperwork required to continue partnership with MHSA. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- f. First Reading to Amend District Policy 1400 – Currently monthly board meetings are set for 7:00 p.m. on the second Monday of each month. Due to the nature of lengthy board meetings, it has been suggested that the start time be changed to 6:00 p.m.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to approve the first reading to amend District Policy 1400 to change the start time of Board meetings to 6:00 p.m. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There

was no discussion and no public comment. Kathy Grewell, Doug Whitehead, Dawn Blain and Sharon Songstad voted yea; Justin Oswald voted nay.

VIII. Personnel

a. Resignations

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board accept the resignation of Jenny Ingraham as the high school English Language Arts (ELA) teacher.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to accept the resignation of Jenny Ingraham. Doug Whitehead seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board accept the resignation of Rachel Herrington as the high school Social Studies teacher.

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.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board accept the resignation/retirement of Lucy Jensen after 39 years of service to the Joliet Schools.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to accept the resignation/retirement of Lucy Jensen. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board accept the resignation of Sydney Nelson as the high school Physical Science teacher.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to accept the resignation of Sydney Nelson. Doug Whitehead seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

b. Hiring

Mandi Hernandez has been reclassified to an administrative contract due to the role of Dean of Students. Her contract will be for 205 days with the benefits of classified staff. Ms. Hernandez holds all necessary credentials for the Dean of Students position according to OPI, and she is more than qualified for this position. Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the reclassification of Mandi Hernandez as Dean of Students.

Dawn Blain made a motion to reclassify Mandi Hernandez as Dean of Students with a 205 day contract and classified benefits. 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 Demi Henderson as a teacher for the 2021-22 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Demi Henderson as a teacher for the 2021-22 school year. 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 Isaac Fritz as the high school social studies/history teacher for the 2021-22 school year.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to hire Isaac Fritz as the high school social studies/history teacher for the 2021-22 school year. Kathy Grewell 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 Marriah Anderson as an aide for the 2021-22 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Marriah Anderson as an aide for the 2021-22 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 Toni Atkins as an aide for the 2021-22 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Toni Atkins as an aide for the 2021-22 school year. 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 Annie Olson as an aide for the 2021-22 school year.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to hire Annie Olson as an aide for the 2021-22 school year. 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 Natalie Cook as an aide for the 2021-22 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Natalie Cook as an aide for the 2021-22 school year. Kathy Grewell 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 Nicole Juhnke as an aide for the 2021-22 school year.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to hire Nicole Juhnke as an aide for the 2021-22 school year. 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 Aly Nardinger as an aide for the 2021-22 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Aly Nardinger as an aide for the 2021-22 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 Issa Sharpe as an aide for the 2021-22 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Issa Sharpe as an aide for the 2021-22 school year. 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 Brenda Wetstein as an aide for the 2021-22 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Brenda Wetstein as an aide for the 2021-22 school year. Kathy Grewell 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 Cherish Wetstein as an aide for the 2021-22 school year.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to hire Cherish Wetstein as an aide for the 2021-22 school year. 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 Christine Bergum as a custodian for the 2021-22 school year.

Doug Whitehead made a motion to hire Christine Bergum as a custodian for the 2021-22 school year. 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 Rebecca Bergum as a custodian for the 2021-22 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Rebecca Bergum as a custodian for the 2021-22 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 Tammy Taylor as a custodian for the 2021-22 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Tammy Taylor as a custodian for the 2021-22 school year. Kathy Grewell 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 Beth Dereuhagen as a custodian for the 2021-22 school year.

Doug Whitehead made a motion to hire Beth Dereuhagen as a custodian for the 2021-22 school year. 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 Scott Hunt as a custodian for the 2021-22 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Scott Hunt as a custodian for the 2021-22 school year. Doug Whitehead 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 Dale Limberhand as assistant facilities manager for the 2021-22 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Dale Limberhand as assistant facilities manager for the 2021-22 school year. Doug Whitehead 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 Russ Salo as facilities manager for the 2021-22 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Russ Salo as facilities manager for the 2021-22 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 Rodney Biorn as morning and afternoon route driver for the 2021-22 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Rodney Biorn as morning and afternoon route driver for the 2021-22 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 Sandy Matlock as morning and afternoon route driver for the 2021-22 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Sandy Matlock as morning and afternoon route driver for the 2021-22 school year. 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 Eddy Sharpe as morning and afternoon route driver for the 2021-22 school year.

Doug Whitehead made a motion to hire Eddy Sharpe as morning and afternoon route driver for the 2021-22 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 Sam Smith as morning and afternoon route driver for the 2021-22 school year.

Doug Whitehead made a motion to hire Sam Smith as morning and afternoon route driver for the 2021-22 school year. 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 Mark Rupprecht as the crossing guard for the 2021-22 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Mark Rupprecht as the crossing guard for the 2021-22 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 Laura Smith as the Head Nutrition Specialist for the 2021-22 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Laura Smith as the Head Nutrition Specialist for the 2021-22 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 Emily Jones as a nutrition assistant for the 2021-22 school year.

Doug Whitehead made a motion to hire Emily Jones as a nutrition assistant for the 2021-22 school year. 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 Melissa DuBose as a nutrition assistant for the 2021-22 school year.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to hire Melissa DuBose as a nutrition assistant for the 2021-22 school year. Doug Whitehead 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 head boys' varsity basketball coach for the 2021-22 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Loren Bangert as the head boys' varsity basketball coach for the 2021-22 school year. Kathy Grewell 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: Art award results; sick bank for Paige Smith; all teacher meeting; school sponsored baby shower; Lion's Club banquet; middle school spring concert; district track; high school spring concert; spring activities banquet; graduation; and high school instruction.

Principal – Mr. Begger provided the Board with an update on: K-8 instruction; iReady representative being on campus for the 1st professional development meeting for the K-5 math adoption; MAPs testing; 8th grade is above the national average in math, science and ELA.

Business Manager – Ms. Smith provided the Board with reports of all claims paid, payroll disbursements, and a financial statement. Election results were presented to the Board. The Board reviewed the tally sheets produced by the election judges and the Board canvassed the votes from the election held on May 4, 2021.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to accept the election results provided by the election judges from the May 4, 2021 trustee election. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

X. **Items for Next Agenda**

Out of District List

XI. **Next Board Meeting Date**

The next regular Board meeting will be held June 14, 2021 in the Joliet School Library.

XII. **Adjournment**

Dawn Blain made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Approved _____

05/14/21
Dawn Blain

Clerk _____

[Signature]

Board Chair _____