

## **Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – December 13, 2021**

The Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a regular meeting on December 13, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Joliet School Library. Board Members present were Dawn Blain, Justin Oswald, Melvin Stene, Kathy Grewell, Doug Whitehead and Karin Williams. Also present were Allison Evertz, Superintendent, Clark Begger, Elementary/MS Principal, and Felicia Smith, District Clerk/Business Manager. Visitors in attendance were: Mandi Hernandez, Norman Wooton, Rockwood Frank, Debbie Parsons, Terra Rockhold Stene, Brandy Feller, Riley Killion, Brian Frank, Becky Frank, Jarred Behm, 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.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Melvin Stene seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

### **IV. Reports**

- a. Student Council – Norman Wooton and Rockwood Frank updated the Board on the student council's participation in Flakesgiving this year. They helped prepare 1,500 meals. The 12 days of Christmas for teachers and staff was a success again this year. A semi-formal winter dance is being planned for January 15, 2022 at the Joliet Community Center.
- b. Athletic Director – Ms. Hernandez notified the Board that MHSAA has made an 8-man football realignment. This will mean less travel for our teams. There is also a potential for class size changes. Joliet participated in the Wooden basketball tournament in Red Lodge. All schools, including Joliet are experiencing bus driver shortages and potentially referee shortages. We currently have 5 wrestlers. Middle school boys' basketball will begin on January 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5/6 grade will start in February.
- c. BPA – Rockwood Frank presented the Board with his BPA project regarding entrepreneurship and business planning.
- d. Building Report – The building report that was provided in the Board packet for review. A new maintenance crew has been interviewed and, they plan to begin work on December 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **V. Correspondence – Correspondence was provided to the Board.**

### **VI. Unfinished Business**

- a. Digital Reader Board – After discussing various projects that would benefit the students of Joliet, a generous donor would like the school to utilize the donated funds to replace the current reader board with an electronic version and also replace the sound system in the gym. Administration will work with vendors to obtain quotes and work out the particulars. Updates will be provided to the Board on the progress of the projects.
- b. Policy 4125 – District Social Media is now available to provide guidance and structure to a school district's use of social media for community engagement.  
  
Policy 8211 – Procurement Policy Using Federal Funds provides compliance with federal procurement standards that may apply to districts when using federal funds for purposes beyond food service.

Karin Williams made a motion to accept the third reading of Policy 4125 and Policy 8211. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- c. Safe Return to School and Continuity of Services Plan – All Safe Return plans must be updated no less than every six months, until September 30, 2023. The District plan can be found on the website under ‘District Information’ heading and then ‘COVID 19 Information.’

Karin Williams made a motion to update The Plan, make the changes effective December 13, 2021, and post accordingly for compliance with the OPI. Kathy Grewell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Brandy Feller offered public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- d. Restructure of Board of Trustees – Through the last 50 years, the Joliet Board has seen many changes in its boundaries/number of trustees through consolidation, and additional areas that need representation due to taxable value. The current structure of the Board is 6 elementary trustees and one outlying high school trustee. MCA 20-3-341 states: “There must be five trustee positions in a second-class district; however, on a majority vote of the board of trustees, the number may be increased to seven trustee positions at the next trustee election if notice of the action of the board of trustees is published by the clerk of the district in a newspaper of general circulation in the county prior to January 1 of the year of the trustee election.” To bring our board into alignment with state statute, the Policy Committee met on December 8, 2021 to discuss whether the Board should eliminate a trustee position or vote to increase the number of trustees. The Committee is recommending that the Board vote to increase the number of trustees due to the current trend of expanding enrollment, and to provide more representation to Joliet stakeholders.

Melvin Stene made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Policy Committee and increase the number of elementary trustees to seven. Kathy Grewell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Brandy Feller and Jarred Behm offered public comment. The motion was unanimously carried. The Clerk will publish a notice in the Carbon County News prior to January 1, 2022, and an additional trustee position will be on the ballot for the 2022 election.

## VII. New Business

- a. Work Study Program – The inclusion of career education in the basic curriculum will provide students with information about career opportunities available and will establish a relationship between what is taught in the classroom and the world of work. The School-to-Work program is in its draft form. With approval, the program could start at the new semester on Tuesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>.

Justin Oswald made a motion to approve the School-to-Work program. Doug Whitehead seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Jarred Behm, Debbie Parsons and Mandi Hernandez offered public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- b. MHSA Reclassifications – The MHSA held a meeting, at which, it approved changes to classification as follows: Class AA = ~~779+~~ 801+; Class A = ~~307-778~~ 301-800; Class B = ~~108-306~~ 101-300; Class C = ~~1-107~~ 1-100. Measures are in place for schools to petition for changes with narrow parameters.



- c. Tech Levy Discussion – The Board discussed if the tech levy should be continued to provide funding to keep the District up-to-date with technology going forward. A formal decision will be made at the January 13, 2022 Board meeting.
- d. Soccer Co-op – The Laurel school district has floated the idea of a co-op with Joliet for their boys' soccer program. However, the Laurel girls' soccer program does not need to be strengthened, so a different girls' sport would need to be offered. An activities subcommittee meeting can assist with the discussion and prospective planning. If both districts agree to move forward, the submission deadline to MHSA is May 1, 2022.
- e. Out of District Enrollment – An out of district application was submitted on November 10, 2021. The deadline for out of district applications is prior to June 10<sup>th</sup>. This applicant would like to start enrollment as soon as possible. Due to standing district policy, and past practice, the Superintendent is recommending that the out of district enrollment be denied at this time. The family is encouraged to re-apply for the next school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to deny the out of district application. Melvin Stene seconded the motion. There was discussion regarding District policy and past practice. Debbie Parsons offered public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

## VIII. Personnel

### a. Resignations

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board accept the resignation of Russ Salo effective immediately.

Melvin Stene made a motion to accept the resignation of Russ Salo. Kathy Grewell 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 Dale Limberhand effective immediately.

Justin Oswald made a motion to accept the resignation of Dale Limberhand. 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 Beth Dereuhagen effective immediately.

Melvin Stene made a motion to accept the resignation of Beth Dereuhagen. Justin Oswald 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 Ron Shenk as the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball coach for the 2021-22 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Ron Shenk as the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball coach 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 George Warburton as the C squad girls' basketball coach for the 2021-22 school year.

Melvin Stene made a motion to hire George Warburton as the C squad girls' basketball coach for the 2021-22 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 Morgan McQuillan as the assistant speech and drama coach for the 2021-22 school year.

Doug Whitehead made a motion to hire Morgan McQuillan as assistant speech and drama coach for the 2021-22 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 Matt Palmer as the JV boys' basketball coach for the 2021-22 school year.

Karin Williams made a motion to hire Matt Palmer as the JV boys' basketball coach for the 2021-22 school year. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz notified the Board that Scott Hereim has volunteered to help coach the boys' basketball C squad.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Mike McKay as the head of maintenance (facility manager) for the remainder of the 2021-22 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Mike McKay as the head of maintenance (facility manager) for the remainder of 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 Edwin Sharpe as the assistant head of maintenance (assistant facility manager) for the remainder of the 2021-22 school year.

Justin Oswald made a motion to hire Edwin Sharpe as the assistant head of maintenance (assistant facility manager) for the remainder of the 2021-22 school year. Doug Whitehead seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Jarred Behm offered public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Robert Shouse as a custodian for the remainder of the 2021-22 school year.

Justin Oswald made a motion to hire Robert Shouse as a custodian for the remainder of the 2021-22 school year. Karin Williams seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

c. Change in Job Duties

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Scott Hunt as security detail for the remainder of the 2021-22 school year.



Justin Oswald made a motion to hire Scott Hunt as security detail for the remainder of the 2021-22 school year. Karin Williams 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 transportation supervisor for the remainder of the 2021-22 school year.

Doug Whitehead made a motion to hire Sam Smith as transportation supervisor for the remainder of the 2021-22 school year. Kathy Grewell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Brandy Feller offered public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Tammy Taylor as custodial inventory manager for the remainder of the 2021-22 school year.

Melvin Stene made a motion to hire Tammy Taylor as custodial inventory manager for the remainder of the 2021-22 school year. Doug Whitehead seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

**IX. Principal/Business Manager Reports**

High School Principal – Ms. Evertz advised the Board on: high school academics, BPA regionals, and the FAFSA workshop.

Principal – Mr. Begger provided the Board with an update on: K-8 instruction; JMG community service; Christmas lunch; Dyslexia Screening; Middle School dance; and winter MAPs testing.

Superintendent – Ms. Evertz updated the Board in IBB training; strategic planning; Freestar Van bid; HVAC bid process; snow removal; bus expenses; boiler checks; additional bus driver; and the mammography mobile.

Business Manager – Ms. Smith provided the Board with reports of all claims paid, payroll disbursements, and a financial statement. She also updated the board on advertisements for HVAC bids and notice of trustee increase to be published. It was noted that the election cycle for 2022 begins shortly and legislative changes will be discussed at the January board meeting.

**X. Items for Next Agenda**

HVAC Bids  
Sound System Bids  
Superintendent Evaluation  
Election  
Negotiations Update  
Reader Board

**XI. Safe Return to School and Continuity of Services Plan**

This item was handled on a prior agenda item.

**XII. Next Board Meeting Date**

The next regular Board meeting will be held January 10, 2022 in the Joliet School Library.

**XII. Adjournment**

Melvin Stene made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. Kathy Grewell seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Approved 01/10/22

Board Chair Lawn Blaud

Clerk 