

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – March 14, 2022

The Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a regular meeting on March 14, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the Joliet School Library. Board Members present were Dawn Blain, Justin Oswald, Kathy Grewell, Sharon Songstad, Doug Whitehead (arrived at 6:21 p.m.) 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, Brandy Feller, Riley Killion, Jason Stene, Mike McKay, Tiffany Hobson, Michael Gebhardt, Erin Cross, Shane Warehime, Jodi Milton, Scott Blain, Cristine Hoferer and Sarrah Walstad.

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.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Karin Williams seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

IV. Reports

- a. Carbon County Public Health – Erin Cross updated the Board on the county’s school health program. Nurses for the program will be interviewed this week. It is expected that the nurse will visit the school once a week. Ms. Cross gave the Board an interlocal agreement for the county health services, which the Board will consider at a later meeting. Interviews are also being held for a school health coordinator. Ms. Cross indicated the types of services the school nurse will provide to the school.
- b. Student Council – Mandi Hernandez updated the Board on the student council’s Fun Day activities, noting there were no injuries. Applications for next year’s student board will be sent out to juniors. The student/staff game is in the planning process.
- c. Athletic Director – Ms. Hernandez notified the Board that the 5/6 grade boys’ basketball season has wrapped up. High School track and softball begins today. Middle school track will begin March 28th with 53 7/8 grade athletes participating. The Southern B division meeting was held last month. Shot clocks will be required this fall in both gyms. Any potential classification changes will begin with the 2023-24 school year, but the 8-man football changes will begin this fall. Divisional volleyball will be hosted by Manhattan next year.
- d. Transportation – The transportation report was provided to the Board. It was noted that Sam Smith is now certified on the underground storage tank.
- e. Building Report – The building report was provided in the Board packet for review. Mike McKay updated the Board on repairs to the HVAC system in the elementary, which have improved the performance of that system.

V. Correspondence – Correspondence was provided to the Board. The input from the second grade class was appreciated.

VI. Unfinished Business

- a. Elementary HVAC and Boilers – Because no bids were received in response to our publication in the newspapers in December, the facility manager reached out to a few companies. The bids were included in the Board packet for discussion. Critical projects include: Elementary controls and valves (heating); Middle school boilers; and Elementary cooling system. Due to

limited funds, Superintendent Evertz recommended that the elementary cooling system be put on hold at this time.

Justin Oswald made a motion to approve the heating and boiler projects utilizing ATS and Air Controls. Karin Williams seconded the motion. There was discussion by the Board with input from facility Manager Mike McKay. Michael Gebhardt offered public comment on having a maintenance review schedule, which Mr. McKay indicated he is working on and will prepare once he has become familiar with all equipment in the buildings, and the status of each item. The motion was unanimously carried.

- b. Digital Reader Board – A representative from Sign Pro of Billings came on January 4th to do a site assessment. The Board was previously provided mock ups of the potential new reader board. We are waiting on the power company to do a site visit and process the construction ticket. Jason Stene asked about future utility costs, which the Superintendent indicated we do not know at this time, but will have more information once the utility company has processed the ticket.
- c. Potential Soccer Co-op – Billings Catholic Central has offered the opportunity for Joliet students to participate in their soccer program through a co-op. Paperwork for a co-op needs to be sent to MHSA in time for their April board meeting for approval. There will be no monetary requirements for the district. And, all travel expenses of getting student athletes to practices and games will be the responsibility of the student and their family. It was noted that Joliet was approached by BCC about the co-op. Discussion ensued about local opportunities, the cost of running a new sports program in the district, and trying to keep students engaged in current activities offered at Joliet. It was noted that 36 students responded to the survey with 80.6% (29 students) not interested, and 19.4% (7 students) interested in soccer.

Doug Whitehead made a motion to approve the girls' and boys' soccer co-operative with Billings Catholic Central, with all transportation costs borne by the student and their family. Kathy Grewell seconded the motion. There was discussion by the Board about the potential of this taking students away from other sports offered by the District. Public comment from several individuals was offered regarding other potential co-op opportunities and trying to keep students engaged in our community. Those in favor of the co-op: Sharon Songstad, Dawn Blain, Justin Oswald, Doug Whitehead and Kathy Grewell. Those opposed: Karin Williams. The motion carried.

VII. New Business

- a. Permissive Levy Resolution per SB 307 – SB 307 requires the District to publish a notice in the newspaper by March 31st of its intent to increase/decrease permissive levies for the coming budget year. These numbers are estimates only due to the fact that we do not have an approved budget for the 2022-23 fiscal year and we do not have taxable valuations from the state. At this point in time, we estimate that we will have increases in elementary tuition, elementary flexibility, and high school flexibility funds; and decreases in elementary building reserve and high school building reserve funds.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to approve the March 2022 publication of the resolution of the District's intent to impose permissive levies. Doug Whitehead seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- b. Academic Calendar Approval – The calendar committee met on February 9th and 15th. There were three calendars devised, and the combined classified and certified staff voted anonymously on March 4, 2022. Calendar B was the winner by a slim margin.

Justin Oswald made a motion to adopt Calendar B for the 2022-23 school year. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- c. Water Sample Results – Superintendent Evertz updated the Board on the results of the water samples that were taken over the Thanksgiving break and sent to a lab in Billings for testing. There were only three outputs that required remedy. Those will be addressed by the facility crew. No lead is in the water supply line, only in a few branch lines.

VIII. Personnel

a. Resignations

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board accept the resignation/retirement of Mary Koon effective May 26, 2022.

Justin Oswald made a motion to accept the resignation of Mary Koon. 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 of Eleah Wend effective May 26, 2022.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to accept the resignation of Eleah Wend. Justin Oswald 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 Molly Shoenleben effective May 26, 2022.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to accept the resignation of Molly Shoenleben. 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 Darci Rodgers as an elementary teacher for the 2022-23 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Darci Rodgers as an elementary teacher for the 2022-23 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 Chalee Richert as an elementary teacher for the 2022-23 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Chalee Richert as an elementary teacher for the 2022-23 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 Joey Richert as a teacher for the 2022-23 school year.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to hire Joey Richert as a teacher for the 2022-23 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 Brice Turk as the Head High School Track coach for the 2022 spring season.

Doug Whitehead made a motion to hire Brice Turk as the Head High School Track coach for the 2022 spring season. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. Those in favor: Dawn Blain, Justin Oswald, Doug Whitehead, Karin Williams and Kathy Grewell. Those opposed: Sharon Songstad. The motion carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Kaleb Price as the first Assistant High School Track coach for the 2022 spring season.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to hire Kaleb Price as the first Assistant High School Track coach for the 2022 spring season. 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 Terra Stene as the second Assistant High School Track coach for the 2022 spring season.

Justin Oswald made a motion to hire Terra Stene as the second Assistant High School Track coach for the 2022 spring season. 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 Isaac Fritz as the Head Middle School Track coach for the 2022 spring season.

Justin Oswald made a motion to hire Isaac Fritz as the Head Middle School Track coach for the 2022 spring season. 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 Kendall Denham as the first Assistant Middle School Track coach for the 2022 spring season.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Kendall Denham as the first Assistant Middle School Track coach for the 2022 spring season. 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 Shay Lind as the second Assistant Middle School Track coach for the 2022 spring season.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to hire Shay Lind as the second Assistant Middle School Track coach for the 2022 spring season. Karin Williams seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

George Warburton will be a volunteer track coach for the 2022 spring season.

IX. Principal/Business Manager Reports

High School Principal – Ms. Evertz advised the Board on: high school academics; a panel discussion that was held on grading procedures; the school-to-work program; and the graduation cap decorations meeting.

Principal – Mr. Begger provided the Board with an update on: K-8 instruction; the I Love to Read Assembly; mini courses; First Aid presentation; End of Q3 process; and IAT.

Superintendent – Ms. Evertz updated the Board on a K-9 Drug Sweep on February 24th; a professional opinion on the condition of the bus barn; National Conference on Education; MTSBA Trainings for Trustees; and the K-12 Vision Project.

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

X. Items for Next Agenda

Reader Board
Negotiations Update
Review Certified Ballot
Food Services Director Update
Interlocal agreement with Carbon County Health

XI. Safe Return to School and Continuity of Services Plan

No changes to the Plan were necessary.

XII. Next Board Meeting Date

The next regular Board meeting will be held April 11, 2022 in the Joliet School Library.

XIII. Adjournment

Sharon Songstad made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. Doug Whitehead seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Approved

04/11/2022

Board Chair



Clerk

