

## **Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – March 10, 2014**

The Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a Regular meeting on March 10, 2014, at 7:05 p.m. in the Joliet School Library Room. Board members present were Justin Oswald, Dawn Blain, Sharon Songstad, Corie Mydland, Melvin Stene, and Brad Stephenson. Clinton Kramer was absent. Also present were Jeff Bermes, Superintendent, Jeanne Carroll, District Clerk/Business Manager, and Marilyn Vukonich, High School Principal.

Melvin Stene, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Sharon Songstad made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Corie Mydland seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Melvin Stene explained and asked for public comment. There was none.

### Reports

#### Item #1 Building Report

Mr. Bermes talked about the Board's idea presented to him of moving the central office area to the Library area. He will get some bids on ideas for that towards summer work. He talked about the high school parking lot needing repair work and getting bids for that for a summer project. Sidewalks will be poured around the shed addition with the nicer weather. There have been a few boiler issues with the really cold weather that showed up and have been fixed. He is starting now on a list for summer projects if anyone has something to add to the list to be discussed.

#### Item #2 Athletic Committee Report

Mr. Bermes would like to talk about high school track and whether to allow sixth graders to sign up for track. He said in the high school/middle school there are perhaps 15-20 students out. He said he has applicants for track, but is he concerned about the numbers.

#### Item #3 Student Board

There was no one present.

### Correspondence

#### Item #1 Thank You's

There was a thank you to the Board.

### Unfinished Business

#### Item #1 Board Policies Final Reading

Mr. Bermes said he recommends approving MTSBA's Board policies #2158 Family Engagement and #2171 Significant Writing. There are no changes from the first reading. Sharon Songstad made a motion to approve the MTSBA's Board policies to be added as listed above. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

#### Item #3 Teacher Negotiations

It is the Board's turn to present the first proposal in negotiations with the teachers. Mr. Bermes said the Joliet Teacher's Association would like to look at the base and health insurance. He suggested the negotiations team wait until health insurance rates are back before meeting. The teachers would also like to get another quote on health insurance. He said the health insurance committee, made up of one Board member, himself, Mrs. Carroll and two teachers, would meet to look at these and the final decision is the Board's.

Item #4                      Driver's Education

Mr. Bermes has three applications currently. Two of them are ready to go and one needs to take the training first. Mr. Bermes would like to set up interviews next week. He will be gone the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> to his superintendent's conference, and would like to schedule the interviews the 20<sup>th</sup>.

Item #2                      Superintendent Contract Negotiations

The Board adjourned into Executive Session at 7:09 p.m. They came back into Regular Session at 7:25 p.m.

New Business

Item #1                      Robotics Club

Mr. Bermes said he really likes the program. He said he would really rather see it as an after-school club. He recommends allowing them to have school-related excused absences and provide transportation for them. They, as a club, would be able to do fundraising at basketball games. They have collected all their operating money by charging dues. Dawn Blain made a motion to allow the Robotics Club to be added with the above provisions. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Item #2                      Bad Weather Policy

Especially with our recent bad winter weather and cold, Mr. Bermes said he felt caught between a rock and a hard place for the state competitions for FFA and the chance for those students to go the Nationals and associated scholarships, and the bad roads. He would like the Board to sit down as a committee for guidelines for bad weather, so he has something as a guide. He feels the county needs to be included in it as well. He suggests working on this during the summer months. There was Board discussion.

Item #3                      Call for Election

Mrs. Carroll explained that a motion for a resolution to call for election was necessary. Dollar amounts are not needed at this time, but the Board will need to make a decision and have any dollar amounts available by or at the next Board meeting, so they can be posted. Corie Mydland moved to make a resolution to call for an Elementary and High School election for the purpose of electing two trustee positions and an Elementary and High School mill levy election with the dollar amount to be provided before April 16<sup>th</sup>, for normal operation and maintenance of the school districts. The election will be held on May 6, 2014, with the polls open from 12 noon to 8 p.m. in the Joliet School Health room off the new lobby. Election judges will be appointed at a later date. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Item #4                      Hirings/Resignations

Mr. Bermes asked the Board to allow sixth grade participation in track. There are only 30 students out for track without them. Justin Oswald made a motion to allow the sixth grade to participate in track to make student numbers total approximately 48 at the Middle School level. Corie Mydland seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried. Mr. Bermes said the High School track numbers are very low at 15-20 students, so he doesn't know where to put an extra coach. He would like to recommend Mrs. O'Dore as Assistant Middle School Coach, and Mrs. Bergum-Nafts as Head Middle School Track Coach. Ms. Arlian and Mrs. Spoklie-Luoma were interviewed. As High School Head Track Coach, he recommends Doug Hatten. Mr. Bermes said he needs one other candidate for a sprint coach. He asked the Board how many coaches to hire. There was Board discussion. Sharon Songstad recommended hiring Doug Hatten as Head High School Track coach, Megan Bleile as High School Assistant Track coach, Patty Bergum-Nafts as Head Middle School Track coach, Alane O'Dore and Hallie Spoklie-Luoma as

Middle School Assistant Track coaches. Corie Mydland seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Item #5 Renew Multi-District Agreement

Mr. Bermes said it is time to renew the agreement that allows us to save dollars without the two district budget limitations. Mrs. Carroll said the agreement was done as a one year agreement, but current law says the time period can be every three years if the Board would prefer. Corie Mydland made a motion to renew the Multi-District agreement for a three year time period. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Item #6 Approve 2014-25 School Calendar

Mr. Bermes said he worked with the calendar committee and this calendar is the only one presented. He said March 9<sup>th</sup> is a vacation day with a floater for a PIR day, to be made up within the school year for the new student system training. In answer to questions from the Board, the early out times have been changed to 1 p.m. to provide students a meal before they leave. This was a recommendation from the school nutrition review. He said the PIR days are subject to change. Justin Oswald made a motion to adopt the 2014-15 school calendar as it has been presented. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Item #7 Hirings/Resignations

Mr. Bermes recommends hiring Dewey Allen for Head High School Football coach for 2014-15. Sharon Songstad made a motion to hire Dewey Allen as Head High School Football coach. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Superintendent's/Principal's/AD's/Business Manager's Reports

Mr. Bermes told the Board he will be gone the 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of March for the SAM Conference, his superintendent's meeting. He will also be gone to take his wife for a check-up back to Mayo Clinic from March 31-April 2. The boys basketball team will leave Wednesday after school, and will play Big Fork at noon on Thursday. They will be staying at the Comfort Inn in Bozeman. He will be keeping 10 rooms. He is sending the Pep Band on Thursday for the game, to come back the same night.

He said the kindergarten projections for the 2014-15 school year are for 15 students. In the future, he may have to do elementary class splits. Mr. Bermes thinks the upper grades will probably be where the splits will be. The kindergarten roundup is April 9<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Vukonich said the last events calendar she did still works for this month. She will e-mail her new one out. She said scheduling for next year is being worked on. She'll be gone for her High School Principal's Conference on April 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. The Title I Conference will be in Billings. Patty Bergum-Nafts, Carol Sherman, Marilyn and Ev Fischer will be going. She said AGATE is also in Billings this year.

Mrs. Carroll included the letter from Teachers Retirement on the increase in employer and employee rates for the 2014-15 school year. It will increase for the District 1.1%.

Items for the Next Agenda – April 14, 2014 at 7 PM—Regular Meeting

- Item #1 Mill Levy
- Item #2 Negotiations
- Item #3 Early Retirement Incentives
- Item #4 Substitute Pay Increase

The next Regular Board meeting will be held on April 14, 2014 at 7 p.m. in the Library.

Dawn Blain made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Approved\_\_\_\_\_

Clerk\_\_\_\_\_

Chairman\_\_\_\_\_