

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – November 11, 2013

The Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a Regular meeting on November 11, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. in the Joliet School Library Room. Board members present were Justin Oswald, Dawn Blain, Corie Mydland, Sharon Songstad, Clinton Kramer, and Melvin Stene. Brad Stephenson 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 7:00 p.m. Corie Mydland made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Clinton Kramer seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

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

Reports

Item #1 Buildings and Grounds Update

Mr. Bermes said NorthWestern Energy says the pole barn had access to electricity to just do lights. He said somewhere down the line, the cooler was added. NorthWestern Energy says there is not enough power for a heater, let alone a freezer. The contractor says there is enough power to do it and the electrician agrees. The problem lies on plugging in buses in that location. There is not enough power to run heaters for the buses. He said he is looking at solar for power. It will cost \$30,000 to run power from the transformers for future expansion. He wants to have the Board aware of the issue for the future. Mr. Bermes said he will disconnect the pole on the baseball field. The heater for the pole barn comes on at 50 degrees, so it shouldn't be a problem. There are safety features on it.

Item #3 FFA Trip Report

The FFA is present and they are thanking the Board for allowing them to attend the National Convention. Brittany Wetstein, Dani Dewell, Levi Mydland and Tanya Seymour are the students present to report on what they did. Parli got a bronze medal and did not make it past the preliminary. They toured Three Chimney's race horse breeding, Churchill Downs, and Wild Turkey Distillery, just to name a few. They watched Dan Dunn do two paintings. Rick Patino, who is a basketball coach was there and talked about turning on the positive. Floriculture was a nine hour competition which Brittany described. Twenty percent of this FFA Chapter membership competed. Mr. Massar said the usual is 1% of the membership at Nationals. They are hosting a dinner for Farmers/Producers in the area on Tuesday, November 19th at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. Mr. Massar said they sponsor the Blood Drive and just got a letter from them bumping up the number of blood drives per year to 3. Mr. Massar said they are pleased with the Joliet FFA's blood drives.

Item #2 Transportation Report

The new bus is here and has been out in front of the building for the Board to look at. Mr. Bermes said it looks good.

Unfinished Business

Item #1 Extra-Curricular Openings

Mr. Bermes said the assistant middle school basketball coach and the head track positions are still open. He will make the fall sports recommendations at the December meeting.

Item #2 Basketball Fundraiser

Mr. Bermes has the design and colors for the boys basketball gear. No one has concerns with the designs. The girls would like to do this also. Mr. Bermes said he just needs to see their design. He said it is required this year by MHSA, that the coaches must complete the online workshop by January 1st or they can't be a coach. He said we pay for it and it's an online computer course. He can see who is doing it and how far they are.

New Business

Item # 1 Health Insurance Increase

We received notification of premium increases due to the Affordable Care Act. Mr. Bermes has included the letter notifying the school and the letter he sent out to employees. He said since we are currently under contract, teachers will have to pay the difference. He said the single runs about \$20-\$60 increase per month depending on the plan, with an average cost increase of \$44.00. Mr. Bermes said we are looking at an 8.5% health insurance renewal cost. He feels the increase should be done at the beginning of the plan year, not in the middle. He said we are all in this together.

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

Expedition Yellowstone leaves Friday. Fall sports awards are on the 21st at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. There was a 90% parent teacher conference turnout in the elementary. The tournaments hit the high school parent teacher attendance numbers harder. The Board decided evaluations will be at the same time for both the clerk and the superintendent in January. The department of ed has approved no more CRT's for testing starting next year. They still have to test grades 4, 8 and 10 for Science. They will retain the rating for one year of improvements with just about everyone one else in the state. There will be a yearly effectiveness plan.

For Athletics, Mr. Bermes gave out a listing of new games that have been changed out. He feels the Athletic Committee perhaps needs to look at charging for middle school games at least \$2.00 each. We are one of the only schools that doesn't charge. Student Council may want to do Concessions at middle school games if they come through the proper channels. The Board said to go ahead with starting to charge \$3.00 each and \$5.00 if there is more than one game. It is the student rate for Senior Citizens. Mr. Bermes said for the Volleyball District tournament, we made \$246. He explained the Class B rotations. Football having a nine man league will be presented in January at the MHSA meeting.

Mrs. Vukonich handed out her principal's report with a listing of calendar events. She had the parent teacher conference number of attendance for a total of 59% grades 7-12. She said the kids enjoyed the Northern Plains Festival. Six out of twelve went and seemed to really enjoy it. She talked about the Veteran's Assembly. She also had a list of those who made MHSA Academic All-State, for which a 3.5 GPA is necessary.

Mrs. Carroll had new law books for the Board members. She also included a copy of the audit comments and her's and Mr. Berme's response in the board packet. She said usually she is the one who responds to the audit notes, but this time Mr. Bermes also did. She also noted the payroll changes for activities that the Board will see in the payroll listings.

Thanksgiving dinner this Wednesday at lunch. December 12th is Christmas Dinner and the public is invited. There will be an RSVP flyer.

Items for the Next Agenda – December 9 , 2013 at 7 PM—Regular Meeting

Item #1 Evaluation Forms

Item #2 Athletic Committee Meeting in December
Item #3
Item #4

The next Regular Board meeting will be held on December 9, 2013 at 7 p.m. in the Library.

Corie Mydland made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Approved _____

Clerk _____

Chairman _____