

## **Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – February 9, 2015**

The Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a regular meeting on February 9, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Joliet School Library Room. Board Members present were Melvin Stene, Clinton Kramer, Sharon Songstad, Dawn Blain, Corie Mydland and Brad Stephenson. Justin Oswald was absent. Also present were Jeff Bermes, Superintendent, Sheryl Roberts, District Clerk/Business Manager, and Marilyn Vukonich, High School Principal. Visitors included Ev Fischer, Linda Hayden, the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class, Carol Sherman, Kathy Robinette, Lee Stevenson, Morris Richards, Becky Frank, Sara Collins, Doug Whitehead, Tracy Whitehead and Chris Doll.

Melvin Stene, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Supt. Bermes reviewed the bill listing and the additional two bills added after the list was emailed to the trustees. Sharon Songstad made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

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

### **Correspondence**

Mr. Bermes handed out thank you notes he has received.

### **Reports**

Ms. Sherman reviewed the educational value of Yellowstone Expedition. Several students read reports about their experiences. Comments from parents about the experience were positive.

**Old Business** -- There was no Old Business.

### **New Business**

#### **Item #a School Calendar for 2015-16**

Mr. Bermes reviewed the calendar that won the popular vote from the staff. Discussion followed. Corie Mydland made a motion to accept the calendar option for 2015-16. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

#### **Item #b Preschool Co-op Commitment**

Mr. Bermes reviewed the commitment. Dawn Blain made a motion to continue preschool services through Yellowstone-West/Carbon County Special Services Co-op. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

#### **Item #c Technology Purchases**

Mr. Bermes reviewed the cost to host Black Mountain on the cloud verses purchasing a server and installing the software at Joliet. The cost to host on the cloud would be approximately \$4500 per year; a server and backup would be a one-time purchase of approximately \$4375 and would be adequate for at least five years. Corie Mydland made a motion to purchase a server and backup for Black Mountain Software. Dawn Mydland seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Mydland  
Blain

#### Item #d Hiring Procedure for New Superintendent

Mr. Bermes reviewed the paperwork for the superintendent application packet. Chair Melvin Stene said the position closes March 4, 2015 and inquiries will be run through Marlaina Myers.

#### Item #e Election Calendar

The election date is May 5 and the trustees need to pass a resolution to call for an election by March 26. Sharon Songstad made a motion to call for a trustee election and levy election for the elementary and high school. Election judges will be appointed later. Corie Mydland seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

#### Item #f Retirement Incentive

Mr. Bermes reviewed the prior retirement incentive offered and recommended two years of paid health insurance at the single rate. Dawn Blain made a motion to offer two years of paid health insurance at the single rate. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

### **Personnel**

#### Item #a Resignations

Mr. Bermes read resignation letters from Amber Hogg as a bus driver and Linda Mickle as concession manager. He informed the trustees that Mrs. Bergum-Nafts may not be interested in the AD position next year and he would like to review the AD position and salary. Mr. Bermes read his resignation letter as superintendent. Clinton Kramer made a motion to accept the letters of resignation. Corie Mydland seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

#### Item #b Track Coach Recommendations

Mr. Bermes recommended Doug Hatten as head high school track coach, Megan Bleile as assistant high school track coach, Patty Bergum-Nafts as head middle school track coach and Alane O'Dore and Hallie Spoklie-Luoma as assistant middle school track coaches. Corie Mydland made a motion to offer contracts for track coaches as recommended. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

### **Superintendent/Principal/Business Manager Reports**

Patty Bergum-Nafts reported on AD activities. After discussion, the trustees decided not to allow 6<sup>th</sup> graders to participate in track this season. Mr. Bermes reported that transgender issues are covered under Title IX. He reviewed enrollment numbers for February count day, legislative activity, Russ Salo attending an asbestos workshop and the risk management workshop tomorrow for some classified staff. He is gathering information for the next bus purchase. He reviewed the letter from OPI regarding too much money in the Lunch Fund and the fix that was implemented and accepted by OPI. He discussed the parental right to refuse Smarter Balance testing for their children and options for the district, reorganizing the AD position and was given permission to pursue a cross country co-op with Columbus for next year. After discussion, the trustees decided not to travel to Three Forks for pre-season basketball games and look for games closer to home. Mr. Bermes will be attending the Day of Advocacy in Helena. One option for an additional vehicle may be a small 15 passenger bus with handicap access.

Mrs. Vukonich reviewed items on the HS/MS Principal's Report. Topics discussed were dual credit for college classes, an assembly/speaker about drinking and driving, the upcoming tour of the Montana Rescue Mission in Billings, the status of seniors and Valentine Day fundraising activities.

Ev Fischer explained problems with the Foxie Lady software update for activity accounting.

**Items for the next agenda – March 9, 2015 at 7 p.m. – Regular Meeting**

- Item #1 Bus purchase
- Item #2 Reorganizing the AD position
- Item #3 Cross Country sports co-op with Columbus
- Item #4 Plasma cutter demo by Chad Massar
- Item #5 Superintendent applicant review meeting at 6 p.m.

The next regular board meeting will be held on March 9, 2015 at 7 p.m. in the Library.

Dawn Blain made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Clinton Kramer seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Approved 3-9-2015

Clerk Sheryl Roberts

Chairman Arvin L. Stone