

Board of Trustees Special Meeting – April 27, 2020

The Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a special meeting on April 27, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom call. Board Members present were Melvin Stene, Justin Oswald, Sharon Songstad, Dawn Blain, Doug Whitehead, Kathy Grewell and Dave Schaible. Also present were Allison Evertz, Superintendent, Clark Begger, K-8 Principal, and Felicia Smith, Clerk/Business Manager. Visitors in attendance were: Jennifer Simons, Monica Salo, Samantha Anttila, Hallie Spoklie-Luoma, Christine Bergum, Danielle Sullivan, Rachel Herrington, Crystal Wright, Jenny Stone, Karen McKay, John Counter, Stacie Nardinger, Gloria Hardy, Jodi Milton, Brice Turk, Jenny Ingraham, Shay Lind, Paige Smith, Mandi Hernandez, Heather Wilkerson, Jana Bredding, Julie Nelson, Kayleen Torbert, Linda Mickle, Lucy Jensen, Molly Shoenleben, Marcie Peters, Marilyn Vukonich, Marriah Anderson, Mary Koon, Melissa Oswald, Michelle Carpenter, Patty Bergum-Nafts, Rachel Schlemmer, Robin Kirby, Ruby Sanford, Sue Anderson, Tanya Dvarishkis, Terra Rockhold Stene, Toni Atkins, Tori Peek, Hallie Rowlison, Rod Biorn, Carly May, Ali Nardinger, Brenda Wetstein, Mike Creeden, Blaise Lodermeier, Amber McQuillan, Ashley Engelke, Dakota Mitchem, Hal Ward, Dale Limberhand, Betty Grewell, Diann Ozburn, Cynde Cole, Carol Sherman, Lynn Kramer, and Chad Massar.

Melvin Stene called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Stene welcomed guests, explained procedure and asked for public comment to be made utilizing the form provided.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion, Mike Creeden offered public comment on the upcoming election. The motion was unanimously carried.

IV. New Business

- a. On Campus School Closure and Extension of Unforeseen Emergency – Mr. Whitehead informed the Board of the current state of the COVID-19 health crisis. The Governor’s order closing schools expires on May 7, 2020. School districts must decide on a local level if on campus instruction will begin on May 8, 2020 under the guidelines for the phased reopening of Montana. Superintendent Evertz explained the guidelines for social distancing, group size, food distribution and transportation.

Justin Oswald made a motion to declare an unforeseen emergency within the meaning of that term as set forth in Title 20, Chapter 9, Part 8, to become immediately effective and to continue through June 30, 2020. This motion is based on COVID-19 risks: in recognition that the Governor’s waiver of student instruction time will expire on May 7; and in recognition that the Governor’s April 22, 2020 Directive implicating Executive orders 2-2020 and 3-2020 specify that elected school boards and their districts that adopt their own declaration of emergency will continue to receive all state funding, including transportation funding. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion, Carly May offered public comment in favor of the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

- b. Policy Adoption – In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board of Trustees has found it necessary to adopt temporary policies related to emergency school closures, ongoing educational services, meetings, human resource and budgeting matters. Below are the policies related to 1900 Series COVID-19 Emergency Policies.

Policy 1900 – COVID-19 Emergency Policies including purpose of the policies and term of COVID-19 Emergency Measures Policies.

Dawn Blain made a motion to adopt Policy 1900. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Policy 1901 – The provision in the emergency policies adopted by the Board of Trustees as codified at 1900-1999 in the district policy manual will govern in the event of any conflict or inconsistency between an emergency policy and other provision in the district policy manual.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to adopt Policy 1901. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Policy 1903 – Physical meetings, gatherings, and events held on school property shall be limited to outdoor areas. Vulnerable individuals must not attend School District meetings, gatherings, or events.

Dawn Blain made a motion to adopt Policy 1903. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Policy 1904 – The Board of Trustees authorizes the following expenditures of its FY2020 budgeted transportation funds that are in addition to traditionally authorized expenditures: transportation of food and meals; purchase of food safety equipment; providing accessibility to student services for remote learning; providing instructional materials to students; cost of instructional materials, supplies and software licenses; cost of technological equipment needed for offsite instruction; cost of correspondence study; costs of providing services to students with an IEP or 504; costs of time off or repurposed time for staff normally paid from the transportation fund; costs to contractors of transportation services.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to adopt Policy 1904. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Policy 1905 – The School District has adopted protocols regarding: Symptoms of Illness; Physical Distancing (Option 1); Masks as Personal Protective Equipment (Option 2); Cleaning and Disinfecting; Healthy Hand Hygiene Behavior; Vulnerable Individuals; Food Preparation and Meal Service; Public Awareness; Confidentiality; Transfer of Funds for Safety Purposes.

Dave Schaible made a motion to adopt Policy 1905. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Policy 1906 – The School District has adopted protocols to govern during the term of the declared public health emergency to ensure the delivery of education services to students. Offsite and Online Instructional Setting; Proficiency-Based Learning; Special Education and Accommodation; Student Attendance; Student Safety and Counseling; Homeless Students and Students in Foster Care; Student Discipline; Summer School.

Dawn Blain made a motion to adopt Policy 1906. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Policy 1906P – Proficiency Based learning and ANB calculations.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to adopt Policy 1906P. Doug Whitehead seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Policy 1907 – School District Declaration of Emergency

Dawn Blain made a motion to adopt Policy 1907. Dave Schaible seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Policy 1909 – Human Resources and Personnel; Work Schedule and Assignment for Certified Staff; Work Schedule and Assignment for Classified Staff; Personal Conduct; Student Services; Compensation and Benefits; Evaluation of Staff.

Dawn Blain made a motion to adopt Policy 1909. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Policy 1910 – Personnel Use of Leave; District Leave; Federal Law Controls of Federal Leave Provisions; Emergency Paid Sick Leave; Emergency Family Medical Leave.

Dave Schaible made a motion to adopt Policy 1910. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Policy 1911 – School District Budget Adoption, Amendment and Audit

Kathy Grewell made a motion to adopt Policy 1911. Dave Schaible seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.


Policy 1912 – School District Elections Rescheduled Due to Emergency.

Justin Oswald made a motion to adopt Policy 1912. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

V. Adjournment

Dave Schaible made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Approved 05/11/2020

Chairman 

Clerk 