

## **Board of Trustees Regular Meeting –March 19, 2024**

The Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a regular meeting on March 19, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the Joliet School Library. Board Members present were Dawn Blain, Amanda Dinsdale, Ken Adams, Kelly Carrington, Jason Stene and Karin Williams. Also present were Clark Begger, Superintendent; Mandi Hernandez, MS/HS Principal; Joey Richert, K1-5 Principal; and Felicia Smith, Business Manager/Clerk. Visitors in attendance were: Tammie Grewell, Kayla Cline, Maliyah Bradley, Hal Lewis and Stacie Nardinger.

Dawn Blain called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Blain welcomed guests, explained procedure and asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

### **III. Reports**

- a. Student Council – Maliyah Bradley updated the Board on the High School fun day which was held March 14<sup>th</sup> with 60 students participating. The Council is working on new ideas for next year; volunteering at the community play; end of the year activities; graduation cap decorating; and the video announcements. Jason Stene asked about the makeup of the Council, and Mrs. Hernandez stated that it was comprised of Seniors.
- b. Food Service – Mr. Begger stated that Ms. Smith had a family emergency and could not be at the Board meeting. She will come at a later date. He did update the Board on beef donations the school has received.
- c. Elementary Principal – Mr. Richert updated the Board on the February SOAR assembly; IATs; Read Across America; Dr. Seuss's Birthday; March Madness Book Bracket; End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter; Parent/Teacher Conferences; and Testing.
- d. MS/HS Principal – Mrs. Hernandez updated the Board on middle school mini courses; high school fun day; MS Soar Assembly; Pi Day and Mrs. Milton getting pies to the face; District music for band, choir, solos and ensembles; SAT and ACT for Juniors; State FFA; BPA Carnival; MCTM results; EMS teaching first aid to middle school; MS ethnic potluck; BPA state results (6 going to nationals, 2 state champions); tri-county honor band on March 6<sup>th</sup>; community scholarships; WCTM; HS biomechanics day on April 4<sup>th</sup>; NAEP testing; and an enrollment update (11 new students within the last 3 weeks).

**IV. Consent Agenda:** Claim Warrants ACH 99638-99636 & checks 51383-51439, voided checks; Payroll Warrants ACH 84599-84524 & 64036-64113; Activity ACH, transfers, and checks 17279-17322; Minutes: 02/20/2024 board meeting. Ken Adams made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Jason Stene seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

### **V. Action Items**

#### **A. New Business**

1. 2024-25 Academic Calendar – The calendar committee has met and provided three options, which were voted on by the staff. Superintendent Begger is recommending that Calendar B be adopted for the 2024-25 school year.

Amanda Dinsdale made a motion to approve Option B for the 2024-25 academic calendar. Karin Williams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

2. Personnel

Resignations – Karen McKay has tendered her resignation/retirement. Superintendent Begger recommended that the Board accept the resignation/retirement of Karen McKay.

Karin Williams made a motion to accept the resignation/retirement of Karen McKay. Jason Stene seconded the motion. The Board wanted administration to convey their appreciation to Ms. McKay. There was no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

Cynde Cole has tendered her resignation/retirement. Superintendent Begger recommended that the Board accept the resignation/retirement of Cynde Cole.

Jason Stene made a motion to accept the resignation/retirement of Cynde Cole. Ken Adams seconded the motion. The Board wanted administration to convey their appreciation to Ms. Cole. There was no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

Ashley Russell has tendered her resignation. Superintendent Begger recommended that the Board accept the resignation of Ashley Russell.

Ken Adams made a motion to accept the resignation of Ashley Russell. Karin Williams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

Superintendent Begger recommend re-hire of all tenured teachers in the District. Current tenured teachers are: Patricia Bergum-Nafts, Kendall Denham, Emily Fanus, Kristen Goodwin, Gloria Hardy, Kevin Kriskovich, Shay Lind, Jodi Milton, Stacie Nardinger, Alane O’Dore, Marcie Peters, Kaleb Price, Hallie Spoklie-Luoma, Kayleen Torbert, Brice Turk, George Warburton, and Colette Webber.

Kelly Carrington made a motion to re-hire all of the tenured teachers, who are: Patricia Bergum-Nafts, Kendall Denham, Emily Fanus, Kristen Goodwin, Gloria Hardy, Kevin Kriskovich, Shay Lind, Jodi Milton, Stacie Nardinger, Alane O’Dore, Marcie Peters, Kaleb Price, Hallie Spoklie-Luoma, Kayleen Torbert, Brice Turk, George Warburton and Colette Webber for the 2024-25 school year. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

Superintendent Begger recommend hiring of Isaac Fritz as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year. This will be the 4<sup>th</sup> (tenure) contract for Mr. Fritz.

Kelly Carrington made a motion to approve the hiring of Isaac Fritz as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year. Ken Adams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was carried yea: 5 (Blain, Dinsdale, Adams, Carrington, Williams), nay: 1 (Stene) (B).

Superintendent Begger recommend hiring of Ahnna Goodrich as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year.

Amanda Dinsdale made a motion to approve the hiring of Ahnna Goodrich as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

Superintendent Begger recommend hiring of Cailen Herriford as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year. This will be the 4<sup>th</sup> (tenure) contract for Ms. Herriford.

Kelly Carrington made a motion to approve the hiring of Cailen Herriford as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year. Karin Williams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

Superintendent Begger recommend hiring of Tracy MacArthur as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year. This will be the 4<sup>th</sup> (tenure) contract for Ms. MacArthur.

Karin Williams made a motion to approve the hiring of Tracy MacArthur as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year. Ken Adams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

Superintendent Begger recommend hiring of Brandy Mettes as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year.

Kelly Carrington made a motion to approve the hiring of Brandy Mettes as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year. Jason Stene seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

Superintendent Begger recommend hiring of Ashley Nelson as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year.

Ken Adams made a motion to approve the hiring of Ashely Nelson as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year. Amanda Dinsdale seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

Superintendent Begger recommend hiring of Darci Posey as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year.

Jason Stene made a motion to approve the hiring of Darci Posey as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year. Kelly Carrington seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

Superintendent Begger recommend hiring of Chalee Richart as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year.

Karin Williams made a motion to approve the hiring of Chalee Richart as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year. Kelly Carrington seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

Superintendent Begger recommend hiring of Callie Atkinson as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year. This will be the 4<sup>th</sup> (tenure) contract for Ms. Atkinson.

Jason Stene made a motion to approve the hiring of Callie Atkinson as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year. Amanda Dinsdale seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

Superintendent Begger recommend hiring of Salina Koerper as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year.

Karin Williams made a motion to approve the hiring of Salina Koerper as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year. Kelly Carrington seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

Superintendent Begger recommend hiring of Nathan Oren as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year.

Amanda Dinsdale made a motion to approve the hiring of Nathan Oren as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year. Karin Williams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

Superintendent Begger recommend hiring of Hunter Yordsilp as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year.

Kelly Carrington made a motion to approve the hiring of Hunter Yordsilp as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year. Ken Adams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

Superintendent Begger recommend hiring of John Counter as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year.

Ken Adams made a motion to approve the hiring of John Counter as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was carried yeas: 5 (Blain, Dinsdale, Adams, Carrington, Stene), nays: 1 (Williams) (B).

Superintendent Begger recommend hiring of Issa Sharpe as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year.

Jason Stene made a motion to approve the hiring of Issa Sharpe as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year. Kelly Carrington seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

Superintendent Begger recommend hiring of Jacob Morgan as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year.

Karin Williams made a motion to approve the hiring of Jacob Morgan as a teacher for the 2024-25 school year. Ken Adams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

Superintendent Begger recommend hiring of Maria Stringari as a teacher and the FFA advisor for the 2024-25 school year.

Jason Stene made a motion to approve the hiring of Maria Stringari as a teacher and the FFA advisor for the 2024-25 school year. Karin Williams seconded the motion. Ken Adams asked about the date Ms. Stringari will begin as a long term sub, and if Ms. Carpenter will stay on to help with the transition. Mr. Begger stated Ms. Stringari will begin in April after her student teaching in completed, and Ms. Carpenter will help with the transition. There was no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

Superintendent Begger asked that the hiring of Colt Milton as an assistant high school track coach be tabled at this time.

Amanda Dinsdale made a motion to table the hiring of Colt Milton as an assistant high school track coach. Kelly Carrington seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (H).

Superintendent Begger recommend hiring of Ahnna Goodrich as an assistant middle school track coach for the 2024 season.

Amanda Dinsdale made a motion to approve the hiring of Ahnna Goodrich as an assistant middle school track coach for the 2024 season. Ken Adams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 5-0 (E).

Superintendent Begger recommend hiring of Jodi Milton as National Honor Society Advisor for the remainder of the 2024-25 school year.

Karin Williams made a motion to approve the hiring of Jodi Milton as the National Honor Society Advisor for the remainder of the 2024-25 school year. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. Amanda Dinsdale asked if the advisor could be a parent. Mrs. Hernandez stated that it was co-curricular and part of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, so it needed to be a teacher. Ken Adams commented on the NHS program. Jason Stene asked if students had any input in the selection of advisors. Mrs. Hernandez stated that it is the responsibility of the hiring committee to interview applicants. She stated that if students wanted input, they could approach a teacher and ask them to apply. Public comment: Hal Lewis recommended against the hire. The motion was carried yea: 5 (Blain, Dinsdale, Adams, Carrington, Williams), nay: 1 (Stene) (B) (H).

Superintendent Begger recommend hiring of Scott Dove as a bus driver.

Jason Stene made a motion to approve the hiring of Scott Dove as a bus driver. Ken Adams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

Resolution of Intent to Impose an Increase in Levies – State law requires school districts to provide notice to the public of its intent to increase permissive (non-voted) levies in the ensuing fiscal year. The Resolution of Intent was provided to the Board. This notice provides estimates of expected increases and/or decreases, and the impact of those on taxpayers. The notice must be published by March 31, 2024. These are estimates only, and final numbers will not be available until FY24 books are closed and we receive tax valuation numbers from the State in August.

Ken Adams made a motion to approve the Resolution of Intent to Impose an Increase in Elementary Levies. Amanda Dinsdale seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 5-0 (E).

Kelly Carrington made a motion to approve the Resolution of Intent to Impose an Increase in High School Levies. Karin Williams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (H).

**B. Unfinished Business**

1. Policy – In light of discussion held at the policy committee and full board levels, the following policies are grouped into a single motion because they had unanimous support at the first reading.

Second Reading of Policy 5223 — Personal Conduct – The Policy Committee reviewed this policy on January 16, 2024 Committee Chair Dinsdale updated the Board on the Committee’s discussion.

Jason Stene made a motion to approve the second reading of Policy 5223. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 6-0 (B).

**VI. Discussion/Informational Items** – Mr. Begger provided the Board with the following information: Facilities Master Plan (request for qualifications for an owner’s rep to assist with master planning and Modular Classroom Lease); Review Building Reserve Levy Ballot Language; Review Building Reserve Informational Flyer; Maintenance Logs; Enrollment Update; Kindergarten Roundup; Targeted Intervention; Out-of-District Process; Hiring/Staffing Update; Accreditation Update; 02/13/2024 Hiring Committee Minutes; 02/13/2024 Negotiations Committee Minutes; 02/20/2024 Facilities Committee Minutes; 02/20/2024 Budget Committee Minutes; 02/28/2024 Hiring Committee Minutes; Superintendent’s Schedule; Board Clerk Evaluation Tool & Process (evaluations are due to the Board Chair by April 5<sup>th</sup>).

**VII. Correspondence** – Lois & Curtis Lorash Family Donation

**VIII. Suggested Topics for Next Agenda:**  
Administrative Contract Renewals

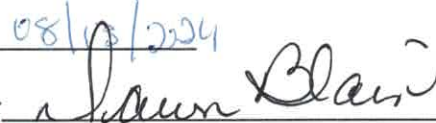
Consideration of Summer School Teachers  
Review Certified Ballot  
Board Clerk Evaluation  
Review Preliminary Budget Data  
Potential Ratification of CBA with JTA  
Classified Staff Vacation Payout  
Nepotism Hire

**IX. Next Board Meeting Date**

Regular Board Meeting – April 16, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

**X. Adjournment**

Ms. Blain adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Approved 08/15/2024  
Board Chair 

Clerk 