

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – June 8, 2020

The Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a regular meeting on June 8, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Joliet School Library and was broadcast via Zoom. Board Members present were Melvin Stene, Justin Oswald, Sharon Songstad, Dawn Blain, Doug Whitehead, and Kathy Grewell. Also present were Allison Evertz, Superintendent, Felicia Smith, District Clerk/Business Manager and Marlaina Myers, Administrative Assistant. Visitors in attendance were: Cynde Cole, Brian Frank, Adam Milligan, Mike Creeden, Rockwood Frank, Emmet Peabody and Ethan Boone.

Melvin Stene called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Stene welcomed guests, explained procedure and asked for public comment. Mike Creeden apologized for the disruption caused during last month's Board meeting.

Doug Whitehead made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

IV. Reports

- a. BPA Presentation – Mrs. Cole is the advisor for the BPA students and asked the web design team to make a presentation of the project they did for their state competition. The presenters were Rockwood Frank, Emmett Peabody and Ethan Boone.
- b. Milligan Data – Mr. Milligan did a presentation to the Board regarding compilation of school data in order to provide a better overall picture of budget data, student information, staff statistics, payroll expenditures, absences and enrollment data. The project is on a voluntary basis and would be free for the district until Mr. Milligan feels he has the software in place, which will be approximately 2022.
- c. Building Report – A building report was provided in the Board packet for review.

V. Correspondence – Correspondence was provided to the Board.

VI. Unfinished Business

- a. Summer School Update – Summer school is running June 8 through June 26, Monday through Friday, 9 am to 12 noon. Patty Bergum-Nafts has offered to teach along with Kevin Kriskovich due to the high numbers of students.
- b. High Performance Floors – The refinishing of the gym floors will begin August 3rd. The gym will be closed from August 1st through August 13th to allow for the project to be completed. MHSA rules prohibit open gym seasons from August 1st through the first official practice, so the timing is perfect for floor refinishing. Fall sports will hopefully start back on August 14th per the MHSA calendar.

VII. New Business

- a. Joliet Little League – The Joliet Little League has provided the approved guidelines and restrictions for playing baseball during the COVID-19, phase 2. The League was only able to field their machine pitch baseball team this year due to parent/player withdrawals resulting from COVID-19 issues and associated scheduling difficulties. Their games started June 1st and they will finish early to mid-July.

- b. COVID-19 Gym Use MOU for Athletes/Coaches – The purpose of the Memorandum of Understanding is to outline policies and procedures while guiding gym usage during summer 2020. Only Joliet athletes and their coaches will be permitted access at this time and must agree to the terms, sanitation expectations and open gym schedule for Joliet teams. There are 20 terms of use and seven terms for sanitation. The District prioritizes the strength and well-being of its student athletes and have thus granted access to the weight room, gym and football fields during the summer per the MOU. Each coach will need to sign the MOU as we continue to keep students and coaches safe.

Justin Oswald made a motion to approve temporary Memorandum of Understanding for gym usage while in the COVID-19, phase 2. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- c. Contingency Planning Task Force – The District needs to find a way to reopen this fall in a way that adapts to the challenges posed by COVID-19. Joliet Administration proposes the development of a contingency planning committee for reopening in the fall. At the state and legislative level, we are being told that this will likely be a blended model with potential for localized 14 to 28 day rolling closures triggered by new outbreaks. Accommodations will be needed for teachers, administrators, school staff and students who may be at heightened risk from COVID-19 because of their age or other health conditions.

Board members who volunteered for the Task Force were: Dawn Blain, Doug Whitehead and Melvin Stene.

- d. School Potential Site for Immunization Clinic – Carbon County Public Health is looking toward the fall and mass immunization clinics for influenza and possibly the new COVID-19 vaccine. Due to its central location and access to all citizens, the Carbon County Nurse reached out to the administration to see about the possibility of using the old gym for 1-2 days for the immunization clinic.

Dawn Blain made a motion to approve the use of the old gym for the Carbon County Public Health immunization clinic, if the County Nurse cannot utilize the Joliet Community Center. The school will put stipulations for use and sanitation in place for the use of the building. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- e. Coaches and Advisory Handbook Revisions – The District's athletic directors and administration met on May 26th to update the handbook. Suggested changes were provided to the Board, notably coach and sponsor checklists, guidelines for program staffing, the formality of fundraising, chain of command and public relations.

Justin Oswald made a motion to approve the first reading of the revisions to the Coaches and Advisor Handbook. Doug Whitehead seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- f. Payroll Liability Checking Account – The Carbon County Treasurer has asked that each school district in Carbon County open their own checking account for payroll liabilities. Effective July 1, 2020 the Carbon County Treasurer's payroll liability account will no longer be available for school districts to utilize.

Justin Oswald made a motion to approve the resolution authorizing the administration to open a checking account at the Bank of Joliet for payroll liabilities. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- g. Ballot Certification – At the April Board Meeting, the agenda indicated that a certified ballot would be reviewed. However, the Carbon County Superintendent of Schools cancelled all school elections the Friday prior to that meeting. A resolution was made on April 22, 2020 calling for the new election for Elementary Trustees to be held July 7, 2020. All deadlines have passed for submission of required forms for individuals to run for trustee and the Election Administrator certified the ballot on June 5, 2020. A certified ballot was provided to the Board for its review.

- h. Fund Transfer Authority – At the end of the fiscal year, the District typically transfers money between funds in order to stay within MCA guidelines.

Justin Oswald made a motion to authorize administration to transfer fiscal year 2019-20 cash balances. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- i. Tech Levy Update – The IT contractor, Administration and Business Manager met on June 2nd to assess District technology needs and to review remaining funds in the tech levy. The IT contractor inventoried the classrooms, and the team prioritized accordingly. We have aligned levy spending to the 5-year tech plan.

One of the tech levy allocations was for replacement of the phone system, which was installed in 1998. The District is seeing an increase in problems with the phone system, and because of its age, it is difficult to find parts or even a technician to make repairs. During various training sessions, multiple communication teams have stressed the importance of having a better, more proactive communication plan in place. The outdated PA system and phone system are actually a safety concern from a communication standpoint. The District could/should pay for the phone system through an SB213 safety and security transfer from another allowable fund since it is a safety issue. This would free up money for more Chromebooks and technology purchases, which will benefit our educational goals for students.

By updating our emergency response system throughout the school, it will empower the district to provide a more proactive and rapid approach to address potential security threats and alleviate any concerns of administration, staff and students regarding safety. Bids are currently being sought to replace the current phone system.

- j. MHSA Reopening Sports/Summer Activities Guidance – During their May Executive Board Meeting, MHSA provided documentation for reopening sports in the fall and provided guidance for summer activities. A copy was provided to the Board.

- k. MTDA Interlocal Agreement – Montana Digital Academy and Joliet School District wish to set forth a cooperative framework under which the resources and capabilities of both entities can be effectively brought to bear in providing District students with distance learning opportunities as described in MCA 20-7-1201.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement between MTDA and Joliet Public School for the 2020-21 school year. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

VIII. Personnel

a. Resignations

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board accept the resignation of Ben Herrington from his teaching position effective immediately.

Justin Oswald made a motion to accept the resignation of Ben Herrington effective immediately. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

b. Hiring

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of John Counter as the Co-Athletic Director (MS/HS) for the 2020-21 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire John Counter as the Co-Athletic Director (MS/HS) for the 2020-21 school year. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Kaleb Price as the assistant cross country coach for the 2020-21 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Kaleb Price as the assistant cross country coach for the 2020-21 school year. Doug Whitehead seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Patty Bergum-Nafts as a summer school teacher for the 2020 summer session.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to hire Patty Bergum-Nafts as a summer school teacher for the 2020 summer session. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Kendall Denham as the girls' varsity basketball coach for the 2020-21 school year.

Justin Oswald made a motion to hire Kendall Denham as the girls' varsity basketball coach for the 2020-21 school year. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

c. Classified Staff

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Marriah Anderson as a paraprofessional for the 2020-21 school year.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to hire Marriah Anderson as a paraprofessional for the 2020-21 school year. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Nicole Juhnke as a paraprofessional for the 2020-21 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Nicole Juhnke as a paraprofessional for the 2020-21 school year. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Brenda Wetstein as a paraprofessional for the 2020-21 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Brenda Wetstein as a paraprofessional for the 2020-21 school year. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Cherish Wetstein as a paraprofessional for the 2020-21 school year.

Justin Oswald made a motion to hire Cherish Wetstein as a paraprofessional for the 2020-21 school year. Kathy Grewell seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Aly Nardinger as an elementary instructional aide for the 2020-21 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Aly Nardinger as an elementary instructional aide for the 2020-21 school year. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Christine Bergum as a custodian for the 2020-21 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Christine Bergum as a custodian for the 2020-21 school year. Doug Whitehead seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Rebecca Bergum as a custodian for the 2020-21 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Rebecca Bergum as a custodian for the 2020-21 school year. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Tammy Taylor as a custodian for the 2020-21 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Tammy Taylor as a custodian for the 2020-21 school year. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Beth Dereuhagen as a custodian for the 2020-21 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Beth Dereuhagen as a custodian for the 2020-21 school year. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Dale Limberhand as the assistant facility manager for the 2020-21 school year.

Doug Whitehead made a motion to hire Dale Limberhand as the assistant facility manager for the 2020-21 school year. Kathy Grewell seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Russ Salo as the facility manager for the 2020-21 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Russ Salo as the facility manager for the 2020-21 school year. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Rodney Biorn as a morning and afternoon route driver for the 2020-21 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Rodney Biorn as a morning and afternoon route driver for the 2020-21 school year. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Sandy Matlock as a morning and afternoon route driver for the 2020-21 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Sandy Matlock as a morning and afternoon route driver for the 2020-21 school year. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Terri Morrison as a morning and afternoon route driver for the 2020-21 school year.

Justin Oswald made a motion to hire Terri Morrison as a morning and afternoon route driver for the 2020-21 school year. Doug Whitehead seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Sam Smith as a morning and afternoon route driver for the 2020-21 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Sam Smith as a morning and afternoon route driver for the 2020-21 school year. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Diann Ozburn as a morning and afternoon route driver for the 2020-21 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Diann Ozburn as a morning and afternoon route driver for the 2020-21 school year. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Brenda Lelevier as the Head Nutrition Specialist for the 2020-21 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Brenda Lelevier as the Head Nutrition Specialist for the 2020-21 school year. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Amber Lemoine as a Nutrition Specialist for the 2020-21 school year.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to hire Amber Lemoine as a Nutrition Specialist for the 2020-21 school year. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Laura Smith as a Nutrition Specialist for the 2020-21 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Laura Smith as a Nutrition Specialist for the 2020-21 school year. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

IX. Superintendent/Principal/Business Manager Reports

Superintendent – Ms. Evertz advised the Board on: the application for CARES money; certified discipline data; flexibility task force; NEW award application; fire suppression systems.

Principal – Mr. Begger provided the Board an update in the packet on happenings in the Elementary and Middle School for summer school; kindergarten roundup, standards-based grading, PAX training; Unlocking the Reading Code training; and textbook adoption for math curriculum.

Business Manager – Ms. Smith provided the Board with reports of all claims paid, payroll disbursements, and a financial statement. Ballots will be mailed to voters between June 17th and June 22nd for the Elementary Trustee election on July 7, 2020.

X. Items for Next Agenda

Handbook Revisions
Canvassing of the election results
Reorganization of the Board
Roof Bids

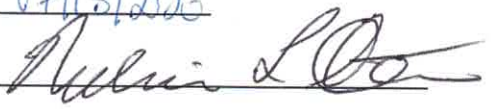
XI. Next Board Meeting Date

The next regular Board meeting will be held July 13, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Joliet School Library.

XII. Adjournment

Justin Oswald made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Approved 07/13/2020

Chairman 

Clerk 