

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – April 13, 2020

The Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a regular meeting on April 13, 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, District Clerk/Business Manager. Visitors in attendance were: Krystal Zentner, Lynn Kramer, Melissa Oswald, Brice Turk, Christine Bergum, Dakota Mitchem, Brenda Wetstein, Rachel Schlemmer, Hallie Spoklie-Luoma, Jennifer Simons, Stacie Nardinger, Terra Rockold Stene, Amber O'Rourke, Monica Salo, Carly May, Marlaina Myers, Samantha Anttila, Misty Donnelly, Brooke Miller, Candace Dworshak, Emily Fanus, Nikki Easthouse, Linda Mickle, Michelle Carpenter, Ashley Engelke and Dale Limberhand.

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.

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

IV. Reports

- a. Building Report – A building report was provided in the Board packet for review. Superintendent Evertz discussed the items during the meeting, including work the maintenance and custodial staff have been completing during the school closure.

V. Correspondence – Correspondence was provided to the Board.

VI. Unfinished Business

- a. Surveillance Cameras – The District has multiple cameras currently, but they are outdated. Cameras are used on a regular basis to deter and reduce theft, loss and vandalism. The cameras are also helpful during investigations, when there is an altercation and students' perceptions vary. The Board was provided quotes by Kenco and ComTech.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to approve the ComTech camera system bid of \$34,883.00 for installation before June 30, 2020. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

VII. New Business

- a. Resolution to Dispose of Property – There are several items that have outlived their usefulness in the District or have been stored unnecessarily in a state of disrepair. With storage limitations on campus, it is advantageous to open these items up to the community. Items include: drinking fountains, ice machine, hot water heaters, gas pump, computers, printers, sound shells, floor tarps, balls, stage panels, arc welder, pottery wheel, parts washer, air compressor, carpet remnants, bike helmets, balance beam, and old scoreboards.

Dawn Blain made a motion to approve the Resolution to Dispose of School Property. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion, and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- b. Spraying Contract – The Board was provided information on a more competitive spraying contract with Wright Company for fertilization and weed control which is approximately \$1,040 less than the current contract.

Justin Oswald made a motion to approve the Wright Company services for the summer 2020 season. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- c. Temporary COVID-19 Policies – The Board was provided information regarding Policy 3310, 3225, 3226, 3122, 5121, 5223 and 5255 regarding student conduct, student discipline and staff conduct, and privacy under FERPA during the COVID-19 crisis.
- d. Summer School – Joliet Elementary usually offers summer school to K-8 students who require extra academic time. The summer session is tentatively planned from June 9 through June 26 from 9 am to Noon, Monday through Friday. Teachers would be paid for 4 hour per day (3 hours for direct instruction and 1 hour for planning). Total days for the session would be 15, and have a stipend of \$1,700. Two teachers may be needed for this summer if more than 10 students require summer school.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to approve two summer school positions for 2020. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- e. JPS Donation to the Scholarship Fund – The district makes an annual donation to the Scholarship Fund. In past years, each District has contributed \$1,000 each to the Fund.

Sharon Songstad made a motion for Joliet Elementary School to donate \$1,000 to the 2020 Joliet Scholarship Fund. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Kathy Grewell made a motion for Joliet High School to donate \$1,000 to the 2020 Joliet Scholarship Fund. Dave Schaible seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- f. Certified Ballot Review: This items was tabled due to the April 9, 2020 Order from the County Superintendent of Schools cancelling all Carbon County School Elections.
- g. MHSA Spring Activities Update: The Board was provided information on the status of spring activities in relation to the Governor’s Shelter-in-Place order. MHSA is continually monitoring the status of any potential return to school and the impact that would have on any potential return to spring activities.
- h. Authorization for Off-Site Instruction – The Joliet District is continuing to take necessary steps to protect itself if the Governor does not waive financial penalties for districts falling short of aggregate hours of instruction due to the COVID-19 closure. By Order of the Governor, the district has been providing offsite instruction. The Board must authorize the Joliet Administration to provide offsite instruction to ensure that our district can continue to serve students and satisfy the aggregate hours of instruction through distance learning.

Dawn Blain made a motion to authorize the Joliet Administration to provide offsite instruction as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Kathy Grewell seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- i. Authorization to Determine Proficiency – The Joliet District is continuing to take necessary steps to protect itself if the Governor does not waive financial penalties for districts falling short of aggregate hour of instruction due to the COVID-19 closure. The Board must authorize the Joliet Administration to determine proficiency of students in the district. This authorization will ensure that we do not have to meet the aggregate hours of instruction for those students in the district who are proficient. This is another layer of protection for the District if a compliance audit occurs, and we are short aggregate hours of instruction required by law.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to authorize the Joliet Administration to determine proficiency as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Doug Whitehead seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- j. Joliet Action Plan for Extended Closure – The Board of Trustees and Joliet Administration convened virtually via Zoom on March 25, 2020 to go over an Action Plan drafted for the Governor’s office. On March 31, 2020, the Governor announced approval of all 401 School District COVID-19 Plans, waiving rules to allow school funding to continue for all Montana public schools during school closure directives.
- k. CARES Act School Emergency Relief Funding – Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act – OPI must distribute 90% based on the Title I formula for FY 2019 and will provide the remaining 10% to all operating EL/HS districts to ensure that Districts that are not Title I receive a minimum of \$10,000. Joliet Elementary is estimated to receive \$23,278 and Joliet High School is estimated to receive \$10,313.

VIII. Personnel

a. Resignations

Supt. Evertz recommend that the Board accept the resignation of Samantha Anttila effective June 30, 2020.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to accept the resignation of Samantha Anttila effective June 30, 2020. 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 Kendall Denham for the 2020-21 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to hire Kendall Denham 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 Emily Fanus for the 2020-21 school year.

Justin Oswald made a motion to hire Emily Fanus 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 renewal of John Counter’s teaching contract for the 2020-21 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to renew John Counter 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 renewal of Jenny Ingraham's teaching contract for the 2020-21 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to renew Jenny Ingraham 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 renewal of Shay Lind's teaching contract for the 2020-21 school year.

Justin Oswald made a motion to renew Shay Lind 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 renewal of Jodi Milton's teaching contract for the 2020-21 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to renew Jodi Milton 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 renewal of Sydney Nelson's teaching contract for the 2020-21 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to renew Sydney Nelson 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 renewal of Molly Shoenleben's teaching contract for the 2020-21 school year.

Justin Oswald made a motion to renew Molly Shoenleben 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 renewal of Judy Smith's teaching contract as half time teacher for the 2020-21 school year.

Justin Oswald made a motion to renew Judy Smith as half time teacher for the 2020-21 school year. Dave Schaible seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the renewal of Paige Smith's teaching contract for the 2020-21 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion renew Paige Smith 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 renewal of Crystal Wright's teaching contract for the 2020-21 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to renew Crystal Wright 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 renewal of Cynde Cole's teaching contract for the 2020-21 school year.

Dawn Blain made a motion to renew Cindy Cole 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 renewal of the following tenured teachers' contracts for the 2020-21 school year: Lucy Jensen, Alane O'Dore, Carol Sherman, Kayleen Torbert and Colette Weber. Hallie Spoklie-Luoma's name is added to this list per the Order from the arbitrator.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to renew the following tenured teachers' contracts for the 2020-21 school year: Lucy Jensen, Alane O'Dore, Carol Sherman, Kayleen Torbert and Colette Weber. Hallie Spoklie-Luoma's name is added to this list per the Order from the arbitrator. 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 renewal of the following tenured teachers' contracts for the 2020-21 school year: Rachel Herrington, Brice Turk and George Warburton.

Justin Oswald made a motion to renew the following tenured teachers' contracts for the 2020-21 school year: Rachel Herrington, Brice Turk and George Warburton. 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 renewal of the following tenured teachers' contracts for the 2020-21 school year: Ben Herrington, Mary Koon, Kevin Kriskovich, Chad Massar, Karen McKay, Stacy Nardinger and Marcie Peters.

Dave Schaible made a motion to renew the following tenured teachers' contracts for the 2020-21 school year: Ben Herrington, Mary Koon, Kevin Kriskovich, Chad Massar, Karen McKay, Stacy Nardinger and Marcie Peters. 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 Nicole Juhnke as summer help for the 2020 summer season.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to hire Nicole Juhnke as summer help for the 2020 summer season. Justin Oswald 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: reclassification from B to C; this being a huge gap year without all the standardized testing; graduation discussions (public comment was offered by Melissa Oswald); lunch program participation.

Principal – Mr. Begger updated the Board on happenings in the Elementary and Middle School for distance learning 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.

X. Items for Next Agenda

Classified and Coaching Contracts
Adam Milligan School Data Presentation
BPA Presentation
Expedition EL
Administrative Contracts
Accreditation Review
Interquest Detection Canines

XI. Next Board Meeting Date

The next regular Board meeting will be held May 11, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Joliet School Library.

XII. Adjournment

Kathy Grewell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Approved 05/11/2020

Clerk 

Chairman 