REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
TOWNSEND SCHOOLS K-12 DISTRICT #1
LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 08, 2020 6:00 PM

ATTENDANCE

The regular meeting of the trustees of Townsend Schools was held on this date with the following board members present: Todd Olson, Shaun Scott, Vanessa Flynn, Jason Noyes, (Kevin McDonnell – absent) and others: Shane Swandal, Brad Racht, Christina Hartmann, Sheri Heavrin, Erik Wilkerson (virtually) and Pam Watson.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Noyes called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm and allowed for public comment.

CHANGES TO AGENDA

Jason explained that the policy review will be tabled until Supt. Wilkerson and Mr. McDonnell return. Also, the Elementary Building project item will be moved to the beginning.

ELEMENTARY BUILDING PROJECT

Shane Swandal stated that the first new boiler is working well. The second boiler will be replaced sometime in January. He stated that the project team has met with the city council about 2nd Street. He felt that the council was in favor of the plan. The first two lanes will be parking. There will be a one way out to Pine Street. Mr. Swandal asked the design team to expand the PA System to the high school as an alternate. He also asked the design team to bid the lights in the Middle School as an alternate. He stated that the steel stud framing is a worry as he is not sure that they will get a lot of bids. He suggested putting that portion out as an RFP to get a firm to commit early instead of waiting for the bidding process. He stated that it appears that around $600,000 needs to be cut out of the budget. The team is working on it.

INITIAL REOPENING

Superintendent Wilkerson reported on the initial reopening plan. The Board discussed early outs, crisis hours, Acellus sub, work load, aggregate hours, remote learning, and 1900 policies. After more discussion about early out days, Superintendent Wilkerson will look into the logistics of early out days to assist the teachers. The tentative plan is to try to have once a week early out days in January as a trial plan.

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS

Superintendent Wilkerson reported on the Superintendent position. Todd Olson stated that the Board decided that the search will be conducted by the Board.

Todd Olson made a motion to approve the consent agenda items.

APPROVE MINUTES

- November 10, 2020 Regular Meeting minutes.

APPROVE BILLS

- December Claims (#27767 - #27813 for $188,405.95).

Shaun Scott seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Todd Olson stated that he inquired about paying a special "Hazard Pay" to employees under the Cares Act. After further research, it was noted that there may be a "Hazard Pay" from the Cares Act. He stated that all employees have stepped up to provide additional duties due to COVID-19. The District has determined approximately 87 full time employees and approximately 7 half-time employees to be paid a $500 (full-time) and $250 (part-time) one-time "Hazard Pay". Todd Olson made a motion to approve the Essential Worker Hazard Duty Payment as presented and direct the Superintendent and District Clerk to distribute those payments on or before December 11, 2020. Vanessa Flynn seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Jason Noyes thanked Mr. Olson for pursuing this issue and thanked Supt. Wilkerson and Clerk Watson for clarifying the ability to do so. Mr. Noyes also thanked the staff for the extra work put forth during the Covid-19 pandemic.

ESSENTIAL WORKER PAYMENT

Shaun Scott made a motion to approve the proposed increase in MTSBA dues as presented. Vanessa Flynn seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

MTSBA DUES

Todd Olson made a motion to approve the Superintendent's Job Description as presented with allowing for procedural web links to be added. Shaun Scott seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

SUPERINTENDENT JOB DESCRIPTION

Todd Olson made a motion to approve the hire of Andrea Rice, Josh Leonard, and Sara Tiffany as a Substitute Teachers for 2020-2021 pending successful background checks. Shaun Scott seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

HIRE SUBSTITUTE

Shaun Scott made a motion to approve the continuation of the hire of Suzanne Neal – Paraprofessional for the remainder of the school year and Alison Ferreira - Paraprofessional for the remainder of the current school year. Vanessa Flynn seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

HIRE PARAPROFESSIONAL

Shaun Scott made a motion to approve the hire continuation of Laurie Czech and Danielle Douglas – Food Services for the remainder of the current school year. Vanessa Flynn seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

HIRE KITCHEN AIDES

The Board postponed the consideration of all policy except 4218.

POLICY

Shaun Scott made a motion to approve the changes to **Policy 4218 – Title I Parent Involvement** on first reading. Vanessa Flynn seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

POLICY

Elementary Principal Brad Racht reported on: Acellus students, quarantine numbers, holiday concert status, and chromebook situation.

EL/MS PRINCIPAL REPORT

High School Principal Sheri Heavrin reported on: mid-quarter update, COVID-19 challenges, Winter activities, and upcoming activities.

HS PRINCIPAL REPORT

Superintendent Erik Wilkerson reported on: boiler issues and enrollment.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

There was some discussion on the Superintendent Search. Mr. Noyes again expressed his Thanks to all staff, teachers, and administration for their work during Covid-19.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

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Jason Noyes – Chairman Pam Watson – District Clerk