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## **Regular Meeting of the Trustees of School District #3**

**Thursday, November 12, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Blue Creek School District #3 was held Thursday evening, November 12, 2020 conducted via Zoom. Chair Megan Loveridge called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Members present: Megan Loveridge, Leslie Friedel, Rachel Meech & Kara Landry. Absent: Phil Pimley A quorum was present.

Administrator Cathi Rude and Clerk Joan Iverson were present for the entire meeting.

Guests: Jesi Lofstrom, Nicole Menholt and Amanda Bechtold.

### **Adjustments to the Agenda**

None

### **Correspondence**

None

### **REPORTS**

#### **1. Enrollment**

Administrator Cathi Rude reported the current enrollment at 178 students.

#### **2. Community Ed Report**

MJ Dimich was not in attendance.

#### **3. Staff Report**

Jesi Lofstrom is assigned as a Special Education Paraprofessional. Jesi shared her background experience as a paraprofessional in California before coming to Blue Creek. She reported that she enjoys working with some of our most challenging students by building relationships, adapting lessons at the moment to fit the needs of the students, and staying calm under pressure. Administrator Rude expressed that Jesi is an integral part of Blue Creek School and shared that Jesi was honored in January 2020 as Montana Paraeducator of the Year. Jesi also serves as a member of our Safety Committee and reviewed the updated version of our Emergency Drill Procedures and Flip Chart with Trustees.

Nicole Menholt is assigned as a Paraprofessional and is in her 5<sup>th</sup> year at Blue Creek School. She has worked in a variety of capacities throughout the building and reported that she enjoys each one. Nicole is a valued member of our car unloading and loading team and this year welcomes our Kindergarteners to the building each morning. Throughout the day she assists with reading, language and math in intermediate classrooms. Nicole also works with other students in small groups, helps in the lunchroom and covers recess duties.

Amanda Bechtold is assigned to the 5th/6th grade combination class this year and also teaches the 5th & 6th grade science curriculum. She shared her homeroom online virtual “bulletin” board that she developed using Padlet. It is a secure platform for sharing and collaborating and allows her to safely share her classroom with students and families. In Science, she is utilizing PLTW (Project Lead the Way) lessons with both the 5th grade and 6<sup>th</sup> grades. The 5<sup>th</sup> graders are learning about robotics and the 6<sup>th</sup> graders are learning about energy transmission. Amanda also reported that the ANTS (Audubon Naturalists in the Schools) program the 5<sup>th</sup> graders are participating in through the Montana Audubon Education Center is going well.

#### **4. Clerk & Business Report**

Business Manager, Roger Heimbigner reported that of the funds received in the first round of COVID relief money, we have \$9,500 to be used before 12/31/2020. We have not spent any of the 2nd round of ESSER funds and have until 9/2022 to do so. Our Fall enrollment numbers were down which will have an impact on our budget.

#### **5. Administration Report**

Administrator Cathi Rude reported the following:

1. Weekly meetings with John Felton, Yellowstone County Public Health Officer, and other area Superintendents continue to be very productive with insightful collaboration and shared discussions. COVID numbers are holding steady for schools. Some area schools are experiencing the need to temporarily switch to distance learning due to staffing issues and a few are conducting COVID tests on students and staff. Administrator Rude has been in contact with counsel, Jeff Weldon for input on this issue.
2. Parent/teacher conferences looked different this year. The virtual format worked nicely for staff & families and conferences were well attended. Administrator Rude recognized the extra efforts and dedication of Blue Creek Staff in making this happen.
3. Administrator Rude reported that Community Education classes will be put on hold after November 25<sup>th</sup>. Cathi reported she has reviewed with Community Education Director, MJ Dimich that this hold time provides an excellent opportunity for updating the website and community member contact list, as well as taking the time to explore training options on how to offer virtual classes.

#### **6. & 7. Consent Agenda**

Rachel Meech moved, seconded by Leslie Friedel to approve the minutes of October 8, 2020 and approval of bills. Motion passed unanimously.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **8. Survey & Assessment of Park Lot regarding Park Land**

Trustee Meech and Trustee Friedel reported that the Survey and Appraisal of the Parking Lot regarding Park Land are complete and shared both with the Board. The Appraised value is \$10,800. Business Manager Roger Heimbigner discussed funding options for the Board.

Administrator Rude recommended the Board move to authorize the Superintendent to work with legal counsel and the County to create a draft purchase agreement and related documents, which will be brought back to the Board for final approval. Kara Landry moved, seconded by Rachel Meech to approve the recommendation as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **9. Policy Review**

The Board was to review the 6000 series (Administration), 7000 series (Financial Management) and 8000 series (Noninstructional Operations) following the regular board meeting. Policy review is on hold for now due to health conditions and the conduciveness to do a review via Zoom. Review to be revisited in December or January.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **10. Stipends**

Administrator Rude presented the following stipends for the 2020-2021 school year:

Extended Studies \$1200 ~ Jennifer Wagner

RESPECT/Drug Free Program ~

-Lori Grusing \$400.00

-Kaylene Hall \$300.00

Yearbook ~

-Claire Gieser \$200.00

-Heather Mehelich \$200.00

Technology Assistant ~ Robin Thompson \$3000.00

Administrator Rude recommended the Board move to approve the stipends for the 2020-2021 school year. Leslie Friedel moved, seconded by Rachel Meech to approve the motion as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**11. School Safety Plan**

The School Safety Plan needs to be approved each year. In conjunction with MCA 20-1-401 and OPI, districts must demonstrate “Trustee approved School Safety Plans”. This is also addressed in Board Policy 8301. The safety committee reviews the plan each year and makes recommendations as needed. The Emergency Drill Procedures & flip chart were reviewed earlier in the meeting. Kara Landry moved, seconded by Rachel Meech to approve the Blue Creek Schools Safety Plan & Procedures as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**12. Date and Time of Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting is December 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

**Adjourn**

Kara Landry moved, seconded by Leslie Friedel to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

Time of Adjournment: 7:29 p.m.

Board Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Attest: Clerk \_\_\_\_\_