

### **Preliminary Business**

#### **Call to Order**

Board Chair Pam Glenn called the Regular March Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. She welcomed visitors Nicholle Arnoldus, Tony Haddock, Tim Phelps and Zoe Brown.

#### **Consent Agenda**

Following a brief question regarding a payment to Raka Construction and MG Trust Company, Kaiger Braseth moved to approve the minutes and bills paid as presented. Ken Patterson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

### **Reports**

#### **InterMountain ESD Talking Points**

Superintendent Hislop read the IMESD Talking Points which highlighted the sense of optimism as the mask mandate will be lifted on March 31<sup>st</sup> and the state of emergency will be lifted on April 1<sup>st</sup>. These changes will require modifications to the RSSL reflective of the local decision-making and coordination with local health authorities.

#### **Transportation/Maintenance Report**

Drew Williams reported that they continue to be short a driver but fortunately Mr. Mills, Chrissy Wilhelm and Mr. Cant have been helping out. He reported that Schetcky needs to come and look at Bus 28 and he has been working on getting Bus 27 ready for use. Tires have been replaced and it just needs to be serviced.

Mr. Williams reported that we have not heard anything from the insurance company regarding the locker room issue. PACE did complete the pressure tank inspection and it went well.

#### **Principal/Activity Report**

Mr. Mills provided the principal/activity report. It was reported that the FFA State Convention was taking place this week in Redmond with 46 students participating. The FBLA State Conference is scheduled for April 7-9 in Portland with 23 participants. Band students are heading to North Powder to participate in EOSSMA day. At this event, students will work with a guest conductor and participate in a big band at the end of the day.

Mr. Mills reported that grades are due in the office the Monday following spring break. Parent/teacher conferences are scheduled for Wednesday evening and all day and evening Thursday. Track season has begun with the first high school meet on Friday in Harper. There are 35 high school track athletes and 37 junior high participants. There are no golf participants this year.

#### **Superintendent Report**

Superintendent Hislop reported that Garrett Burns won the district wrestling championship at 126# and went on to win the state championship; his third state championship. Mr. Hislop noted that Classified Appreciation Week was celebrated March 7 - 11 and he expressed his appreciation for the professional level of our classified employees.

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Superintendent Hislop reported that he had signed an agreement for technology services with IMESD. The contract amount is a significant increase over the current year's contract. Increased wages, additional levels of support, and an increased level of cyber security are contributing factors to the increased contract amount.

Brian Wolf of PACE Insurance met with Mr. Hislop and Kaiger Braseth to inspect the high school locker room. He took several pictures and stated he would send the information to the PACE adjuster who will be in contact with us.

Superintendent Hislop reported that the CRDC report has been completed and certified. He also informed the Board that Barry Bowers will serve on the Mathematics Curriculum Selection Committee.

J.D. Cant arrived at 7:08 pm and Mauri and Anita Delint arrived at 7:10 pm.

**Report**

Zoe Brown presented her Advanced Ag Speech which focused on Initiative Petition 13. This initiative, that criminalizes animal management, would be devastating to the state of Oregon. Ms. Brown's speech was very informative and the Board asked several questions upon the conclusion to help her prepare for the upcoming state competition.

**Old Business**

**Facility Update**

The locker room issues had been discussed earlier in the meeting. Drew Williams reported that he had issues with several heaters and had All Air come and take a look at the issues. He noted that they are waiting for parts to repair the high school gym heater. He also reported that the thermostat in the kitchen will need to be relocated as it is directly above the stove.

Kaiger Braseth reported that he had reached out to Kyle Evans of Wheatland Insurance to follow up with the possibility of the locker room issues being covered.

**New Business**

**Travel and Meal Reimbursement Costs**

Due to the increased fuel costs, the mileage and meal reimbursement rates were reviewed. The current mileage rate is .52 per mile while the federal rate is currently .585 per mile. Meal reimbursement rates are currently \$10 for breakfast and lunch and \$15 for dinner. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that both meal and mileage rates need to be adjusted.

**La Grande Bus Route Discussion**

Due to increased fuel costs, Superintendent Hislop suggested the Board consider consolidating the La Grande bus routes. It was noted that, prior to COVID, there was only one bus for the La Grande route. There are currently 50-60 kids that ride the route daily. Where it is only a 15-20 minute route, it was determined that only one bus would run the La Grande route for the remainder of the year.

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**Action Items**

**Approve 2022-23 Personnel Recommendations**

Kaiger Braseth moved to approve the 2022-23 Personnel Recommendations pending adequate funding. Jason Beck seconded the motion, which was unanimously passed.

**Approve Staff Resignation**

Superintendent Hislop presented a letter of resignation from Jennifer Teeter. Mrs. Teeter has accepted a position as an instructional coach with the IMESD. Her schedule will allow her to continue coaching volleyball. She expressed her gratitude for the support she has received from coworkers, administration and the Imbler community over the past several years and noted that she felt privileged to work as part of the Imbler School District. Joe Fisher reluctantly moved to approve the resignation. Ken Patterson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**Approve Staff Hiring**

Mr. Mills recommended the hiring of Brandon McGilvray and Talia Whitmore as Junior High Track Coach and Asst. High School/Junior High Track Coach respectively. He reported he was happy to have two qualified staff members interested in these positions. Ken Patterson moved to approve the hires as presented. Joe Fisher seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Pam Glenn abstained from the vote due to a conflict of interest.

**Approve travel and Meal Reimbursement Increase**

Ken Patterson moved to approve the increase of the per diem meal rate as follows; Breakfast - \$15, Lunch - \$15 and Dinner - \$20. He also moved to increase the mileage rate to remain consistent with the federal reimbursement rate, currently .585 per mile. Jason Beck seconded the motion, which was unanimously passed.

**Good of the Order**

Prior to adjournment, Boad Chair Pam Glenn asked if there were any other questions or comments from those present. Anita DeLint asked if the Board was still considering a four-day week. She noted that her kids are very active and have activities that make Fridays difficult for attendance and would be in favor of a four-day week. Ken Patterson noted that discussions surrounding a four-day week had taken a back seat due to the COVID issues the district was faced with this year. However, the Board stated they would be willing to consider it in the future. It was noted that the calendar has already been created for the upcoming school year. A lengthy discussion ensued. The Board also felt that it would be best to have the new superintendent involved in the discussions and allow parents the opportunity for input.

Joe Fisher reported that he had met with Bruce Kevan, local OSBA Legislative Policy Committee member, via Zoom. He asked for any specific topics that the Board would like him to work on.

**Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

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**Members Present**

Jason Beck, Kaiger Braseth, Joe Fisher, Pam Glenn, and Ken Patterson.

**Others Present**

Doug Hislop, Superintendent; Michael Mills, Principal/A.D.; and Teresa Dewey, Deputy Clerk.

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Chairman

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Deputy Clerk