

**SCHOOL DISTRICT 52
ENNIS, MADISON COUNTY, MONTANA
OCTOBER 13, 2021**

REGULAR BOARD MEETING 5:30 P.M.

Meeting was held in person and via zoom

Karen Ketchu	Chairperson
Andrew Henrich	Vice-Chair – via zoom
Halley Perry	Trustee – via zoom
Dino Fanelli	Trustee
Kyle Stone	Trustee
Mellissa Newman	Principal
Brian Hilton	Principal
Casey Klasna	Superintendent
Ginger Martello	District Clerk

Chairperson Ketchu called the meeting to order. The pledge to the flag was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for the regular meeting held September 13th and special meetings held September 29th were submitted for approval. Trustee Fanelli made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Trustee Stone seconded the motion. All trustees present were in approval.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Qualman	Claude Mulholland	Jamie Diehl	Laura Blake
Pat Noack	Kyle Severeid	Emily Doyle	Amanda Harris
Brenda Glines	Justin Edge	Mariah Oliver	Sophia Rogers
Chelsea Huyser	Cathy Huyser	Kyle Boling	Lindsay DeGroot
Shylea Wingard	Kristy Ranson	Lisa Roberts	Marci Whitehurst

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

Chairperson Ketchu received a lot of positive feedback regarding parent teacher conferences.

PRINCIPAL REPORTS

Mellissa Newman

See Attached

Brian Hilton
See Attached

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

School Staffing Discussion

Superintendent Klasna informed the board we have an amazing staff that goes above and beyond when needed. We are still short staffed in the custodial and bus driver areas. Unfortunately, we have had to occasionally cancel a route due to the driver shortage. We will also be losing a route driver at the end of October, which could result in more cancellations. Two student workers have been helping after school in the custodial area and we haven't had much interest in the paraprofessional position.

OLD BUSINESS

Consideration to Revise Safe Return to School Plan

The last meeting the board approved new quarantine procedures. This means household close contacts will be quarantined and other contacts can attend school unless they show symptoms. Students or parents of close contacts can still quarantine through the county and not be counted against them. Letters of exposure will be sent to students. The district will continue to be aggressive in cleaning protocols and testing. Discussion included how to handle symptomatic students, isolate until pick up, number of active cases, why the county is involved with self-quarantined families, the county provides a symptom tracker, attendance policy allows consideration for covid leave, communicating with parents, rapid tests, boundaries for testing family members, testing when not symptomatic, using resources and nurse time for unnecessary testing, turnaround time for state testing results, changing the format for delivery of covid information, etc.

Consideration to Add Bob Burkhart to the Substitute Staff List

Superintendent Klasna recommended hiring Bob Burkhart as a substitute teacher. He is a retired educator and will be a good addition to the staff. Trustee Perry made a motion to hire Bob Burkhart as presented pending a favorable background check. Trustee Fanelli seconded the motion. All members present were in approval.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration to Hire Speech and Drama Coaches

Kaylee Clemmons is recommended for the Head Speech and Drama position. She has experience as a student and advisor. Marci Whitehurst is recommended for the Assistant Speech and Drama position, who also has experience. Trustee Perry made a motion to hire Kaylee Clemmons and Marci Whitehurst pending favorable background checks. Trustee Stone seconded the motion. All members present were in favor.

Consideration to Hire JH Girls' Basketball Coaches

Mike Speck is recommended for the Head JH Girls' Basketball position. He has experience and is excellent with kids. Martha Stoner is recommended for the Assistant JH Girls' Basketball position, who also has experience. Trustee Stone made a motion to

hire Mike Speck and Martha Stoner pending favorable background checks. Trustee Fanelli seconded the motion. All members present were in approval.

Consideration to Approve New Scholarship Account

The district was approached by a donor that would like to offer a scholarship in Jack Reints' name for \$2,000 per year for five years. Trustee Fanelli made a motion to approve the new scholarship account as presented. Trustee Stone seconded the motion. All members present were in approval.

Review Draft Bond Election Resolution Language

The board held a work session with Dorsey Whitney, DA Davidson, and Steve Johnson regarding the bond process. Dan Semmens, Dorsey Whitney, provided a draft bond resolution for the board to review. Discussion included language to broaden scope of work, improvements to the 50-acre parcel, backup generator, flexibility in language, cost to taxpayers compared to other schools, more clarity in the language, timeline to approve resolution, school used for emergencies, mailing information to voters, etc. Superintendent Klasna asked to board to email any questions or comments in the next week so he can forward them to Mr. Semmens so he can revise the language for the next meeting.

Consideration to Approve Superintendent Evaluation Tool

Superintendent Klasna explained one of the most important duties of the trustees is to hire and evaluate the superintendent and clerk. He provided several templates for superintendent evaluations and prefers #5 and #6. The goal is to find a tool that works for both entities. Typically, the superintendent is evaluated in December or January. Chairperson Ketchu asked Superintendent Klasna to narrow down the evaluation forms as he has a stake in the process. The board will review both forms and discuss them at the next meeting.

Consideration to Approve TR-1 Bus Routes

The TR1 – Bus Routes forms were presented for approval. This form shows eligible riders, size of bus and length of route. An eligible rider is anyone residing more than 3 miles from a bus stop. Trustee Henrich made a motion to approve the TR1 forms as presented. Trustee Stone seconded the motion. All members present were in approval.

Review Fall ANB Count

The fall ANB count was presented to the board. Attendance is counted in October and February and these numbers dictate the general fund budget. Fall count is 411 students which puts us at an 8.5% increase in enrollment.

Discussion on Board Communication

Chairperson Ketchu felt the board could do a better job with communications if they were on the same page and she realized they weren't after Trustee Fanelli's editorial. Superintendent Klasna felt the public does not understand that the board adopts policy, not administration. Some community members have felt strongly about changing policy and he has directed them to the board as this is their duty. Trustee Fanelli explained he

was not speaking for the board in his editorial, but the board creates policy and staff shouldn't be attacked for it. Chairperson Ketchu felt it is part of administration's job to hear comments from the public, but she felt the board has different opinions on this matter. She said they also must refrain from talking about issues outside the board setting as more than 2 members forms a quorum. Trustee Henrich agreed it was good to know all the fine lines. Trustee Stone was frustrated with the nasty emails the school has been receiving. The board are the decision makers and administration needs to be able to focus on educating our students and deal with day to day operations. Public comment is not a question-and-answer period, if they have questions follow policy and channel them in the right direction. Chairperson Ketchu said she agreed to disagree on some points and how much the board should be involved.

CLAIMS

September activity claims were presented, as well as September warrant listings and preliminary October claims by fund for board approval. Trustee Fanelli made a motion to approve the listings as presented. Trustee Perry seconded the motion. All trustees present were in approval.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for November 10, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. As there was no other business for the attention of the board, the regular meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

ATTEST

Ginger Martello, District Clerk

Karen Ketchu, Chairperson

Date Approved