

**SCHOOL DISTRICT 52
ENNIS, MADISON COUNTY, MONTANA
NOVEMBER 10, 2021**

REGULAR BOARD MEETING 5:30 P.M.

Meeting was held in person and via zoom

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

Vice-Chair Henrich called the meeting to order. The pledge to the flag was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for the regular meeting held October 13th were submitted for approval. Trustee Stone made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Trustee Perry seconded the motion. All trustees present were in approval.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Qualman	Jamie Diehl	Whitney Lake	John Scully
Tammy Wham	Kyle Boling	Jenny Brozovich	Brenda Glines
Pam Birkeland	Shelby Kottal	Dahlia Rolfe	Mariah Oliver
Kaddi Lohrenz	Bailey Croy	Wendy McKitrick	Mike Speck
Chelsea Huyser	Kristi Ranson	J. Fanelli	

Whitney Lake

Whitney Lake welcomes the building project and felt the district has an opportunity to capitalize on solar energy. He offered his service and knowledge on this subject.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

The board received a thank you from the volleyball coaches expressing their gratitude for all the support they received.

AD REPORT

Tabled

IT REPORT

Mr. Swanson presented his duties to the board. The district rotates staff devices every three years and has been repurposing the old laptops to the sixth grade and into a laptop cart. The question is where does the district stop one on one devices and at what grade level is basic keyboarding knowledge done? The district just purchased fifty Chromebooks, twenty for one-on-one student use and thirty will be on a portable laptop cart. The junior high lab was updated last summer, and those computers were repurposed to classrooms.

PRINCIPAL REPORTS

Mellissa Newman

See Attached

Brian Hilton

See Attached

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

School Staffing Discussion

Staffing continues to be an issue even with increasing the starting wage for bus drivers and custodians. We lost one driver and could potentially lose another one, which could result in closing a route. The custodial department is also short staffed. The kitchen department has four employees and need more help. This October they served 1,000 more lunches than last October. The staff is working longer, and Tim O'Connell is helping during the lunch hour to help cover the additional meals. There are a couple of components to the additional meals, we have more students, and the meals are free this year. Tammy Wham informed the board another staff member at 17 hours per week would substantially help. She can't lift more than 10 lbs. and the rest of the staff is also physically exhausted. She also doesn't see the free meals going away. An additional person will cut down overtime and they would be able to help with freight and do more of the heavy lifting. Superintendent Klasna explained we have a shortage of sub staff so there are times only three are working. Maybe the district can do a volunteer drive. The lunchroom is a great environment. The trustees asked Superintendent to pursue the position in the lunchroom at seventeen hours to see what it could look like.

OLD BUSINESS

Consideration to Revise Safe Return to School Plan

Superintendent Klasna said this item is on every agenda and he has no recommendation for changes. The district continues to take the matter serious and are diligent in their protocols. The school nurse can provide rapid testing at school with parental permission.

Consideration to Revise Policy 1903

Last summer Superintendent Klasna recommended ending zoom meetings, but it was not approved. He prefers in person engagement. Trustee Fanelli asked to address this item again. It is distracting, people can't hear, and it is not very efficient. Discussion included, headache setting up, opportunities for parent to engage, logging on and off is distracting and noisy, comments in chat box, in person is better way to engage, public comment is not a debate, use the listen only mode, comments only made in person, better able to engage community on the bond resolution, important to hear tone in a voice and not in chat, making it easy for people to take the easy way out, it's a crutch to some people, etc. Superintendent Klasna recommended doing away with zoom meetings. Trustee Fanelli made a motion to stop zoom meetings. Trustee Stone seconded the motion. Public comment included, one family likes to listen as they eat dinner, some appreciate the online platform, one uses it because it is convenient and available, see both sides, provide with listen only and public comment in person, etc. Trustee Stone and Trustee Fanelli were in favor. Trustee Perry and Trustee Henrich were opposed. The motion failed.

Consideration to Approve Resolution for Bond Election for Improving School Grounds and Facility

Superintendent Klasna stated the board started this process in the Fall of 2016 with the Strategic Plan. The goal was to keep class sizes small with two teachers at each grade level, provide more electives, retain and recruit staff and accommodate student growth. We advertised for an architect in January and hired 45 Architecture in March. We hired an owner's rep, held several committee and planning meetings with staff, students and community. A survey was also provided for input. Steve Johnson worked with the architects to provide 10-year look at enrollment based on live birth data. This projection is conservative and doesn't consider new students moving to the district, new subdivision developments, etc. All these pieces were put together to come up with several designs. The first approved concept met some roadblocks so 45 Architecture went back and came up with another concept. The current facility is deficient in many areas including, no fire suppression, not ADA compliant, not up to electrical code, etc. The cost to bring the building to code would be 25 million and that would not address the need for additional classrooms. This would only be a band aid fix. The fifth grade has already moved into the junior high wing, the high school classrooms are only 700 square feet, and the acoustics are poor in the classrooms. Many of the spaces do not have natural light, we have no backup generator and administration doesn't have line of site to the parking area. Some of the questions with the new building are cost are why a 3rd gym and will local contractors be involved? Mark Qualman explained if the bond passes, it will bring a lot to the community. Local businesses can bid on the project, hotel rooms will be booked, restaurants, etc. Most likely the district will hire a construction manager at risk, who will help develop the bid packages, which will be divided into smaller packages to allow more opportunity for businesses to participate. There will be a lot of communication and board engagement in this process. The board can decide how the packages are set to bid to allow local participation. The construction manager at risk comes on to the project before schematic designs are completed so they can be sure all details are accounted for and

then provide a guaranteed maximum price to the district. The schematic design process will take 3-6 months. The board will review the numbers for the guaranteed price, which will be broke down by line item around 35-40 pages. The only thing that will change price is if the board changes the scope of the project or if there is an unforeseen circumstance. Mr. Qualman will also do a parallel estimate and recommends adding more contingency to the renovation piece due to not knowing what the district will find. Once the CMAR has all the completed bid packages the board should review them to be sure everything was fair. Trustee Fanelli made a motion to approve the bond resolution language as presented. Trustee Stone felt the board should not vote until the entire board is present since this is a 59 million project for twenty-year bond. The board agreed and set a date for a special meeting on November 16th.

Consideration to Approve Superintendent Evaluation Tool

The board reviewed the superintendent tools and chose evaluation tool #6. Trustee Perry made a motion to approve the new superintendent evaluation tool #6. Trustee Stone seconded the motion. All members present were in approval.

Discussion on Board Communications

Trustee Stone felt this needed to be discussed more from the last meeting. There seems to be a communication breakdown with the Chairperson. The trustees did not have time to discuss the packet she dropped on them at the last meeting. This will be table to next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration to Hire Basketball Coaches

Kelley Knack is recommended for the Assistant Girls' Basketball position. Trustee Perry made a motion to hire Kelley Knack as presented. Trustee Fanelli seconded the motion. Trustee Stone asked if all staff is brought to the board. Superintendent Klasna explained anyone paid or volunteering is approved by the board. All members present were in favor. Mark McClain is recommended for the Assistant Junior High Boys' Basketball position. Trustee Fanelli made a motion to hire Mark McClain as presented. Trustee Perry seconded the motion. All members present were in favor. Jon Swanson is recommended for the "C" Boys' Basketball position pending adequate numbers. Trustee Perry made a motion to hire Jon Swanson pending adequate numbers. Trustee Stone seconded the motion. All members present were in approval.

Consideration to Close Bus Route

Superintendent Klasna anticipated this as an agenda item, but we have not received a resignation yet. There is still a chance we will be forced to close a route or combine Varney and Virginia City. If we cancel, by law we will have to pay individual transportation contracts. We have had to shut down routes to cover activity driving. This item will be addressed again as needed.

Consideration to Hire Tutors and Additional Substitute Teacher

Superintendent Klasna informed the board we have a situation with a class that may need the district to provide a tutor for students. We have a recent graduate that is interested in tutoring and substitute teaching in the elementary during her winter break. Discussion included how long tutoring will be needed, when it will be done, etc. Trustee Perry made a motion to add Landri Paladichuk to the substitute staff list. Trustee Fanelli seconded the motion. All members present were in approval.

Approve First Reading Board Policies

Tabled

CLAIMS

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

The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 8, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. As there was no other business for the attention of the board, the regular meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

ATTEST

Ginger Martello, District Clerk

Karen Ketchu, Chairperson

Date Approved