

**SCHOOL DISTRICT 52
ENNIS, MADISON COUNTY, MONTANA
JANUARY 12, 2022**

REGULAR BOARD MEETING 5:30 P.M.

Meeting was held in person and via zoom

Karen Ketchu	Chairperson
Andrew Henrich	Vice-Chair
Halley Perry	Trustee
Dino Fanelli	Trustee
Kyle Stone	Trustee
Melissa 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 December 8th 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 favor.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Jamie Diehl
Maria Marzullo
Janet Dochnahl
Larua Blake
Jackie Lev

Jackie Lev, kindergarten parent and board member for ECCS, spoke to the board about the shortage of childcare facilities in the community. She would like to talk to the board next month about the district taking four-year-olds under its belt. There are several funding sources to help financially. This would open the preschool to take on more younger kids.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

None

PRINCIPAL REPORTS

Mellissa Newman

See Attachment

Brian Hilton

See Attachment

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration to Approve Science Fair Judge Request for Facial Coverings

Janet Dochnahl addressed the board on the request from the science fair judges. This event usually has 35-38 volunteer judges. This year she has 22 judges, but half will only come if the students are masked. Ms. Dochnahl has been working with Ms. Rogers on social distancing the displays, but the judges need to be near the students to interview them one on one. Superintendent Klasna said optional masks is policy, so they would need to make a motion to change the policy. Discussion included, volunteers look forward to the event, organizations donate prizes, judges and community are a valuable resource, hesitate to change mask policy, hard to space and still hear the students, judges wear the appropriate masks, wear masks only when talking to the judges, hard to hear with masks on, people lip read, hard to enforce, encourage students to wear them but not require, etc. Trustee Henrich made a motion to amend the policy to require facial coverings for one-time the science fair while judges are in the proximity of children during the interview process. Chairperson Ketchu seconded the motion. Trustee Henrich and Chairperson Ketchu were in favor. Trustee Stone, Trustee Fanelli and Trustee Perry were opposed, the motion failed. Administration will send a note to the parents of participating students requesting the students wear masks when being interviewed. Ms. Dochnahl will reach out to the judges to verify this will be enough for them to participate.

MHSA Annual Meeting Proposals

Mr. Hess presented the proposals for the annual MHSA meeting. They included amending post season profit payout, amend 9th grade transfer rule, amend 8th grade participation, amend transfer rule with family members, stop recruitment, add shot clock and allow boys' baseball as a MHSA sanctioned sport. The board agreed with Mr. Hess's recommendations. Trustee Perry made a motion for Mr. Hess to proceed with his recommendations on the MHSA proposals. Trustee Stone seconded the motion. All members present were in favor.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Bond Committee Update

Superintendent Klasna informed the board the bond committee met to discuss upcoming events. They felt an open house at the district on January 22nd from 1-3 p.m. inviting all voters to tour the school would be a great way to answer questions on the bond election. Voter pamphlets will be mailed out with an invitation to the open house. Big Sky has a game in Sheridan on the 22nd so they would be able to tour on their way to the game.

The Madisonian and Lone Peak Lookout have articles in the paper on the project. We hope it will pass, not all taxpayers directly benefit from the bond, but we hope they support public education.

OLD BUSINESS

Consideration to Approve Contract with Town of Virginia City

This item will need to be tabled. The contract provided from the Town of Virginia City was reviewed by our attorney at MTSBA and our insurance carrier at MSGIA. They had concerns with liability. We need a few more days to work with Mr. Gatewood and their attorney and we may need a special meeting next week.

NEW BUSINESS

Resignation of John Lee

Per policy Superintendent Klasna regrettably accepted John Lee's resignation effective July 1st. Mr. Lee would like to speak to the board at the February meeting. We will need to put our heads together as this will be a hard position to fill.

Resignation of Betty Klein – High School Volleyball Coach

Per policy Superintendent Klasna regrettably accepted Betty Klein's resignation as volleyball coach. She has had a great program for 24 years.

Resignation of Rachel Stevens and Laura Jensen

Rachel Stevens and Laura Jensen quit over Christmas break without 2-week notice. This has put us in a bind.

County-wide Board Meeting

This year is Ennis' turn to host the county-wide school board meeting. We will reach out to staff to showcase our school and students. This is not a legislative year so we will be looking for topics for the meeting. It is a great way to collaborate with schools in our county and share ideas. We will pick a few dates and set a schedule. The county superintendent and county commissioners are also invited to the meeting.

Consideration to Hire Jon Paisano – Summer Custodian

Jon Paisano is recommended as a summer custodian. This will put him as a 12-month employee. Trustee Henrich made a motion to hire Jon Paisano as a summer custodian. Trustee Fanelli seconded the motion. All members present were in favor.

Superintendent Evaluation – Possible Closed Session

Superintendent Klasna felt the nature of zoom meetings, not seeing his audience or knowing whose broadcasting, he would rather hold his evaluation in closed session. Chairperson Ketchu declared this discussion related to a matter of individual privacy that clearly exceeds the merits of public disclosure, therefore the meeting was closed at 6:10 p.m. The meeting was opened to the public at 6:54 p.m.

Consideration to Approve Second Reading Board Policies
Tabled

CLAIMS

December activity claims were presented, as well as December warrant listings and preliminary January 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 February 9, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. As there was no other business for the attention of the board, the regular meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

ATTEST

Ginger Martello, District Clerk

Karen Ketchu, Chairperson

Date Approved