



**Regular Meeting of the Trustees of School District #3  
Wednesday March 9, 2022**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Blue Creek School District #3 was held Wednesday evening, March 9th, 2022 at Blue Creek School. Chair Leslie Friedel called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Members present: Leslie Friedel, Rachel Meech, Phil Pimley, Kara Landry and John Fordham.

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

Guest present: Kristine Peterson, Rebekah Reger, Ketti Wiest, Lacie Tucker and Ashley Schreibeis.

**Adjustments to the Agenda**

None

**Correspondence**

None

**REPORTS**

**1. Enrollment**

Administrator Cathi Rude reported the current enrollment at 182 students.

**2. Community Ed Report**

None at this time.

**3. Staff Report**

Kristine Peterson is assigned as the 6th Grade Homeroom Teacher as well as Reading Block Teacher for 5th and 6th grades. She reported about "Writing by Design," a writing curriculum to be implemented in 2022-2023. Writing by Design focuses on the writing process as a whole and has a consistent format for K through 6th grades. Grades 4th - 6th will be the first to utilize it with other grades slated to start in 2023-2024.

Rebekah Reger is assigned as a Math Interventionist in the morning and as the Music Teacher in the afternoon. She reported she likes to make math fun and enjoys working with small groups of students. She spoke about how music helps with many content areas such as writing, reading and speaking. In the younger grades students are learning about beats, rhythms and reading music. The 4th - 6th graders are exploring musical instruments: recorders in 4th grade and strings, horns, and wind instruments in the 5th & 6th grades.

Ketti Wiest is assigned as Health Enhancement/PE for all grades and in the afternoon she is a paraprofessional. As a paraprofessional she works with a variety of students needing extra instruction or assistance. In PE she is finishing up units on jump rope and dance. She demonstrated a typical class dance activity and then had Trustees and guests join in. She also demonstrated an Irish dance and hopes to bring in a friend after Spring break so they can do a presentation for students on Irish dancing. Ketti reported that Field Day will most likely be held during our final week of the school year.

Lacie Tucker is assigned as a paraprofessional in the morning and Art Teacher for all grades in the afternoon. She shared examples of students' artwork with Trustees and spoke about the success of Family Paint Nights both in person and via video with funds raised going towards supplies for her classroom. As a paraprofessional she works with a variety of students needing extra instruction or assistance.

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

Clerk Joan Iverson discussed her plans for retiring in 2022 from the positions of District Clerk and District Secretary. District Clerk duties will conclude with the reorganization of the Board in May. Dates for the District Secretary position will be provided as they become more definite.

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

Administrator Rude reported to the Board that she and Business Manager Roger Heimbigner continue to work on budget numbers for the 2022-2023 school year.

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

Kara Landry moved, seconded by Phil Pimley to approve the minutes of February 9th, 2022, and approval of bills and check listing #3030079 to #3030160. Motion passed unanimously.

### **BUSINESS ITEMS**

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **8. Safe Return to Schools & Continuity of Services Plan**

This plan must be updated every 6 months and also be a standing Board agenda item. There have been no changes to the plan since the December 17, 2021 update. A link was provided to the BCS website for additional information.

#### **9. COVID 19 School Status update**

Administrator Rude updated the Board on the current status of Blue Creek School in regards to COVID 19. She reviewed information from the weekly public health meetings and the weekly summary spreadsheet for Blue Creek which is available on the website. Administrator Rude reported that case counts in Yellowstone County continue to decline.

#### **10. Survey & Assessment of Parking Lot regarding Park Land**

Trustee Leslie Friedel updated about progress in regards to getting this process completed. There has not been much movement this month. Previous communication from Jeff Reineking was that forms have been submitted and he is waiting on Yellowstone County for next steps.

## 11. Policy Review

Policy review is one of the important functions of a school board. The 6000, 7000 and 8000 series are being reviewed. The first reading was in November. The committee completed 6000 & 8000. Further review planned for December and February was postponed due to COVID-19 concerns and the committee being able to meet as a whole group. The first reading of the 7000 series will follow tonight's regular board meeting.

## 12. School Election

The election calendar was previously given to Trustees. Leslie Friedel's term expires in 2022. Rachel Meech and Phil Pimley in 2023. Kara Landry and John Fordham in 2024.

## 13. Personnel - Certification Update

Administrator Rude updated the board on Kari Laboulle's progress in getting her teaching license in place. Mrs. Laboulle obtained proper licensure on 2-24-2022 and subsequently registered it with the County Superintendent. Mrs. Laboulle returned to work on 2-28-2022 and was assigned to the interventionist position.

## 14. Administrator Evaluation

Executive Session (7:00 p.m.)

Chairman Leslie Friedel stated "I have determined that the next matter to come before the Board for consideration involves the superintendent evaluation. Further, the demands of individual privacy in this matter clearly exceed the merits of public disclosure. Therefore, I am declaring this portion of the meeting closed in accordance with Section 2-3-203(3)MCA".

Open Session (7:47 p.m.)

No action was taken.

## NEW BUSINESS

### 15. Calendar for 2022-2023

Administrator Rude reviewed with the Board the process in place in selecting the calendar days for a school year with considerations given to start/finish dates, SD2 calendar, PIR days, Professional Development Days, etc. She will be gathering survey input from staff and community stakeholders and have options to propose to Trustees at the April Board Meeting.

### 16. Classroom Information for 2022-2023

Administrator Cathi Rude stated that based on enrollment projections the preliminary estimates of student numbers in each grade level for 2022-2023 school are:

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Kindergarten | 13 to date - this # will increase in coming months |
| Grade 1      | 20   |
| Grade 2      | 31   |
| Grade 3      | 32   |
| Grade 4      | 22   |
| Grade 5      | 28   |
| Grade 6      | 22   |

The state cuts off class sizes:

|     |                                   |
|-----|-----------------------------------|
| K-2 | 20 students +4 requires a FT aide |
| 3-4 | 28 students +4 requires a FT aide |
| 5-6 | 30 students +4 requires a FT aide |

Different scenarios are possible.

**17. Personnel-hiring**

We have an open paraprofessional position and have had some inquiries. One Interested individual was hired in February and works two days per week. The other interested party would be three days per week thus fulfilling the paraprofessional position. Administrator Rude recommended the Board move to approve Katrina Koss in a paraprofessional position 3 x/week for 7 hours per day at \$12.00/hour for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year. John Fordham moved, seconded by Rachel Meech to approve the recommendation as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

**18. Permissive Levy Resolution**

As an essential part of the budgeting process, the Blue Creek Board of Trustees is authorized by law to impose levies to support its budget. We have had no increases in the permissive levies/non-voted permissive levies. Based on projections permissive levies should be less than the current year. A copy of the resolution was included. Administrator Rude recommended the Board move to approve the anticipated increases to SD3 permissive levies as presented. John Fordham moved, seconded by Rachel Meech to approve the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**19. Date and Time of Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, April 13th, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

**Adjourn**

Phil Pimley moved, seconded by Kara Landry to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

Time of Adjournment: 7:55 p.m.

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

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