

**SCHOOL DISTRICT 52
ENNIS, MADISON COUNTY, MONTANA
SEPTEMBER 14, 2022**

REGULAR BOARD MEETING 5:30 P.M.

Kyle Stone	Chairman
Andrew Henrich	Vice-Chair
Dino Fanelli	Trustee
Paul Bills	Trustee
Marilyn Jenkins	Trustee
Mellissa Newman	Principal
Brian Hilton	Principal
Casey Klasna	Superintendent
Ginger Martello	District Clerk

Chairman Stone called the meeting to order. The pledge to the flag was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes for the regular meeting held August 8th and special meetings held August 17th and August 29th were submitted for approval. Trustee Henrich made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Trustee Fanelli seconded the motion. All trustees present were in favor.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Jamie Diehl	Tanya Gustafson
Gary Higgins	Dahlia Rolfe
Megan Slevin	Lacy Hubner
Lindsey Graden	Twyla Swanson
Jennipher Brozovich	Betty Klein
Michael Speck	

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

The staff presented a thank you note expressing their gratitude for the staff shirts they were given at the start of the school year.

PRINCIPAL REPORTS

Mellissa Newman

See Attachment

Brian Hilton

See Attachment

NEW BUSINESS**Consideration to Approve Installation of New Football Scoreboard**

Superintendent Klasna informed the board, we started looking at options for the football scoreboard. The cost to refurbish was significant. Lehrkinds would donate a new sign and the district, or any donors would have to pay for installation and relocate it to the other end of the field. Gary Higgins, Lehrkinds representative, was in attendance to explain what the district has done in the past. The first contract was ten years for a \$10,000 scoreboard. With location of the scoreboard, it gets direct light and wind, so he felt that is the reason it has deteriorated so fast. Their company believes in schools and has done a lot for our district. Discussion included the board skips a few seconds and then catches back up, what district finances can help with the cost, time sensitive to order, reach out to donors to help with district costs, allow donors to be advertised on the sign, when installation could begin, relocating the sign, etc. The trustees asked Mr. Higgins to check on the possibility of donors being added to the sign and add this to next month's agenda.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**Discussion on Housing Initiative #1 and #2**

The cost for housing initiative #1 to date is \$30,400 and we budgeted \$45,000. There was a lot of help getting this completed and we only have some small items to finish. The district has not received anything from OPI on the ESSER amendment, so there has been no progress on initiative #2. Chairman Stone has also reached out to OPI and received a quick response and then nothing.

OLD BUSINESS**Discussion on Bond Election**

Superintendent Klasna will pick up the trifold brochures tomorrow. The goal will be to mail them to Big Sky voters and have the bulk mailing out by Friday. The board met with Big Sky voters on Monday, with less than a favorable turnout. The Big Sky explorer also run an article in their paper. The board felt the meeting in Big Sky went well. We listened to their concerns and explained our position on regarding the bond and TEDD. The board discussed dates for a contractor meeting and discussion with stakeholders on this side of the mountain. Boards will be distributed to high traffic areas, but not saturated through the community. We will also look at presenting to several community groups.

Discussion on Long Range Plan for District Owned Land

The district held a work session with the hospital, county and city to discuss how we could work together toward workforce housing that benefits all entities. Discussion included Melinda Merrill conducting a CMA for district property at no charge, county accessing grants, trade of land for services with the city for a well, housing needed for recruitment and retention of staff, develop a strategy to tie to the strategic plan, etc. This was high-

level discussion with nothing determined. The board felt it should be put on hold until after the bond election.

Consideration to Revise Fourth Quarter School Calendar

Superintendent Klasna explained we have struggled to fill positions and a four-day week may be more enticing. We need to meet accreditation hours, so this would need to be looked at before changes can be made. Trustee Bills met with Ms. Newman, Mr. Speck and Mr. Overstreet to discuss a change for fourth quarter. The issue is that hours for 4th and 5th grade are the same as high school students. Mr. Hilton explained that 4th and 5th grade have recess so that time is not considered instructional time, along with the calendar reduced to 176 days, there is not much wiggle room. He would like to see the committee tackle the four-day week next year. Discussion included committee input needed, retain and recruit teachers, what test scores look like for schools with the 4 day week, accreditation hours are different for depending on age groups, classified contracts already in place this year, certain positions would have reduced hours, extend school day, reduce vacation days, get parent input, child care for Fridays, athletics scheduled away from weekdays, shortage of officials, parents adapted during Covid shut down, less substitutes, students miss less school, less staff absence for activities, another day to recover, spring absences are high, curriculum still covered as the accreditation hours will be the same, some students not getting meals on Fridays, have other schools present to the district and parents, retention skills, student left unattended at home, etc. Trustee Bills said he did not realize what it would take to change for the fourth quarter and recommended not doing anything this year but start looking at this for next year. The board agreed.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration to Hire Para-Professional

Lisa Hall is recommended for the para-professional position. She just moved her and has grandchildren in school. We have interviewed her, checked references and feel she will be a good fit. Trustee Bills made a motion to hire Lisa Hall pending favorable background check. Trustee Fanelli seconded the motion. All present were in favor.

Discussion on Employing a Licensed Mental Health Counselor

Superintendent Klasna explained the district needs a mental health counselor. We have school counselors, unfortunately, they are not qualified to manage the needs of many of our students. The district used Altacare in the past, but they have shut down due to a shortage of staff. Discussion included the staff are exhausted dealing with some high need students, the district has several intense cases, unable to predict when things will happen, district has an individual interested in the position, how to handle Medicaid billing, cost for position, fund through ESSER and building reserve sub fund, have to be the right fit, need to advertise the position, special education department taking on more of these students and not qualified to help, lose staff without more support, etc. The board directed Superintendent Klasna to pursue the position and report back to the board.

CLAIMS

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

The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. As there was no other business for the attention of the board, the regular meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

ATTEST

Ginger Martello, District Clerk

Kyle Stone, Chairman

Date Approved