

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

REGULAR BOARD MEETING 5:30 P.M.

Kyle Stone	Chairman
Andrew Henrich	Vice-Chair
Dino Fanelli	Trustee - late
Paul Bills	Trustee
Marilyn Jenkins	Trustee
Melissa 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 November 16th were submitted for approval. Trustee Jenkins made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Trustee Henrich seconded the motion. All trustees present were in favor.

VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Jamie Diehl	John Scully
Dahlia Rolfe	Twyla Swanson
Jessie Rice	Kayla Burton
Lacey Hubner	

John Scully presented a thank you card for John and Sally Lee. He stated they have done extraordinary things for the district, students, parents and community. He felt this agenda had a lot of important items on it and encouraged the board to meet with counsel for training on TEDD procedures. Mr. Scully felt this legislative session could bring important changes regarding how a TEDD is created that will affect the district. He also encouraged the board to hold off negotiating with the teachers until the district knows what the legislature will approve for school funding. The last thing he felt needed to be done when running the technology levy is the district to show the community the impact of technology and how it drives student success.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

None

PRINCIPAL REPORTS

Melissa Newman

See Attachment

Brian Hilton

See Attachment

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

TEDD Discussion

Superintendent Klasna and a couple of trustees attended a meeting on Tax Economic Development Districts (TEDD's). The presenter was from Butte and her take on this item didn't address how it affects entities outside the TEDD. Jeff Weldon will come and present information to the board on procedures to form a TEDD and impacts on the district. The board directed Superintendent Klasna to set a date with Jeff Weldon for January 4th or 9th.

Discussion on Housing Initiative #2

Housing initiative #2 will be constructed on the vacant school property next to the preschool using ESSER III money and flex fund. Chairman Stone explained an architect will have to approve the plans. He reached out to Mr. Grigsby who is no longer licensed. The only other architect that called back was 45 Architecture. This would be separate from the High School Expansion project. He will meet with them on Friday and report back to the board.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration to Approve Winter Adult Education Classes and Instructors

Kayla Burton presented the winter courses and instructors for approval. Registration will begin December 28th with the session running from January 9th – March 5th. Superintendent Klasna thanked Ms. Burton for all her hard work. Trustee Bills made a motion to approve the courses and instructors as presented. Trustee Jenkins seconded the motion. All members present were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Consideration to Approve First Reading of MTDA Policy

Ms. Newman presented draft language for the student handbook for next school year which will require a second reading next month. Students cannot take online courses that are offered by the district unless a student has failed the course and can't fit it in their schedule. There will also be language addressing when the district or the student pays for the courses. Trustee Henrich said the new language opens the door for students to challenge themselves. Trustee Fanelli made a motion to approve the first reading of MTDA language changes. Trustee Henrich seconded the motion. All members present were in approval.

Discussion on Four-Day School Week

Superintendent Klasna asked the board what they wanted to do regarding a four-day school week. This topic also affects negotiations with the teachers. More and more schools are moving to the four-day week, with many Class “B” schools looking at this too. Discussion included retain and recruit teachers, reduce burn out, use surveys from other schools, don’t recreate the wheel, have other superintendents address community and board, get process going, include calendar committee, keep AD in process, schedule games on Fridays and not during the week, shortage of officials drives the schedule, better student and staff attendance, put out survey then develop calendars, explain to parents and community why this is being discussed, instructional hours will not decrease, etc. The board directed Superintendent Klasna to proceed with surveys and possibly a community forum to discuss a four-day school week.

Library Policy Committee Update

The library policy committee had a productive meeting with good feedback on a sensitive topic. Discussion included reconsideration of the policy, IT option, flag for maturity, notify parents electronically if checked out, etc. Trustee Jenkins said Mr. Hilton was a great mediator in the process.

Negotiation Committee Update

Superintendent Klasna explained the negotiation process will be tabled until the district sees what the legislative session brings for funding. There will be several funding bills and we may not have any direction until March or April. Discussion included staff lobbying for funding, hiring lobbyists, better to here from staff than lobbyist, taxable value changing, etc.

School Staff Discussion

Superintendent Klasna explained we have a long way to go to fill our vacant positions. We are better in the custodial area and have one student and another one looking at helping in this area. Bus drivers are still a big issue. The McAllister route will be the next one cancelled. We haven’t been able to find a licensed mental health counselor but have a counseling and LCPC intern starting soon. Ms. Eaton will be done next semester so we will be offering online courses for the 2nd semester.

Discussion of 45 Architecture Contract

Chairman Stone explained the board needed to decide how to move forward with failure of the bond. Go smaller, band aid fix, go third round, etc? Discussion included market not good, timing, use 45 for the housing initiative, make decision on expansion after housing is finished, board hasn’t discussed where they want to go on expansion yet, leave contract open doesn’t cost anything, discuss on the next agenda, etc.

NEW BUSINESS

Technology Levy Discussion

Superintendent Klasna informed the board this is the last year for our tech levy. Discussion included IT infrastructure, one to one devices, current levy is 222,000 (1.16 mils), access to federal funds, trend with bond failing, passing a general fund levy in conjunction with technology levy, outdated equipment and devices, digital academy,

would replace current levy so no increase to taxes, can decide later whether to run the levy, etc.

Consideration to Hire Paraprofessional

Superintendent Klasna recommended Darlene Mainwaring for the paraprofessional position. She has twenty years as a dispatcher so she can work in stressful situations. She interviewed well and references were great. She will primarily work at the secondary level. If approved she will need to give two weeks' notice to her employer. Trustee Fanelli made a motion to hire Darlene Mainwaring pending a favorable background check. Trustee Jenkins seconded the motion. All members present were in approval.

OLD BUSINESS

Litigation Strategy Session re: Kaylee Clemmons v Ennis Public Schools, HRB Case No. 0220344. This session will be closed to the public.

The meeting was closed at 7:18 p.m. as the district conducted litigation strategy and district's privacy clearly exceeded the public's right to know in this matter in accordance with section 2-3-203, MCA. The meeting reopened at 7:28 p.m.

CLAIMS

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

The next regular meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. As there was no other business for the attention of the board, the regular meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

ATTEST

Ginger Martello, District Clerk

Kyle Stone, Chairman

Date Approved