

**BOARD OF EDUCATION, THURSDAY, June 8, 2023, 6:00 p.m., MJHS Library**

The Board of Education met in regular session on **THURSDAY, June 8, 2023**, with the following members present: Mr. Crews, Mr. Gard, Mrs. Hendrix, Mr. Lycan, Mr. Macke, Mr. Maurer. Mrs. Rayhel was absent. Superintendent Mr. Ross along with administrators Mr. Ritchey, Mr. Keown, Mr. Maxwell, Mrs. Lake, Mrs. Morgan, and Mrs. Sisson, along with Mr. Grubb were also present.

Mr. Macke called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Crews led the Pledge of Allegiance.

During the public comment, a member of the public offered a prayer as did Tiffany Setzer.

The board recognized retirees Jerry Raisner, Cindy McKillop, Beth Meeker, Andy Shonk, and Jill Strohm, who were not in attendance.

The board recognized Connie Morgan for her years of service as South Elementary School Principal.

Mrs. Hendrix offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Gard, to approve the minutes, treasurer's report, and bills from the month of May. On roll call the vote was as follows: Mr. Crews, aye; Mr. Gard, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; Mr. Lycan, aye; Mr. Maurer, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye.

The administrators present, Mr. Grubb, and Mr. Ross shared their board reports.

The amended budget hearing was held. There were no comments from the public. Mrs. Hendrix offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Lycan, for the approval of the amended budget which was approved on a roll call vote as follows: Mr. Crews, aye; Mr. Gard, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; Mr. Lycan, aye; Mr. Maurer, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye.

The sealed bid opening for South Elementary Gym Roof Removal and Repair was held Monday, June 5, 1:00 p.m. There was 1 bid from Martinsville Roofing for \$70,520.00. Mrs. Hendrix offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Crews, to approve the bid from Martinsville Roofing for \$70,520.00. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Crews, aye; Mr. Gard, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; Mr. Lycan, aye; Mr. Maurer, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye.

Football reserved seating was discussed. The board decided to table any immediate decisions on the process.

The lease of an additional activity bus was approved at a cost of \$13037 per year for 5 years. Mr. Maurer offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Gard, to approve the lease on a roll call the vote was as follows: Mr. Crews, aye; Mr. Gard, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; Mr. Lycan, aye; Mr. Maurer, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye.

Health Insurance was discussed. Mr. Ross shared The sealed bid opening for Health Insurance bids is scheduled for Tuesday, June 20, 2023, 2:00 p.m. Once those bids are in hand, in cooperation with the Health Insurance Committee, we will look at

those options (we can always choose to reject all bids) vs staying in the Trust w/ the benefit as is vs. consideration of adding to the benefit in some form to continue to help weather the storm. This review will process will start with a meeting of the Health Insurance Committee (Stephanie Keown, Becky Farrell, Ashlee Crouch, and Allison Medsker, Superintendent). From there, we will need a negotiating committee (3 members) of the board and myself to work with the health insurance committee & potentially other members of the MEA (Teacher Union) to negotiate a Memorandum of Understanding on a solution. The need to negotiate derives from the potential change in plans mid-contract and also from the potential change in benefit. Ideally, a recommendation / MOU would be ready for approval for the July Board Meeting. There is always the potential need for a special board meeting in this process. A 3 person committee of the board including Mr. Macke, Mrs. Hendrix, and Mr. Gard was formed. Mr. Crews would be an alternate if needed.

The Board Policy Committee will meet at 4:30 prior to the regular board meeting on Thursday, July 13 to review PRESS policy recommendations from March and June. The full board would discuss recommendations in July and decide on those recommendations in August. The Board Policy Committee consists of Mr. Gard, Mr. Lycan, and Mr. Macke.

The District Consolidated Plan was discussed and approved. Mr. Crews offered a motion, seconded by Mrs. Hendrix. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Crews, aye; Mr. Gard, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; Mr. Lycan, aye; Mr. Maurer, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye.

The board reviewed Hazardous Conditions for Transportation. Mr. Ross shared that Section 29-3 of the School Code allows local school districts to receive reimbursement from the State for the busing of pupils for distances of less than 1.5 miles when conditions are such that walking, either to or from the school or to go to a pick-up point, constitutes a serious hazard due to vehicular traffic or rail crossings. Whether a serious hazard exists or not is determined by IDOT. The area to the west of 40 between 6<sup>th</sup> street and the state highway garage has been approved for K-8 students by IDOT for this reimbursement. A similar request was denied for students that have to cross old 40 or Rt 1 to walk to school due to the stoplight at the intersection of those 2 roads. The job of the board is to annually review the approved area to verify that the hazard still exists. Mrs. Hendrix offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Lycan to verify that the hazardous conditions still exist. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Crews, aye; Mr. Gard, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; Mr. Lycan, aye; Mr. Maurer, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye.

A copy of the Agriculture Department Annual Report from Mrs. Crouch was shared with the board for their review.

Handbook revisions as followed were recommended by Mr. Ross.

CELLULAR PHONE, CAMERAS, GAMES, AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES Students are not to use cell phones or other electronic devices for music, games, cameras, video, social media, or any other use that is disruptive without the permission of administration. Depending on circumstances additional consequences can be added up to those of gross disobedience or misconduct. Students are allowed to use their cell phones or other electronic devices at school before school, during passing periods, lunchtime and after school for texting and phone calls only. This will be allowed in the hallways and cafeteria. Students may not use their cell phones or other electronic devices during class or while participating in school events without the permission of school administration or teachers. Students may be required to turn their cell phone in to the teacher at the beginning of each class with all sounds and haptics turned off. Cell phones would be returned to the student at the end of the class or as needed during the class for educational purposes with the permission of the teacher. Violation of the cell phone policy will result in confiscation of the entire phone. The student will not be permitted to remove the battery or any memory components. Depending on the circumstances of the violation, additional consequences may result. Depending on circumstances additional consequences can be added up to those of gross disobedience or misconduct.

Cell phones and other devices with recording or camera capabilities will be off in locker rooms, bathrooms, or other areas with a heightened need for privacy. Violation of this rule may be considered gross disobedience or misconduct. Depending on circumstances additional consequences can be added up to those of gross disobedience or misconduct.

Mr. Macke offered a motion, seconded by Mrs. Henrix to approve the handbook changes. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Crews, aye; Mr. Gard, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; Mr. Lycan, aye; Mr. Maurer, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye.

Mr. Lycan offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Mr. Maurer, to go into closed session for Personnel 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity).

The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Crews, aye; Mr. Gard, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; Mr. Lycan, aye; Mr. Maurer, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye. The board went into closed session at 7:34 p.m.

Mrs. Hendrix offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Maurer, to return to open session. All present voted aye. The Board returned to open session at 8:22 p.m.

Mr. Macke offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Crews, to employ Jamie Schneider as a Junior High Math Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year. The roll call

vote was as follows: Mr. Crews, aye; Mr. Gard, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; Mr. Lycin, aye; Mr. Maurer, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye.

Mrs. Hendrix offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Lycin, to employ Katie ORourke as an Elementary Teacher for the 2023-2024 school year. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Crews, aye; Mr. Gard, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; Mr. Lycin, aye; Mr. Maurer, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye.

Mr. Gard offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Maurer, to employ Anna Yu as an Social Worker for the 2023-2024 school year. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Crews, aye; Mr. Gard, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; Mr. Lycin, aye; Mr. Maurer, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye.

Mr. Macke offered a motion, seconded by Mrs. Hendrix, to accept the resignation of Sherri Scott as an elementary teacher after the 2022-23 school year to move to South School Library Para-Professional. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Crews, aye; Mr. Gard, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; Mr. Lycin, aye; Mr. Maurer, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye.

Mr. Macke offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Crews, to approve Administrative and Non-Certified wage increases as presented. Wage increases for administrative and supervisory personnel were generally 4% increases and \$2 per hour for non-certs with some exceptions. The roll call vote was as follows: Mr. Crews, aye; Mr. Gard, aye; Mrs. Hendrix, aye; Mr. Lycin, aye; Mr. Maurer, aye; and Mr. Macke, aye.

Mr. Macke offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Gard, to adjourn. All present voted aye. The Board adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

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President, Board of Education

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Secretary, Board of Education

