The Board of Trustees of Circle Elementary and High School District No. One, McCone County, met in regular session on February 8, 2021 at 6:00 pm in the high school library. Trustees present: Bryce Hove, Dusty White, Tate Switzer, Krista Beery, Cary Phillips & Tyrel Massar. Also in attendance were Clerk Della Van Horn, Superintendent Preston Wenz, Principal Megan Murrell, Alan Stempel, Nita Crockett, Averi Pasma, Lindsey Williams, Susan Erlenbusch, Ashlee Sundermann, Megan Knuth, Haven Taylor & Amy McCloy.

Chairman Hove called the meeting to order with the pledge and by welcoming the visitors.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Moved by White, seconded by Hove to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2021 special meeting and the January 12, 2021 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Moved by White, seconded by Beery to approve the consent agenda of HS & Elementary February claims, Revenue report ending 12/31/20, and expenditure budget balance report ending 2/5/21, cash balances ending 12/31/20. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

AD REPORT

Averi Pasma gave her Activities report. HS baseball may be considered in the near future. The NFHS is getting better at dealing with the technical difficulties. Legislative session has home school bills and transgender bills introduced. District basketball has 135 tickets for fans – we will need to provide a list of attendees. 20 administrative tickets are available. Masks must be worn and we will not be able to watch other towns’ games. Divisional basketball tournament will be March 3-6 in Sidney. Wrestling is Feb 26-27 in Glasgow. State wrestling will be in Shelby.

TECHNOLOGY PURCHASES & ROTATION

The technology committee met. Estimates of devices were given of approximately $100,000 per year. Discussion was held. Bryce suggested that we only need to buy new devices for the K, 4, 7 and 10th graders each year. Those devices would then stay with each child for their next 2 to 3 years of schooling. Estimated cost if k-3 $4650; 4-6 $3000; 7-9 $9000; and 10-12 $16800. $33450 every year on the average. Other items discussed were to get a rotation for the current laptop carts every 3 years. Mr. Wenz is checking into insurance options for the devices. Mid-Rivers has looked at the circuit for the band building, it may need upgraded. Moved by Beery, seconded by Phillips to table any action on technology purchases. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT

Moved by White, seconded by Massar to table any action on the superintendent contract. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

TECHNOLOGY POSITION WITH STIPEND CONSIDERATION

To add a technology stipend to the extracurricular schedule in the master schedule was not considered during negotiations. There is concern on what the priority would be on technology issues of how to fix and when (during the regular school day or outside of the school day). Some people are already helping with technology issues as they have time. Negotiating this position with the union was abandoned. Moved by Beery, seconded by Massar to advertise for a part time technology person. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

NEW BUSINESS

Class of 2021 senior trip proposal.

Haven Taylor addressed the board stating that the seniors would like to take a trip to Rapid City, SD on March 25-30th. They would visit Mount Rushmore, Rushmore Caves & the Reptile Gardens. Ms Pasma said that they have reserved the rooms and are working on a budget. They would like to use the school cruiser for transportation and Josh Eissinger has agreed to donate his time to drive. Chairman Hove asked them to present their budget at the March meeting. Moved by White, seconded by Switzer to approve the senior trip to Rapid City, SD. Motion carried unanimously by the high school board.

CTA/BOARD NEGOTIATIONS AND MOU

Beery reported on negotiations with the teachers. They have tentatively settled on a 4% increase on the base for 21-22 and 4% increase on the base for 22-23. (2 year contract). Changes to calendar committee: the committee will consist of seven members: 2 administrators, 2 certified, 1 classified, and 2 board members. Changes to extracurricular schedules: HS assistant football 6 to 7%; HS assistant track 5 to 7%; HS assistant wrestling coach 6 to 7%; Head golf is taken off the schedule; Pep band director 7 to 5%; HS choral/band festival 6%; annual photographer 4%; BPA 4 to 5%. Elementary extracurricular: Assistant track 3%; elementary music festival (vocal & instrumental ) 5%, JH cheerleading (1 coach) 2%, JH Girls wrestling 3%, JH Boys wrestling 3%; JH wrestling (boys & girls) 6%; assistant wrestling 3%; Head VB 6%, assistant vb 3%; JH head cross country 6%; if same person as HS 3%. A MOU was also presented that upon receipt of the insurance premiums, the parties agree to reopen for negotiation the health insurance provisions set forth in the CBA between the parties. This reopener agreement and the agreed upon negotiations shall be limited to the following identified Article XI Group Insurance , Section 2 Health and Hospitalization Insurance, unless agreed otherwise in writing by the parties. Moved by Switzer, seconded by Phillips to approve the above terms and MOU to the Master Contract. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE POLICY UPDATE

A lengthy discussion was held on the communicable disease policy. Moved by White, seconded by Massar to make the following changes to page 3- 1. Under the advice from public health, the administrator will notify the administrator of the opponent for the upcoming contest that the contest needs to be rescheduled. 5. Only the administrator can postpone an athletic event ….Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

DISTRICT PUBLIC HEALTH REPRESENTATIVE RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Massar, seconded by Hove to designate Preston Wenz, superintendent, as the public health representative for the 2020-21 school year. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

ELECTION RESOLUTION

Discussion was held on whether or not to have a poll election or mail ballot for the May 4, 2021 school election. Other discussion was held on presenting a levy for building reserve and general funds. Moved by Switzer, seconded by Hove to adopt an Elementary School resolution to hold the annual school election on May 4, 2021 and the election will be held by poll election (polls open between 12:00 noon and 8:00 pm) for the purpose of election 1 trustee (combined) and approval of additional levies to operate and maintain the Elementary General fund for 2021-22 will be requested. Elementary Building Reserve funds will also be requested of $50,000. Per year for 3 years for the purpose of raising money for the future construction, equipping, maintaining or enlarging of school buildings. Motion carried unanimously by the elementary board.

Moved by Switzer, seconded by White to adopt a High School resolution to hold the annual school election on May 4, 2021 and the election will be held by poll election (poll open between 12:00 noon and 8:00 pm) for the purpose of electing 1 trustee (combined) and approval of additional levies to operate and maintain the High School General Fund for 2021-22 will be requested. High School Building Reserve funds will also be requested of $50,000. Per year for 3 years for the purpose of raising money for the future construction, equipping, maintaining or enlarging of school buildings. Motion carried unanimously by the high school board.

PRINCIPAL CONTRACT

Mr. Wenz recommended Megan Murrell for the 2021-22 year with a 4% raise and a longevity stipend of $1,000 for every year she is here paid in June. Moved by White, seconded by Switzer to table any action on the principal contract. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board. Suggested to meet with the negotiations committee.

ADDITIONALSPECIAL ED PARA CONSIDERATION

We are anticipating additional special ed students. Mr. Wenz would like to advertise for an additional para. Moved by White, seconded by Phillips to advertise for an additional sp ed para. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

OBSOLETE LIST

A new washer was purchased and also new cafeteria trays. Moved by White, seconded by Massar to adopt a resolution and advertise the cafeteria trays and washer on the obsolete property list. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

CUSTODIAN RECOMMENDATION

Mr. Wenz recommended Billie Jo Pew for a full time custodian position for the 2021-22 year. Moved by White seconded by Hove to offer Billie Jo Pew a full time custodian position for the remainder of the 2021-22 year at $11.00 per hour. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

FELT MARTIN CONTRACT

A contract has been received from Felt Martin for legal services. There was some question as to if we need to sign the agreement as we have used their services in the past without signing an agreement. Mr. Wenz will check further into why we need to sign an agreement with them. Moved by Massar, seconded by Phillips to table any action on the contract with Felt, Martin. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

Mr. Wenz mentioned that we may consider offering a head custodian position again. At this point we don’t technically have a head custodian. It may increase some accountability. Moved by Phillips, seconded by Switzer to table any decision on offering a head custodian position. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

BUS STOP VIDA AREA CONSIDERATION

(addressed under safety committee)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Handbook – items of discussion were dual participation, 24 hour period before parent talks to coaches, no change to semester tests, clear water bottles only for grades 4-12, on line college courses, add policies to handbook and clarification on digital platforms.

Safety – Bus stop concern has been addressed on the Hwy 13 N, security cameras at entrances, 1 way sign for bus loading and “open campus” sign in sheets.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Mr. Wenz gave his superintendent/principal report. Continues to get floor and door quotes, verbally $20,000 for doors. We will be dividing out custodial duties a little different with 4 custodians. We did not receive the grant to hire an architect. We will be planning for the CRF 2 funds (they haven’t been received or applied for yet). We are getting social studies and history samples. We will be getting quotes for smartboards from TEST and smart TV’s.

PRINCIPAL REPORT

Mrs. Murrell gave her principal report. The 100th day of school is coming up; Early Childhood screening will be held for 3-5 year olds; Book Fair approaching; Academic Olympics for JH will be in April; Upcoming CPI training, we have applied for a MTSS grant with OPI, SPED virtual monitoring will take place in March; teacher evaluations are going on.

Upcoming committee meetings:

Building – March 9,5:00 PM

Calendar Committee – Feb. 10, 4:00 PM

Tech –March 8, 5:00 PM

Curriculum – Feb 24, 4:00 PM

Moved by White, seconded by Massar to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 pm. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

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