

The Board of Trustees of Circle Elementary and High School District No. One, McCone County, met in special session on August 3, 2020 at 7:00 pm in the high school library for the purpose of HS music festival stipend, JH Volleyball coach, Reopening School Plan, MOU discussion/consideration, Paraprofessional position & obsolete property. Trustees present: Bryce Hove, Dusty White, Tyrel Massar, Cary Phillips, Tate Switzer & Krista Beery. Also in attendance were Clerk Della Van Horn, Superintendent Preston Wenz, Principal Megan Murrell, Kim Gebhardt, Amy McCloy, Susie Carlson, Ronda Idland, Alan Stempel, Nita Crockett, Helen Murphy, Kevin & Emily Guldborg, Megan Knuth, Kaci Sikveland, Lindsey Williams, Haley Schillinger, Becky Fritz, Tara Hubing, Susan Erlenbusch, Sonja Meissner, and Brian Kassner.

Chairman Hove opened the meeting with the pledge and welcoming the visitors.

No public comment at this time.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Sonja Meissner had indicated to the administration and board that she is not satisfied with the 50% pay out of her HS vocal music festival contract for '19-20 and requested the contract be paid in full. 50% was paid out because of the disruption with COVID 19 and the closure of school last spring. (no district or state festivals were held). Hove said that he had requested Sonja Meissner to present her number of hours for working with students for the HS vocal festival from January to March 13<sup>th</sup>. With the number of hours she presented she stated that she would accept 75% of the contract. Moved by White, seconded by Phillips to pay out Sonja Meissner's '19-20 HS vocal music festival contract at 75% (rather than 50%). Switzer asked if this would open up for more negotiations with other coaches from last spring that were paid out at 50%. The board felt that the other coaches had not put in as much time as Mrs. Meissner. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

#### RESIGNATION OF JH VOLLEYBALL CO COACH

A letter of resignation was presented from Ellie Kniepkamp for the JH volleyball coach position for the 20-21 year. Moved by White, seconded by Hove to accept the letter of resignation from Ellie Kniepkamp for the JH volleyball coach position. Motion carried unanimously by the elementary board.

#### RECOMMENDATION OF JH VOLLEYBALL ASSISTANT

Mr. Wenz recommended McKinna Fleming for the JH volleyball co coach for the 20-21 season.

Hove stated that he would like to have the activities director recommend the extracurricular positions in the future.

Moved by White, seconded by Switzer to offer McKinna Fleming the JH co coach volleyball position for the 20-21 season. Motion carried unanimously by the elementary board.

#### REOPENING PLAN CONSIDERATION

Mr. Wenz reported that he had put the draft school reopening plan for the fall of 2020 out to staff and asked for input and had received no comments. He read the draft plan. It was suggested to put the draft plan on the website in the future. Mrs. Erlenbusch responded that the teachers had met and came up with some concerns/suggestions. They would like to see a "clearing house" individual hired who could be a liaison between the teachers and the students. This individual would be hired to manage the

distributing and collection of the homework created by the students who find it necessary to stay home and the students who may end up in a quarantine situation.

The teachers would also like students, staff & visitors to have their temperature checked before they enter the building.

They have concerns with the 15 minute overlap for grades 6-12 at lunch and would like clarification on how this would work.

The teachers would like to be made aware that there is a plan in the event that a student or staff member is diagnosed with COVID 19.

Google Classrooms and SeeSaw are the platforms that the teachers would use and all others such as zoom, screen classify would be underneath these 2 platforms.

Other discussion was held on what duties the clearing house individual would do.

At this time the board received public comments. Discussion was held on public safety, 504 plans, contact tracing, keeping students and staff safe, uncertainty about the platforms being used and how we can provide a safe environment for staff & students.

Moved by White, seconded by Hove to table any decision on hiring a liaison at this time. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

Hove voiced concerns about the staff being required to do temperature checks. There are other considerations: what if a student is asymptomatic, degree of accuracy and a fever can be of some other reason than COVID. Beery said that she had other schools' plans and shared some of what is in them. None of the 3 plans she had were requiring staff to take temperatures, it goes back on the parents. Some discussion was held on the role of public health and when they would be contacted. In the event of an ill student, the board felt that a student should be quarantined and the parent or emergency contact be asked to come get their child as soon as possible.

The administration said that with grades 6-12 overlapping at lunch that we can spread the students out and set up tables in the lobby for overflow.

We have a committee that involves the administration and public health that can follow procedures that are in place for sickness.

Mrs. Hubing, our 504 coordinator, said that 504 falls under IDEA and is a student with a medical disability and ties into accommodations that you need to make for a student. With COVID, a student might have a sibling at home that they do not want to expose them to the potential of catching the virus.

Further discussion was held on the importance of communication. The board agreed that this is "ever-changing" and we will do the best that we can. White said he really does have concerns about the mental health of all the students.

Moved by White, seconded by Phillips to adopt the '20-21 school reopening plan as attached and to eliminate policies 1908 and 1908 F Family Engagement and Family Onsite Instruction opt-out form.

Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

MOU discussion /consideration:

A sample MOU between the Circle Teachers Association and the Board was read through by Mr. Wenz. This will need to go into negotiations. Moved by Switzer, seconded by Phillips to table any decision on the MOU between the Circle School Board and the Circle Teacher's Assoc. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

#### PARAPROFESSIONAL / SECRETARY POSITION

Mr. Wenz stated that Susie Carlson has verbally said that she will be retiring June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. We have someone interested in house to move into that position. This would leave open the elementary secretary position. Mr. Wenz recommended that we advertise the position as a paraprofessional/secretary position. This would give the person an opportunity to train for the vacant administrative assistant position left by Carlson.

Moved by White, seconded by Switzer to advertise for the para/secretary position. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

Mr. Wenz reported that the trees have been trimmed, locker rooms are done, the Redwater roof is done and the gym roof is done. He has not received bids from any other HVAC companies.

A negotiations meeting has been set for August 7 at 6:30 AM in the HS library. A safety committee meeting will be August 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 before the regular 7:00 board meeting.

Moved by White, seconded by Switzer to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 PM. Motion carried.

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