

The Board of Trustees of Circle Elementary and High School District No. One, McCone County, Montana met in regular session on October 13, 2020 at 7:00 pm in the high school library. Trustees present: Bryce Hove, Dusty White, Tyrel Massar, Tate Switzer, Cary Phillips & Krista Beery. Also in attendance were Clerk Della Van Horn, Superintendent Preston Wenz (by phone), Principal Megan Murrell, Lindsey Williams, Averí Pasma, Megan Knuth, Roger Schara, Emily Guldborg, Becky Fritz, Alan Stempel & Susan Erlenbusch.

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 September 8, 2020 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY PUBLIC MATTER

Susan Erlenbusch addressed the board inquiring as to how the board decides if a position is filled “in house” or if you decide to advertise outside? Wenz replied that we advertised to see if anyone from the community was interested in the position. All applicants were interviewed.

Susan Erlenbusch asked if the CARES ACT Emergency Medical Leave is available to all employees (classified & certified). It is posted and information is available to all employees. Employees are encouraged to contact the office if they want more information.

CONSENT AGENDA

A lengthy discussion was held on the activity account. Individual account balances within the activity account should not be permitted to become overdrawn. The cheerleading account has outstanding bills of approximately \$3000. Fundraising was interrupted last spring with COVID. We should get a reimbursement for uniforms that were returned for sizing (\$500) and we have the T Shirt sales share for the upcoming “pink out” night. Cheerleading account also received a donation of \$250. Cheerleading is not part of the fee schedule under MHSA but they do have to follow MHSA guidelines at the HS level. This year we have “junior” cheerleaders that uniforms were purchased for. Discussion was held on whether or not these students should have physicals. It was determined that they should. It was anticipated that more girls were interested in cheerleading and so we have more uniforms that were ordered than girls that actually signed up to cheer (HS & Elementary). These uniforms cannot be returned because they are custom ordered. The board agreed that we need to pay the outstanding bills and continue with the fundraising efforts to get the account in a positive balance. Krista said she would like a copy of the rules for fund raising from MHSA. Moved by White, seconded by Phillips to approve the consent agenda of Elementary and High School October payroll & claims, Cash balances ending August 31; Revenue report ending August 31; expenditure budget balance report ending October 7; August Elementary & HS extracurricular reports as presented. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

DRIVERS ED INSTRUCTOR FOR SUMMER OF 2021

Moved by White, seconded by Switzer to offer Matt Kleinsasser a contract for drivers ed for the summer of 2021 at \$32.50 per hour. (deadline November 13th) Motion carried unanimously by the high school board. Student fees will be on November agenda.

CURFEW ADDITION TO HANDBOOK

Moved by Phillips, seconded by Hove to add the “student curfew” to the online student handbook. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board. Discussion was held on other things that may have been omitted from the handbook (map, class schedule, who teaches what)

HOMESCHOOL ACCEPTED CURRICULUM

Moved by Beery, seconded by White to add the “homeschool course approval” wording to the student handbook. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board. This was recommended from the curriculum committee.

CLASS COVERAGE & SUBSTITUTES

Some ideas were considered for covering staff that may be out for COVID such as teachers giving up prep time, classes meet in library, administration covering. Moved by Beery, seconded by Hove to table any action as these are negotiated items. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

MATCHING FUNDS COMMITMENT FOR CDGB GRANT

A letter regarding the CDBG planning grant match commitment was considered. The county applies to the Montana Community Development Block Grant on our behalf. The Circle School District is committed to provide \$10,000 in cash match toward the planning project activities. Moved by Phillips, seconded by Switzer to sign the letter to commit to providing \$10,000 in cash match toward the planning project activities. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

It was explained that the board of trustees makes the decisions and chooses the architect.

TECHNOLOGY PURCHASES

Discussion was held on the number of computers that Mr. Wenz is recommending to purchase. It was estimated that we need 64 more computers/IPADS. Other discussion was coming up with a plan to rotate computers with the preference for the newer, updated computers for the business lab. Megan Knuth said that she prefers the IPADS for her students. Further discussion will be held at the technology committee meeting. Moved by White, seconded by Hove to table any action on technology purchases. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

CARL PERKINS ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Moved by White, seconded by Phillips to approve the minutes of the Business Advisory Board. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

Moved by White, seconded by Massar to approve the minutes of the Industrial Arts Advisory Board. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

BUS ROUTE EXTENSION (Weldon Route)

Discussion was held on the extension of the Weldon route. There has been a parent request to extend the route to their mailbox (approximately 4 miles). This would be 16 miles per day at \$3.905 per mile. No action taken, item was for discussion.

MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT CONTRACT

Moved by Beery, seconded by Hove to enter into a contract for enhanced service for Medicaid billing with Montana Medical Billing effective July 1 2020 through June 30, 2021. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AGREEMENTS

Moved by White, seconded by Phillips to approve the student attendance agreements for Lanie Holen and Kannin Nelson for the 20-21 year. Motion carried unanimously by the elementary board.

RECORDS DISPOSAL

Moved by White, seconded by Hove to approve the records disposal request for special ed and business records as per the records retention schedule. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

SECRETARY RECOMMENDATION

Mr. Wenz reported that 4 candidates were interviewed for the elementary secretary position. He recommended Ashlee Sunderman. Discussion was held on “in house” applicants vs community applicants. It was noted that the board prefers to advertise in house first and to fill internally if at all possible. Moved by White seconded by Switzer to table any action on the recommendation for the secretary position for the 2021-22 year. Motion carried unanimously by the elementary board.

UNIFORM ROTATIONS

A spreadsheet of the uniform rotations was distributed. It was discussed that cheerleaders are not part of the MHSA fee schedule and in the past they have not been on the uniform rotation schedule, therefore we will not have them on the schedule. They have held fund raisers to purchase uniforms and have purchased items personally (bloomers, sock, shoes, accessories, etc). It was mentioned that we should have a junior high uniform rotation schedule. Past practice has been to pass down the JV uniforms but they are usually too large for JH. Moved by White, seconded by Hove to table any action on the uniform rotation schedule. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

2ND READING OF TITLE IX POLICY UPDATES

Policy 3210 Moved by Switzer, seconded by Massar to adopt the 2nd reading of policy 3210 NOT to include the optional provision of “gender identity, sexual orientation, or failure to conform to stereotypical notions of masculinity or femininity”. Motion carried unanimously by the combined board.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Curriculum – history and science samples have been requested.

Student Health committee – Switzer reported that they discussed how to handle positive cases of COVID and the lines of communication coming from the public health to the school. PH will inform the administration and the administration will inform the school. PH has to have permission from the parent to release who is quarantined. The cooperation of the public health is appreciated and we have agreed to work together and move forward.

PRINCIPAL/SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Mr. Wenz gave his principal/superintendent report. The windows are in, new pump is in for the boiler, new wall mats for the gym have been measured and we have business sponsors for them, the new marquee is up thanks to Mr. Haynie and his classes. A parent night will be held for parents on how to access platforms for online learning on October 27th. We have equipment needs for the JH football program, a caution "bus stop ahead" sign has been requested for Hwy 13.

K-8 PRINCIPAL REPORT

Megan Murrell gave her principal report. We now have 19 kindergartners. A behavior specialist was here to work with our special ed team giving us tools and resources to use. Bo-Peep is learning different aspects of public safety this week. 30 minutes of math for our 6th graders has been extended. Mrs. Murrell has met with Mary James at the public library and discussed some ways she might be able to partner with the school.

Discussion was held on the platforms and how they are working. A parent said she felt that the expectations aren't clear for the students across the board. Other discussion was held on google vs Microsoft. Beery expressed that she feels the district has to seriously look at going to Microsoft for our students rather than Google.

The Technology Committee will meet at 5:00 on October 21st and the handbook committee will meet at 4:00 pm in the HS library.

The next board meeting will be November 17 at 6:00 pm.

Moved by White, seconded by Beery to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 pm.
