

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – March 9, 2015

The Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a regular meeting on March 9, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Joliet School Library Room. Board Members present were Melvin Stene, Justin Oswald, Clinton Kramer, Sharon Songstad, Dawn Blain and Corie Mydland. Brad Stephenson was absent. Also present were Jeff Bermes, Superintendent, Sheryl Roberts, District Clerk/Business Manager, and Marilyn Vukonich, High School Principal. Visitors included Evelyn Fischer, Kathy Grewell, Barry Rowison, Patty Bergum-Nafts, Jessica Arlian, Allison Evertz, George Warburton, Tim Lavers and Chris Lamb.

Melvin Stene, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Clinton Kramer made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Melvin explained and asked for public comment. There was none.

Moved to Item VI #e Senior Class Request. The seniors are planning a "Class Day" trip the first week in May. They would like to be excused for the trip and use a school bus for transportation. They will provide more details at the April board meeting. Justin Oswald made a motion to allow the trip pending approval of the final agenda at the April meeting. Clinton Kramer seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Reports

Item #a. Building Report

Mr. Bermes discussed replacing carpet in several rooms, Wifi options and replacing the fax machine. He also discussed options to repair the fire alarm system. Chair Stene expressed concerns related to the K-8 basketball program; siblings of participants are in the gym without parental supervision.

Item #b Athletic Report

Mr. Bermes will be reviewing new basketball uniforms.

Item #c Transportation Report

Mr. Bermes reviewed the bus list.

Correspondence

Item #a. Letter of Appreciation-Montana Rescue Mission

Mrs. Vukonich read a thank you note for the coat donation.

Old Business

Item #a. Retirement Incentive Approval

Mr. Bermes recommended the board offer a three-year incentive with the district paying \$525.00 per month toward insurance beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2018. He has one teacher who will retire if the incentive is offered. Sharon Songstad made a motion to offer a retirement incentive as recommended for a total of \$18,900. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Item #b. Superintendent Interview/Hiring Process

Discussion will continue at the end of this regular meeting.

New Business

Item #a Bus Request

Mr. Bermes reviewed the request by Bob Reed to use a district bus as transportation for community members to attend a concert at a church in Billings. Clinton Kramer made a motion to approve use of the bus for the trip. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Item #b District School Bus Purchase

Mr. Bermes requested permission to get bids for a new bus. He would like to trade in Bus 9. Permission was granted to get bus bids. Mr. Bermes will schedule a Transportation Committee meeting before the next regular meeting to discuss the bids.

Item #c Teacher Negotiations

Mr. Bermes has received a letter from the JEA requesting to open negotiations on several issues. The new insurance rates will be out April 1 and he would like to wait until the new rates are received.

Item #d Athletic Director Re-Organization

Mr. Bermes reviewed options as outlined in the board packet. He recommended Option #3 which is one person be hired for the high school athletic programs and one person for the middle school athletic programs. The high school stipend would be \$4500 and the middle school stipend would be \$2000. He also recommended that the high school position include a period for AD. Corie Mydland made a motion to accept Option #3. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried. Mr. Bermes will open the positions up both in-house and out-of-house immediately.

Item #e Senior Class Request – Discussed earlier.

Item #f New Gym Floor Refinish

Mr. Bermes reviewed the bids for the floor. Discussion followed on floor life, painting the key area and whether to wait until next year. The discussion turned to the bleachers needing some maintenance. It was decided to proceed with bleacher maintenance this year and wait on the floor so money can be spent on technology.

Personnel

Item #a Resignations

Mr. Bermes reported that Paula Priest and Julie Avants will be retiring at the end of the school year and Rod Bond has retired effective March 5. Justin Oswald made a motion to accept the three resignations. Clinton Kramer seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Mr. Bermes would like to open the library position immediately. Also, he would like to suggest that the custodial position be advertised as the gym custodian as the current gym custodian would like to be re-assigned to the high school area. The trustees approved.

Item #b Driver's Education Instructor

Mr. Bermes recommended Michael Harris with the salary the same as last year. Clinton Kramer made a motion to hire Michael Harris as driver's education instructor at the same salary as last year. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Item #c Assistant Coach for High School Track

Mr. Bermes would like to add another assistant track coach due to the number of students out for track. Clinton Kramer made a motion to open a position for a third track coach. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Superintendent/Principal/Business Manager Reports

Mr. Bermes reported on the workman compensation credit that is part of the program. He will be in Helena next Monday and Tuesday and he reviewed several legislative bills that are of interest to schools. CRT testing and SBAC testing will begin this month. He also discussed a concert on March 25 that will benefit the Ward family and the Joliet Food Bank.

Mrs. Vukonich reviewed items on the HS/MS Principal's Report and FFA competition results.

Patty Bergum-Nafts reviewed items on the AD report and discussed ticket prices.

There was a recess at 8:16 p.m. to review the superintendent applications. District Clerk Sheryl Roberts was excused; Superintendent Jeff Bermes will take minutes.

The meeting reconvened at 9:00 p.m. Upon review of the 8 completed applicant packets, the board voted unanimously to interview one applicant, Allison Evertz, on March 12, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. The board requested that a meet and greet with the applicant be at 6:30 p.m. in the school library followed by the interview. The board also requested that the meet and greet be advertised on the webpage and the bank reader board.

Items for the next agenda

- Item #1 Bus Bids
- Item #2
- Item #3
- Item #4
- Item #5

The next regular board meeting will be held on April 13, 2015 at 7 p.m. in the Library.

Dawn Blain made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. It was unanimously carried.

Approved 4-13-15

Clerk Sheryl Roberts

Chairman Adrian L. Stone

Board of Trustees Special Meeting – March 12, 2015

Minutes taken by Superintendent Jeff Bermes.

The Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a special meeting on March 12, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. in the Joliet School Library. Board Members present were Melvin Stene, Clinton Kramer, Justin Oswald, Dawn Blain, Brad Stephenson, Corie Mydland, and Sharon Songstad. Also present were Jeff Bermes, Marilyn Vukonich, Ev, Fischer, Russ Evertz, Allison Evertz, Gary Evertz, Elaine Evertz, Becky Frank, Nancy Monforton, Linda Hayden, Joel Atkins, Toni Atkins, GayLynn Robertus, Wade Blain, John Grewell, Betty Grewell, Carolyn Byerly, Marliana Myers, Samantha Anttila, McKenzie Frickel, Jessica Arlain, Joni Bell, Tesa Sironen, Barry Rowilson, Rob Robinson, Tammy Bolinger, and Chrissy Frank.

Melvin Stene, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Stene informed the audience that this meeting is being held to interview the one superintendent candidate chosen in the selection process by the board at the regular board meeting on the March 9, 2015. Chairman Stene introduced Allison Evertz to the public as the interviewee for the Superintendent position. The board directed the scripted interview questions to Mrs. Evertz.

Discussion was held at the conclusion of the interview as to the next steps of the board in hiring a new superintendent. Melvin Stene moved that the meeting be move to executive session at 8:30 p.m. to discuss strategy on what steps the board should take as to offer the position to the one candidate or re-open the position.

The board came out of executive session at 8:45 p.m. Corie Mydland made a motion to hire Allyson Evertz to a one year contract for \$65,000 with an additional \$5000 to cover educational costs to get her Superintendent endorsement. Motion was seconded by Dawn Blain. A straw poll was requests by Chairman Stene of the motion to offer a contract to Mrs. Evertz: Stephenson- yes; Blain – yes; Kramer – yes; Oswald – no; Stene – yes; Mydland – yes; Songstad – yes Motion carried 6 yes 1 no.

Meeting adjourned 9:00 p.m. Blain motioned, Songstad 2nd Everyone in favor.

Approved 4-13-15

Clerk Sheryl Roberts

Chairman Melvin Stene

Board of Trustees Special Meeting – March 26, 2015

Minutes taken by Superintendent Jeff Bermes.

The Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a special meeting on March 26, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Joliet School Library to discuss offering a contract to Allison Evertz. Board Members present were Melvin Stene, Clinton Kramer, Justin Oswald, Dawn Blain, Brad Stephenson, Corie Mydland, and Sharon Songstad. Also present were Jeff Bermes, Ev Fischer, Nancy Monforton, and Amanda Lewis. Melvin Stene, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Stene asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Justin Oswald made the motion and Dawn Blain second. All voted yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Stene asked the board if there are any objections to reopening discussion on the recent board decision on March 12, 2015, to offer Allison Evertz a one year contract as the new Superintendent of Joliet Schools due some questions regarding the events leading up to that motion coming out of executive session and allowing for public comment. Chairman Stene requested a straw vote of the board to determine any objections to the opening of discussion on the matter. Those in favor of reopening the discussion Stephenson – yes; Blain – yes; Kramer – yes; Oswald – yes; Stene yes; Mydland – yes; Songstad – yes.

Discussion was re-opened.

Chairman Stene then called for discussion from the board regarding offering Allison Evertz the superintendent position with a two year contract with the first year pay rate of \$70,000, family insurance, and the district paying the costs of the internship required to meet accreditation standards.

Board discussion was held in conjunction with offering the 2 year contract.

Chairman Stene opened the discussion to public comment. Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Monforton spoke in support of the two year contract and offering the position to Mrs. Evertz.

Mrs. Blain made a motion to offer Mrs. Allison Evertz a 2 year contract as the new Superintendent of Joliet Schools with a compensation package of \$70,000, family insurance and the district paying for the internship cost to the college of her choice. Corie Mydland 2nd motion. Ayes- 5 Nays -2. Chairman Stene called for a straw vote: Stephenson: Yes; Blain: Yes; Kramer: No; Oswald: No; Stene: Yes; Mydland: Yes; Songstad: Yes. Motion passed 5-2.

Meeting adjourned 7 35 p.m. Songstad motioned, Mydland 2nd Everyone in favor.

Approved 4-13-15

Clerk Sheryl Roberts

Chairman Melvin R. Stene