

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – September 13, 2021

The Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a regular meeting on September 13, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Joliet School Library. Board Members present were Dawn Blain, Melvin Stene, Sharon Songstad, Doug Whitehead, Kathy Grewell and Karin Williams. Also present were Allison Evertz, Superintendent, Clark Begger, Elementary/MS Principal, and Felicia Smith, District Clerk/Business Manager. Visitors in attendance were: Mandi Hernandez, Kristen Goodwin, Crystal Wright, Brandy Feller, Kyelynn Coombe, Olivia Collins, Jenny Harris, Delaney Bauwens, and Chad Massar.

Dawn Blain called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Blain welcomed guests, explained procedure and asked for public comment.

Melvin Stene made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Kathy Grewell seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

IV. Reports

- a. Student Council – Kyelynn Coombe updated the Board on homecoming plans. The morning announcements now have a trivia aspect for high school students.
- b. Athletic Director – Ms. Hernandez notified the Board that the high school association denied our request to move the volleyball tournament to a Thursday/Friday schedule. Because of that denial, we may have a busier than normal Saturday on October 30th due to a playoff football game and the volleyball tournament happening on the same day.
- c. Building Report – The Board conducted a grounds walkthrough prior to the Board meeting, and reviewed the building report that was provided in the Board packet for review.

V. Correspondence – Correspondence was provided to the Board.

VI. Unfinished Business

- a. Welding Room Ventilation – Mr. Massar has not had a chance to order the ventilation components, but has been in contact with the distributor.
- b. Concessions Stand – The concessions stand by the football field was usable for the August 4th football game. There are a few more components that need to be finished, such as: painting, roll-up window installation and countertop installation. The Power, Ag and Technology Class will be completing these projects.
- c. Upper Field Archway – Russell Evertz has volunteered to help construct an entryway arch for the school's upper field, and has donated several hours of engineering design, site visitation and coordination with other firms/vendors. Dough Whitney at KLJ Engineering is donating 8 to 10 hours of his time to assist in the foundation, base plate, welds and post thickness. Renderings were provided to the Board. Mr. Evertz is waiting for a response on his request for a quote on the metal.

VII. New Business

- a. FFA National Convention – The Joliet FFA Floriculture Team has done well enough to be competing at the national level this year. The convention will be in Indianapolis this year. The Team is asking for a donation from the Board to help with travel expenses for 4 students.

Melvin Stene made a motion to donate \$200 per student to the FFA Floriculture Team for the National Convention. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- b. Enrollment Review – A family who has 2 Joliet students (5th and 8th grade) previously indicated that they would be moving to Billings. Those plans were thwarted by construction delays, so they will not be move this school year. Mr. Begger also indicated that two new students were enrolled recently.
- c. Donation Clarification – In the June 14 and June 30 Board meetings, a donation for improvements to the baseball field was presented, discussed and approved by the Board. Subsequent to those meetings, the Joliet Little League indicated that they do not want the Joliet Little League referenced in any of those meeting minutes, because this is a private donor. Brandy Feller offered clarification on the JLL's position.

Minutes from those meeting will be modified as follows:

1. The Joliet Board of Trustees acknowledges understanding that this project does not involve the Joliet Little League (JLL) in any way, and JLL bears no liability or responsibility for it.
2. The Joliet Board of Trustees reiterates permission is granted for the private donors (Jennifer and Vinson Forsman) to proceed with the project.
3. The Joliet Board of Trustees will allow an advertising banner for Jares Fencing to be placed somewhere on the fence in the lower baseball field during the baseball season. Jares Fencing provided a 25% discount on fencing and materials in exchange for the banner placement.

The Board acknowledged the generosity of the Forsmans and voiced support for the improvement of the field for the players and coaches.

Melvin Stene made a motion to modify the minutes of June 14 and June 30 with the above language. Kathy Grewell seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- d. Roof for the Old Gym – There is interior damage in the old gym from a leaking roof. It is believed that the roof was damaged in a hail storm this spring. The roof must be replaced as soon as possible to avoid further damage to the interior. Bids have been received from Strong Hand (steel roof-\$58,007 and gutters), Commercial Roofing Solution (steel roof-\$62,971 without rain gutters, which would require subcontractors; or \$25,456 for a liquid roof), and Wegner Roofing and Construction (steel roof-\$85,000 and \$6,553 for gutters, with the work being performed by a subcontractor; or \$41,000 for a liquid roof and \$6,553 for gutters).

The Board chose to table this item until the insurance adjuster inspects the roof.

- e. Security Window Film – In the spring of 2018, the District began having 3M film installed on its glass entrances and windows as a security measure. Due to the COVID outbreak, these installations were temporarily halted. Three sections still need the installation completed: middle school, elementary and north side of the high school and weight room. The installation is back on track and the District will continue to utilize All Kinds of Blinds for the installation.
- f. GATE Program Update – The Board was updated on the Gifted and Talented Education program by Mr. Begger. The District has been awarded a \$10,000 grant (with matching funds from the General Fund) to run the program for upper elementary and middle school students.

Two teachers have been interviewed for the position, and students are being identified who may benefit from this type of program.

- g. Toolcat Implement – When the Toolcat was purchased, the Board chose to wait on some accessories until they were needed. A set of forks was deemed necessary due to vendors who deliver supplies on pallets. The cost of the forks is \$925.
- h. Bus Driver Shortage Solution – School districts across the state and nation are experiencing a bus driver shortage, and Joliet is no different. At this point in time, we are short one route driver. Many schools are employing teachers, administrators and coaches to drive routes in addition to their regular duties. Mr. Begger has offered to get the necessary training to attain a CDL if additional compensation is available for his driving time. Route driving time would be outside his regularly scheduled duties. Mr. Begger is willing to make the accommodation that would require him to do some of his administrative tasks in the evening in order that we have sufficient coverage for routes. He would be compensated for any route driving time at the substitute rate of \$18.40 per hour.
- i. Interest Based Bargaining – The JTA met on September 8th in their first meeting of the year. The union decided to move forward with IBB. The Board will collaborate with the JTA on dates to initiate negotiations.

VIII. Personnel

a. Hiring

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Shay Lind as the 2nd assistant high school volleyball coach for the 2021-22 school year.

Melvin Stene made a motion to hire Shay Lind as the 2nd assistant high school volleyball coach for the 2021-22 school year. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Jennifer Forsman as the assistant middle school girls' basketball coach for the 2021-22 school year.

Melvin Stene made a motion to hire Jennifer Forsman as the assistant middle school girls' basketball coach for the 2021-22 school year. Kathy Grewell seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Chad Massar as the National Honor Society Advisor for the 2021-22 school year.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to hire Chad Massar as the National Honor Society Advisor for the 2021-22 school year. Karin Williams seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Alyssa Lorenz as an aide for the 2021-22 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Alyssa Lorenz as an aide for the 2021-22 school year. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Diane Manis as a kitchen employee for the 2021-22 school year.

Melvin Stene made a motion to hire Diane Manis as a kitchen employee for the 2021-22 school year. Doug Whitehead seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

IX. Superintendent/Principal/Business Manager Reports

Superintendent – Ms. Evertz advised the Board on: high school academics, and presented a video made by the computer apps class.

Principal – Mr. Begger provided the Board with an update on: K-5 math; learning loss/ICU; IAT; Expedition Yellowstone; JMG; Wright Brothers Theme and Universals and Vertical Programming.

Business Manager – Ms. Smith provided the Board with reports of all claims paid, payroll disbursements, and a financial statement.

X. Items for Next Agenda

Interest Based Bargaining, Exterior Grounds Update

XI. Safe Return to School and Continuity of Services Plan

No changes to the Plan were necessary.

XII. Next Board Meeting Date

The next regular Board meeting will be held October 11, 2021 in the Joliet School Library.

XIII. Adjournment

Sharon Songstad made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m. Melvin Stene seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Approved 10/11/21

Board Chair



Clerk

