

## **Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – July 12, 2021**

The Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a regular meeting on July 12, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Joliet School Library. Board Members present were Dawn Blain, Justin Oswald, 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, Gail Andren, Warren Hoffman, Toni Bergstrom, Ashley Engelke, and Mike Creeden.

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.

Justin Oswald made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

### **IV. Reports**

- a. Athletic Director – Ms. Hernandez indicated that the coach/parent meetings will take place on August 9, 2021. Joliet may be hosting the first round of football playoffs. This game may run concurrently with the district volleyball tournament. If changes become necessary due to overcrowded facility use/staffing needs, it will be addressed at a different date. Cross county meets will be on the same day for high school and middle school this year.
- b. Building Report – A building report was provided in the Board packet for review. Superintendent Evertz highlighted the asphalt repair progress, football field status, and the high school science lab project.

### **V. Correspondence – Correspondence was provided to the Board.**

### **VI. Unfinished Business**

- a. Out-of-District Student Acceptance – A high school student was inadvertently left off the mailing list. The late paperwork is a clerical error on our part, not theirs.

Justin Oswald made a motion to approve the out-of-district high school student. Kathy Grewell seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- b. HB 143 – This bill incentivizes increases in base pay for new teachers in public school districts. The JTA was provided a hypothetical matrix that would have met the HB 143 requirements. 61% of the JTA membership voted: 76% voted No, 23% voted Yes. At this time, the JTA would like to keep the matrix the same as agreed upon in previous negotiations.
- c. MTSBA Policy Updates – The MTSBA provides updates to district policies based on new legislation, and state and federal law. Policies that need to be updated include: 1112, 1113, 1425, 1512, 1512F, 1610, 2100, 2160, 2168, 2410P, 2600, 2600P, 3110, 3125, 4301, 4315, 4340, 4410, 5012, 5223, 5256, 8225, 8425, 8425P, 2170, 2170P, 2332, 3121, 3233, 3311, 3413, 3510, 3550 and 4211.

Justin Oswald made a motion to approve the MTSBA recommended Joliet School District Policies to reflect alignment with new legislation, and other state and federal guidelines. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

**VII. New Business**

- a. Consideration of Declaration of Unforeseen Emergency in accordance with Title 20, Chapter 9, part 8, MCA – The MTSBA 1900 Model Emergency Policies are still in effect until terminated by a vote of the Board. Policies 1900-1999 are intended to govern during an emergency related to COVID-19 declared by the President, Congress, Montana Legislature, Governor, Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, County Health Department or the Board of Trustees.

Justin Oswald made a motion to declare an unforeseen emergency within the meaning of that term as set forth in Title 20, Chapter 9, Part 8, to become immediately effective and to continue through June 30, 2022, or until terminated by a vote of the Board of Trustees. The declaration is necessary due to community and school health concerns related to COVID-19. The Board of Trustees authorizes the District to take necessary steps to execute this declaration and inform the public and government agencies of this declaration. Doug Whitehead seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- b. Handbook Updates – The Board was provided with the updates to the student, bus driver, classified personnel, coaches, emergency procedure and teacher handbooks.
- c. MSPLIP Increases – Montana School Property and Liability Insurance Plan premiums went up this year. The District's total expenditure for insurance is \$48,630. The plan for the 2021-22 school year was provided to trustees showing coverages.
- d. Acceptance of Students per MCA 20-7-117 – The Trustees of an elementary district shall establish or make available a kindergarten program capable of accommodating, at a minimum, all the children in the district who will be 5 years old on or before September 10 of the school year for which the program is to be conducted, or who have been enrolled by special permission of the board of trustees.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to approve the in-district students who are not 5 years of age before September 10, 2021. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Ashley Engelke offered public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- e. Change to Academic Calendar – The District will be hosting the District 4B volleyball tournament this year, and it will be held October 28-30. The 29<sup>th</sup> is a Friday, and the calendar committee is proposing that we take that Friday off. The athletic directors and administration need staff assistance for: book-keeping, clock, clearing the gym in transition, hospitality room management, concessions, emptying garbage cans, gate admission, etc. All students in pep band, cheer and volleyball will also be absent for significant parts of the day. The last time Joliet hosted, the day was chaotic and not much was accomplished instructionally. Instructional hours will not be impacted by the change.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to approve the calendar change for the 2021-22 school year. Kathy Grewell seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- f. Aide Assignments/Job Duties – The Board was provided a list of aides employed by the district and their job duties.
- g. Administrative Job Descriptions – The Board was provided with job descriptions for: dean of students, high school principal, elementary principal, and superintendent.
- h. Laurel Bus Entry Authorization – The Laurel school district has requested permission to travel into the Joliet District on Clarks River Road to safely turn around.

Justin Oswald made a motion to approve the entry of Laurel school district buses into the Joliet District for the 2021-22 school year. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- i. High School Girls' Basketball Uniforms – The Activities Committee is recommending that the Board approve the purchase of new high school girls' basketball uniforms.

Karin Williams made a motion to approve the purchase of high school girls' basketball uniforms. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

- j. Open House – The Board discussed having an open house on August 23, 2021 from 5-7 p.m.

#### **VIII. Personnel**

- a. Hiring

Supt. Evertz recommended that the Board approve the hiring of Shaylee Unger as the assistant high school volleyball coach for the 2021-22 school year.

Sharon Songstad made a motion to hire Shaylee Unger as the assistant high school volleyball coach for the 2021-22 school year. Justin Oswald 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 Tiffany Shine as a teacher for the 2021-22 school year.

Karin Williams made a motion to hire Tiffany Shine as a teacher for the 2021-22 school year. Justin Oswald 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: Stakeholder survey committee meeting update; and a German exchange student for the 2021-22 school year.

Principal – Mr. Begger provided the Board with an update on: enrollment numbers for K, grade 2, and grade 3.

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

#### **X. Items for Next Agenda**

Final Budget Adoption and Regular Board meeting combined. Ashley Engelke offered public comment.

**XI. Next Board Meeting Date**

The next regular Board meeting will be held August 18, 2021 in the Joliet School Library.

**XII. Adjournment**

Kathy Grewell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m. Sharon Songstad seconded the motion. There was no discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried.

Approved 08/18/2021  
Board Chair *Laura Blair*

Clerk *[Signature]*