

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – April 18, 2023

The Board of Trustees of Joliet School District No. 7 held a regular meeting on April 18, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the Joliet School Library. Board Members present were Dawn Blain, Justin Oswald, Ken Adams, Amanda Dinsdale, Kathy Grewell, Jason Stene, Doug Whitehead and Karin Williams. Also present were Clark Begger, Superintendent; Felicia Smith, District Clerk/Business Manager; Mandi Hernandez MS/HS Principal and Theresa Keel, K1-5 Principal. Visitors in attendance were: Delaney Bauwens, Samuel Smith, Shane Warehime, Barry Rowilson, Stacie Nardinger and Cynde Cole.

Dawn Blain called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Blain welcomed guests, explained procedure and asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

III. Reports

- a. Student Council – Delaney Bauwens reported to the Board on the video announcements produced by the student council, the Senior skip day planned for the Cody Rec Center, and a trip to Rapid City. Plans are being made for the staff/senior softball game set for May 17th. Delaney provided the Board with the instructions that will be given to Seniors regarding cap decorations. Ken Adams expressed appreciation to the student council for serving dinner at the community play.

- d. Athletic Director – Mr. Rowilson stated that schedules for football, volleyball and basketball are set for the 2023-24 school year. Our football team will be playing Wolf Point at Joliet, and a game with Thompson Falls will be played at Montana Tech in Butte. A curtain for the weight room has been ordered so those utilizing the facility for adult ed classes will not interrupt student sports practices that may be occurring at the same time. Tvetene Turf has stated that they will re-seed the football field this summer at no cost to improve the condition of the field. The crow's nest improvements are being discussed. Weather has been a major issue for our track teams forcing cancellations and rescheduling.

- c. Transportation – Mr. Smith stated that the 3 year underground tank inspection has been completed. Parents and drivers have been happy with the transportation department. There are many extracurricular trips currently, which is putting a strain on available drivers and vehicles. Three new drivers are set to begin training. There was a training Laurel, and there will be another advanced training school in June to help drivers complete the 15 hours of annual required training.

- d. MS/HS Principal – Mrs. Hernandez updated the Board on MS/HS academics; Honor Band leaves for their tour April 19th; midterm is April 21st; Envirothon leaves for Great Falls on April 23rd; JMG State Conference is April 25-27; BPA Nationals team leaves April 26th; FFA banquet is set for May 2nd; the Lions Club banquet is May 3rd at the Joliet Community Center; middle school spring concert is May 11th; the high school musical is May 12th and 13th; Senior job shadow presentations are May 12th; Senior skits are May 13th; the winter/spring activities banquet is May 15th; 8th grade will be doing their adopt a highway cleanup on May 11th; ACT testing for Juniors was last week; the Senior skip day to Cody was April 12th; the Ag II class dissected a calf last Friday, as they were starting a unit on animal anatomy; and the BPA carnival was a success. Vape detectors, which sense vape, smoke, moisture and noise-around have been priced at \$1,000.

- e. K1-5 Principal – Ms. Keel updated the Board on the SOAR assembly; the Junior ACT test was required to be taken online this year; training for SBAC will be April 19th; State MSA and MSA assessment for 3-8 grade will be April 28th; SBAC testing starts May 2nd; the Winter Map Window for K-11 opens May 1 and closes May 19; teachers are doing their final goal setting with students; and a year-end celebration is in the planning. April IAT meetings will be held April 26th; Kim Beatty with PAX will visit the school on April 26th; the PAX Kernel meeting was held April 17th to discuss Kim Beatty’s visit and topics for professional development for next year; Kinder Roundup was a success with 9 potential new Kindergarten families and 13 potential Kinder 1 families; the Spring music concert will be May 20th. A thank you to Angela Douglas for the donation of new tether balls for the playground.
- f. Business Manager/Clerk – Monthly reports were included in the Board packet. The elementary trustee election has been cancelled per Montana Code Annotated 20-3-313, because the number of candidates for the trustee positions were equal to or less than the number of positions open.

IV. Consent Agenda: Claim Warrants: ACH 99680-99683 & checks 50666-50730; Payroll Warrants ACH 85186-85260 & 63429-63488; Activity Warrants ACH & Interfund transfers; 16885-16932; Minutes: 03/21/2023; Ken Adams made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Amanda Dinsdale seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

V. Action Items

A. New Business

- 1. BPA Funding Request – The BPA presented at the March Board meeting on their upcoming trip to Nationals. BPA has requested financial support from the Board of Trustees. Earlier this year, the Board approved \$300 per student for FFA to attend Nationals for a total of \$3,600. There are 8 BPA students traveling to Nationals, and they would like \$2,400 to support their trip.

Ken Adams made a motion to support the BPA students with \$2,400 to travel to Nationals. Kathy Grewell seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (H).

- 2. Personnel – The Activities Committee is recommending hiring Kendall Denham as the Head Varsity Boys’ Basketball Coach for the 2023-24 season.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to hire Kendall Denham as the Head Varsity Boys’ Basketball Coach the 2023-24 season. Karin Williams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. Those in favor: Dawn Blain, Justin Oswald, Ken Adams, Amanda Dinsdale, Kathy Grewell, Jason Stene and Karin Williams. Those opposed: Doug Whitehead. Motion was carried 7-1 (H).

The Hiring Committee recommend hiring of Brandy Mettes as a teacher for the 2023-24 school year.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to approve the hiring of Brandy Mettes as a teacher for the 2023-24 school year. Karin Williams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

The Hiring Committee recommend hiring of Ressa Herta as a teacher for the 2023-24 school year.

Karin Williams made a motion to approve the hiring of Ressa Herta as a teacher for the 2023-24 school year. Jason Stene seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

The Hiring Committee recommend hiring of Rebecca Hill as a teacher for the 2023-24 school year.

Justin Oswald made a motion to approve the hiring of Rebecca Hill as a teacher for the 2023-24 school year. Ken Adams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

Kendall Denham, Head Varsity Girls Basketball Coach, has tendered his resignation. Superintendent Begger recommended that the Board accept the resignation of Kendall Denham.

Karin Williams made a motion to accept the resignation of Kendall Denham. Amanda Dinsdale seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (H).

The Negotiations Committee recommend approving Mr. Begger's contract for the 2023-2026 school years.

Ken Adams made a motion to approve Mr. Begger's contract for the 2023-2026 school years. Doug Whitehead seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

Superintendent Begger recommend approving the JPS Administrative Compensation Packages for the 2023-24 school year.

Amanda Dinsdale made a motion to approve the JPS Administrative Compensation Packages for the 2023-24 school year. Ken Adams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

3. Policy

First Reading of Policy 5334P — Vacations – The Policy Committee reviewed this policy on March 21, 2023 Committee Chair Dinsdale updated the Board on the Committee's discussion.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to approve the first reading of Policy 5334P. Ken Adams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

First Reading of Policy 8301 — District Safety – The Policy Committee reviewed this policy on March 21, 2023 Committee Chair Dinsdale updated the Board on the Committee’s discussion.

Ken Adams made a motion to approve the first reading of Policy 8301. Doug Whitehead seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

First Reading of Policy 5232 — Abused and Neglected Child Reporting – The Policy Committee reviewed this policy on March 21, 2023 Committee Chair Dinsdale updated the Board on the Committee’s discussion.

Justin Oswald made a motion to approve the first reading of Policy 5232. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

First Reading of Policy 4550 — Registered Sex Offenders – The Policy Committee reviewed this new policy on March 21, 2023 Committee Chair Dinsdale updated the Board on the Committee’s discussion.

Ken Adams made a motion to approve the first reading of Policy 4550. Karin Williams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

First Reading of Policy 4340 — Public Access to District Records – The Policy Committee reviewed this new policy on March 21, 2023 Committee Chair Dinsdale updated the Board on the Committee’s discussion.

Ken Adams made a motion to approve the first reading of Policy 4340. Doug Whitehead seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

First Reading of Policy 4320 — Contact with Students – The Policy Committee reviewed this new policy on March 21, 2023 Committee Chair Dinsdale updated the Board on the Committee’s discussion.

Karin Williams made a motion to approve the first reading of Policy 4320. Jason Stene seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

4. K-8 ELA Materials Adoptions – The District’s School Improvement/Curriculum Committee has been meeting since the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year to examine the District’s ELA materials. Information regarding the process and financial impact to the district is included in the packet. The materials have been available for community review in the library since March 31st. A community letter was shared with the public via Facebook on March 31st. The Superintendent recommended that the Board approve the K1-8 textbook adoptions as presented in the packet.

Kathy Grewell made a motion to approve the K1-8 textbook adoptions. Jason Stene seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 7-0 (E).

5. Gym Advertising Campaign – Per District Policy 7332, “Revenue enhancement through a variety of District-wide and District-approved marketing activities...is a Board-approved venture.” The District’s Gym Sponsorship Program was initiated in January of 2023. To date, the District has generated \$4,350 in revenue thanks to the generous support of our community businesses.

Karin Williams made a motion to approve the Gym Sponsorship Program. Dawn Blain seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

B. Unfinished Business

1. Second Reading of Policy 1705 & 1705F — Possession of Firearms/Weapons on School District Property – The Policy Committee reviewed this new policy on February 21, 2023 Committee Chair Dinsdale updated the Board on the Committee’s discussion.

Doug Whitehead made a motion to approve the second reading of Policy 1705 & 1705F. Amanda Dinsdale seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

2. Second Reading of Policy 4301 — Visitors in Schools – The Policy Committee reviewed this new policy on February 21, 2023 Committee Chair Dinsdale updated the Board on the Committee’s discussion.

Amanda Dinsdale made a motion to approve the second reading of Policy 4301. Justin Oswald seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

3. Second Reading of Policy 4411 — Interrogation and Investigations Conducted by School Officials – The Policy Committee reviewed this new policy on February 21, 2023 Committee Chair Dinsdale updated the Board on the Committee’s discussion.

Justin Oswald made a motion to approve the second reading of Policy 4411. Ken Adams seconded the motion. There was no board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

4. 2023-24 Academic Calendar – The Board was provided with an updated 2023-24 Academic Calendar.

Ken Adams made a motion to approve the 2023-24 Academic Calendar. Jason Stene seconded the motion. Jason Stene asked about the snow days, and Kathy Grewell asked about the PIR days. There was no more board discussion and no public comment. The motion was unanimously carried 8-0 (B).

VI. Discussion/Informational Items – Mr. Begger provided the Board with the following information: Accreditation Determination; 2021-2022 ESSA District Report Card; 6-12 Extra and Co-Curricular

Activities Student Drug Testing; Policy, Facilities and Hiring Committee Minutes; Hiring Update; Superintendent's Schedule; Facilities Logs, Current Enrollment; Kindergarten Roundup; Calendar/Schedule Committee Update; Active Shooter Response Training; Teacher Computer Rotation and Safe Return to Schools and Continuity of Services Plan.

VII. **Correspondence** – The District will be sending thank you letters to the following donors: Valley Federal Credit Union, Black Brew Coffee, Bank of Joliet and Capital Bookkeeping.

VIII. **Suggested Topics for Next Agenda:**

Hire Summer School Teachers
Hire Summer Maintenance Help
Hire Classified Staff
Hire Fall/Winter Extra & Co-curricular
Canvass Votes
Certify Election

IX. **Executive Session** – Dawn Blain determined that the discussion relates to a matter of individual privacy that clearly exceeds the merits of public disclosure and closed the public meeting and went into Executive Session. Ms. Keel, and Mrs. Hernandez were excused from the meeting.

Executive Session began at 8:11 p.m. The trustees returned to regular session at 8:27 p.m.

X. **Executive Session** – Dawn Blain determined that the discussion relates to a matter of individual privacy that clearly exceeds the merits of public disclosure and closed the public meeting and went into Executive Session. Mrs. Smith was excused from the meeting.

Executive Session began at 8:28 p.m. The trustees returned to regular session at 9:07 p.m.

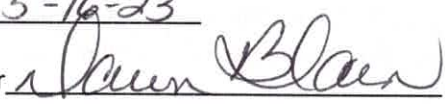
XI. **Next Board Meeting Date**

Regular Board Meeting – May 16, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.
Special Board Meeting – May 16, 2023, following Regular Board Meeting

XII. **Adjournment**

Ms. Blain adjourned the meeting at 9:08 p.m.

Approved 5-16-23

Board Chair 

Clerk 