



Superintendent
Tyler Ream, Ed. D
324-2001

Business Manager
Janelle Mickelson
324-2040

Board Work Session

Ray Bjork Learning Center
1600 8th Avenue Helena, MT 59601

Tuesday February 25, 2020
4:00p.m. Meeting

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE – Present unless otherwise noted

Luke Muszkiewicz, Board Chair
Terry Beaver, Board Vice Chair
Sarah Sullivan, Trustee
Jeff Hindoien, Trustee
Elizabeth “Libby” Goldes, Trustee
Jennifer Walsh, Trustee
Siobhan Hathhorn, Trustee
John McEwen, Trustee

Dr. Tyler Ream, Superintendent
Josh McKay, Assistant Superintendent
Janelle Mickelson, Business Manager
Barb Ridgway, Chief of Staff
Stacy Collette, Human Resources Administrator
Sean Morrison, Special Education Administrator
Sean Maharg, Special Education Administrator
Kalli Kind, Director of Support Services
Jane Shawn, Helena Education Association President
Tim McMahan, Activities Administrator
Deb Jacobsen, Hawthorne Elementary Principal

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Luke Muszkiewicz called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. REVIEW OF AGENDA

Chair Muszkiewicz pulled the January minutes from the consent action items.

III. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Item for Action:

1. Call for Annual Election

Janelle Mickelson presented the information to the Board of Trustees. The annual regular school election will be held on May 5th where trustees must call for election no later than 70 days before. HSD has an agreement with the Elections Office to conduct school elections for the district, which will be by mail. The drop off location for ballots is at the Lewis and Clark County Elections Office. Voters will select two trustees that represent K-8, Elementary district. These seats are for three-year terms. General fund mill levy approval for both the high school and elementary are also being requested at this time. In addition, the District is also requesting mill levy approval in the high school district for the cost of planning for improvements and maintenance of school and student safety and security. Such costs include the services of architects, engineers, SROs, counselors, or other staff or consultants assisting the district with school and student safety and security programs. Neither the ability to run a general fund mill levy, nor the amount of the levy will be known until after the issuance of the preliminary budget data sheets on March 1, 2020. However, due to the statutory requirements to call for the election no later than 70 days before, the recommendation is to include the mill levy request in the resolution. The student and school safety and security levies may be for any term, including perpetual.

Motion: Sarah Sullivan moved to approve the Call for Election for the Elementary District. John McEwen seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment: None

Vote: 8-0 The motion carried

Motion: Sarah Sullivan moved to approve the Call for Election for the High School District. John McEwen seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment: None

Vote: 8-0 The motion carried

2. Approval of the Hawthorne Safety and Security Bid

Kalli Kind presented the bid to the Board of Trustees. The bid recommendation is for the safety security work to be completed at Hawthorne Elementary this summer. The base project bid includes controlled public access, keyless entry, exterior cameras and speakers, electronic reader Boards, and integrated communications. Alternate one is for an exterior canopy and screen wall at the entrance to the office. Alternate two is for an exterior canopy and screen wall on the remaining length of the ramp. Alternate three is for railing in lieu of the canopy and screen wall. Alternate four is for railing in lieu of the canopy and screen wall. Three bids were received: two from local contractors and one from a Bozeman contractor. All bids have been vetted thoroughly. Ms. Kind recommends to Award Abraham Construction Services the bid in the amount of \$871,000 using alternate one and two.

Deb Jacobsen offered input from the Hawthorne staff and community. The staff have been very cooperative and looking forward to the changes, especially being safe and secure for the students, as well as the community.

After much deliberation from the Board, questions about different options were brought to the table, however, taking away square footage from the playground will not work. Dr. Jacobsen offered making the school have more curb appeal. Trustee Terry Beaver argued that it is not educationally sound by eliminating a classroom within Hawthorne for the safety and security piece. Trustee Beaver does not support because he feels it isn't educationally sound. Talk of tabling the topic, however, Trustee Goldes pointed out that the district has a responsibility to the community with the bond and it shouldn't be put off. Ms. Kind pointed out that if we wait, we will not have a contract secured for this summer. Trustee Hindoien mentioned that the project will not look any differently if it is tabled. Trustee Sullivan added, the Board should have taken care of this issue with other Boards in the past and it had been put off before, therefore Trustee Sullivan is in support of the bid.

Motion: Libby Goldes moved to approve the Hawthorne Safety and Security Bid. John McEwen seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment: None

Vote: 6-2 The motion carried, Trustee Beaver and Trustee Hathhorn voted against the motion.

B. Consent Items:

1. Approval of Sabbatical Leaves for 2020-2021

Motion: Sarah Sullivan moved to approve the Consent Action Items. Siobhan Hathhorn seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment: None

Vote: 8-0 The motion carried.

Chair Muszkiewicz called a break at 5:28pm. The Board resumed at 5:40pm. Chair Muszkiewicz retracted the last motion, the Board will address consent items in the proper place on the agenda.

A. Item for Action:

3. HSD Policy 9000: Facility Goals

Barb Ridgway presented the policy to the Board of Trustees. This policy has had two readings. The committee believes we should continue to address our ongoing facility issues. Administration would be charged with developing procedures to ensure implementation of adopted policies.

Motion: John McEwen moved to approve HSD Policy 9000. Libby Goldes seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment: None

Vote: 8-0 The motion carried

4. HSD Policy 9001: Facility Planning

Barb Ridgway presented the policy to the Board of Trustees. This policy has had two reading. This policy establishes without limitation the criteria that need to be considered when building a new facility as well as maintain existing facilities.

Motion: John McEwen moved to approve HSD Policy 9001. Libby Goldes seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment: None

Vote: 8-0 The motion carried

5. Board Work Session Minutes January 28, 2020

Attendance needed to be corrected for the Board members and “individual” was spelled incorrectly.

Motion: John McEwen moved to approve the minutes as amended. Sarah Sullivan seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment: None

Vote: 8-0 The motion carried.

B. Consent Items:

1. Approval of Sabbatical Leaves for 2020-2021

Motion: Sarah Sullivan moved to approve the Consent Action Items. Libby Goldes seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment: None

Vote: 8-0 The motion carried.

C. Items for Information:

1. HSD Policy 9002: Facility Master Plan

This policy was presented by Barb Ridgway. This policy has had an initial review by the Policy Committee. This policy describes a process for managing the current facilities as well as defining how future facility needs will be determined. The plan will include covering three years and will list projects being considered for completion. Chair Muszkiewicz suggested making “three year” clearer.

2. HSD Policy 9210: Site Acquisition

This policy was presented by Barb Ridgway. This policy has had an initial review by the Policy Committee. This policy requires the trustees to periodically review its land holdings in concert with other factors like area growth and the state of existing facilities to determine and best meet the needs of the District.

3. HSD Policy 9232: Educational Specifications

The policy was presented by Barb Ridgway. It has had an initial review by the Policy Committee. The primary criteria to be considered when designing new facilities are defined in general terms. The Board would like to strike “the”.

4. HSD Policy 9350: District-Wide Asbestos Plan

The policy was presented by Barb Ridgway. It has had an initial review by the Policy Committee. This policy requires the Superintendent to designate a person to ensure compliance with all requirements related to asbestos per federal and state statute. The district has always had these plans, just haven’t had the policy in the past.

5. Report: District Assessment Practices

Dr. Tyler Ream presented the assessment practices to the Board. Assessment is an important part of any instructional framework. As actionable feedback, assessment data is necessary to determining instructional next steps. As a district, there are a number of assessments that are considered district level, meaning that they are not mandated by the state and are not as actionable or frequent as assessment practices employed by a school or individual teacher. The Teaching and Learning Committee has been assessing these different assessments to separate out

different practices with aligning instructional framework, reflection and adjustment, and planning and design. While the broad measures may be in attendance, climate, SES, and summative academic data and the school measures may be in standardized test, we need to keep in mind that the real meaningful assessment is below the water level. This is happening in the classroom with common summative exams, do-now, exit tickets, writing portfolios, and with project rubrics.

The narrative that assessments are harmful to instruction is, at best, misguided, and at worst, blatantly damaging. Instead of spending their time arguing about whether assessments are supplanting instructional time, educational stakeholders should be working together to gain clarity as to why they are utilizing assessments. Assessment is a critical part of every instructional cycle as the yielded data should be used to inform critical decisions related to instruction. Without these inputs, educators are left to push forward for the sake of teaching curriculum instead of ensuring meaningful learning.

Mid-year data meetings include dual-purpose meetings meant to review interim student data trends for mid-year instructional shifts and to assess educator views of current district assessment platform. These are typically included in a cross-section of teachers, an instruction coach (if applicable) and the administrator.

The next steps and planned enhancements are Analyzing (District) Interim Assessments: As a system, we are working to ensure that district assessments are actionable and aligned to MT standards (especially our identified essential standards. Furthermore, we must always ask the question, “is the data we receive back worth the effort?” Feedback trends are highlighting a number of current needs that must be addressed in advance of the 2020-21 school year. What can we reallocated in order to provide teachers with needed access to real-time data? The district wants to make sure each child grows while facilitating experiences without benchmarking.

V. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Ream updated the Board of Trustees on the Coronavirus article that was published. Superintendent Ream recently had a trading places discussion with Drenda Nieman who works for the Lewis and Clark County Health Department to address Coronavirus. At this time, however, influenza is more of a concern. A and B are in the schools. Protocols can be put in place and will be followed.

VI. BOARD COMMENTS

Chair Muszkiewicz did a quick acknowledgement of Public Schools Week

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other topics for future meetings and no public comment on issues not on the agenda, the meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m. by Board Chair Luke Muszkiewicz. The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on March 10, 2020. The next Board Work Session will be held at Warren Elementary School on March 24, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Luke Muszkiewicz, Chair

Jessica Evans, Recording Secretary

Date