



Superintendent
Tyler Ream, Ed. D
324-2001

Business Manager
Janelle Mickelson
324-2040

Board Work Session

Central Elementary School
402 N Warren Helena, MT 59601

Tuesday September 24, 2019

3:30 pm Tour/4:00 pm 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
Jennifer Walsh, Trustee – Unexcused
Siobhan Hathhorn, Trustee
John McEwen, Trustee
Zyanne Cervantes, Capital High School Student Representative
Hannah Muszkiewicz, Helena High School Student Representative

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
Pat Boles, Technology Administrator
Brian Cummings, Jim Darcy Elementary School Principal
Trish Klock, Bryant Elementary School Principal
Jane Shawn, HEA President

Guests:

John Stilson, Central Elementary Principal
Justine Alberts, Central Elementary School Instructional Coach
Ashley Buresh, Central Elementary School Instructional Coach

Lea Hohenlohe, Capital High School student

PRESENTOR at Central Elementary School: Principal John Stilson

I. TOUR OF SCHOOL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/CALL TO ORDER

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

II. REVIEW OF AGENDA

None

III. PRESENTATION

1. Central Elementary School

Principal John Stilson presented information related to Central Elementary School. The mission of Central Elementary School is to promote a safe, caring environment which celebrates diversity and motivates students to achieve their individual potential to become lifelong learners. Central Elementary currently serves 287 students. This is the most students that have attended since 2001. Currently there are 16 students enrolled in the Functional Life Skills Program, 11 students enrolled in the Trailhead Program, 61 students enrolled in the Montessori Program, 48 students that utilize HSD Transportation and 12 students that attend the PEAK Program. Central Elementary School participates in the Community Eligibility Provision, meaning that 100% of their students receive free breakfast and lunch. This is the third year they have been in this program and will reapply next year. There are 84 students/families that participate in the weekly food pack program that is provided by Helena Food Share.

There are currently 42 students that have active IEP's (non-speech) and 60 students that receive speech services. The CSCT (Comprehensive School and Community Treatment) team provides services for 12 students/families. There are 6 teachers in the grades K-2 with an average class size of 20. There are 4 teachers in grades 3-5 with an average class size of 22. There are also 3 Montessori teachers with an average class size of 20. Central Elementary had a 93.3% attendance rate for the 2018-2019 school year. Central currently has 13 Classroom Teachers, 1 Title 1 Teacher, 1 Title 1 Tutor, 4 Special Education Teachers, 2 Speech Language Pathologists, 2 Counselors, 1 Librarian, 1 PE Teacher, 1 Music Teacher, 9 Special Education Paras, 1 Behavior Interventionist, 2 CSCT Staff Members, 2 Instructional Coaches, 3 General Education Paras, 1 Overage Para, 1 Nurse (split with Bryant Elementary), 1 Administrative Assistant, 3 SACC Staff, 1 School Psychologist (shared with Kessler Elementary), 4 Custodians, 2 Sodexo Staff and 1 Building Administrator.

There is great community and parental involvement at Central Elementary School. Central sponsors a month-long reading program called Seven Schools, One Book, a reading night, math night, 80s Bash, Central Family Game Night and

many other activities that are directed towards connecting Central Families with their school.

Central School performed above the state average percentage for SBAC Reading in 2018-2019 with 60% of students achieving grade level performance. For Mathematics, students were slightly lower than the state average with 38% of students achieving grade level performance. The year-end STAR Reading test showed that students in 1st-5th grades averaged 68% proficient/advanced performance. In the year-end STAR Math test, students in 1st-5th grade averaged 66% proficient/advanced performance.

Central School responds to the needs of their students with the help of the Angel Fund, Helena Food Share weekend food packs, the Helena Police Department Shoe Program, Coats for Kids, Shop with a Cop, Stuff the Bus and by providing free breakfast and lunch for all students. Students at Central Elementary also perform community service projects. Last year, students were able to collect and donate 700 cans of food to the Helena Food Share at Christmas. They also raised \$1500 to support Leukemia Research.

Instructional Coaches Ashley Buresh and Justine Alberts presented information regarding the Instructional Coaching model at Central Elementary. This is the 2nd year of a 3-year grant cycle, so they are being aggressive in their implementation this year. Instructional Coaches at Central are collaborators and communicators. They work with OPI, Consultants, the Administration and any of the educators (both teachers and paras) that work with students. There are targeted interventions through MBI. The Instructional Coaches also use student data and groups for reading and to help with Professional Development within the staff. One of the goals that the Instructional Coaches have is to increase the SBAC testing scores by 2%. They are working with literacy groups throughout the district to look at assessments and make sure students are understanding the information that they are being taught.

Principal John Stilson stated that the main focus areas for the 2019-2020 school year are continued academic growth, cultivating and enhancing relationships, establishing new building processes, neighborhood outreach and WIN (What I Need) Time.

Trustee Libby Goldes asked Principal Stilson how the students are adjusting in their new building. Principal Stilson stated that they are adapting well and loving their new environment.

Board Chair Luke Muszkiewicz called for a short break at 5:15 pm and the meeting was called back to order at 5:25 pm.

IV. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Lea Hohenlohe, a student at Capital High School and member of the Female Empowerment Club, requested that the District and the Board of Trustees consider equipping the women’s restrooms at the Middle School and High School level with necessary female product dispensers. Ms. Hohenlohe stated that she has spoken to Capital High School Principal Brett Zanto about this and he deferred to the Board.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Items for Action

- a. Approval of new Health Insurance Stop Loss Provider

Motion: John McEwen moved to approve Ironshore Indemnity through Allegiance as the stop loss carrier for the 2019-2020 school year. Libby Goldes seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment: Trustee Libby Goldes stated that she appreciated the leadership that Stacy brings to the District and the Health Benefits Committee. Trustee Sarah Sullivan also thanked Stacy and Trustee Libby Goldes for their hard work on the health insurance plan.

Vote: 7-0 The Motion carried.

- b. Approval of the Health Insurance Plan Changes for the 2019-2020 School Year

Motion: John McEwen moved to approve the Health Benefit Plan Change to address genetic drugs as noted in the Board Packet for the 2019-2020 school year. Jeff Hindoien seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None

Board Comment: Trustee Sarah Sullivan asked if only FDA approved genetic therapies would be covered, Stacy Collette stated that this was correct and only for the 2019-2020 plan year. Board Chair Luke Muszkiewicz thanked Stacy and the committee for their meaningful work and for potentially making therapies more affordable for members.

Vote: 7-0 The Motion carried.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Superintendent Tyler Ream thanked student Lea Hohenlohe, along with Capital High Student Representative Zyanne Cervantes, for speaking regarding female product dispensers. He stated this was an Administrative issue and would be discussed further.

VII. BOARD COMMENTS

None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other topics for future meetings and no public comment on issues not on the agenda, the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m. The next regular Board Meeting will be

held on October 8, 2019 at the Ray Bjork Learning Center 1600 8th Avenue Helena, MT 59601.

Respectfully Submitted,

Luke Muszkiewicz, Chair

Angie Ford, Recording Secretary

Date