



Board of Trustees Work Session

Tuesday, January 26, 2021 | Tour at 3:30 / 4:00pm | Jefferson Elementary School and via Zoom

MINUTES

ATTENDEES

<i>Trustees</i>	<i>Others</i>
Luke Muszkiewicz, Chair	Tyler Ream, Superintendent
Terry Beaver, Trustee	Josh McKay, Assistant Superintendent
Libby Goldes, Trustee	Barb Ridgway, Chief of Staff
John McEwen, Trustee	Janelle Mickelson, Business Services Administrator
Jennifer McKee, Trustee	Stacy Collette, Human Resources Director
Sarah Sullivan, Trustee	Tim McMahon, Activities Director
Jennifer Walsh, Trustee	Gary Myers, Director of Education Technology
	Kalli Kind, Facilities Director
	Sean Morrison, Special Education Administrator
Siobhan Hathhorn, Vice Chair	Sean Maharg, Special Education Administrator
<i>(Excused absence)</i>	Joslyn Davidson, Curriculum Administrator
	Trish Klock, Bryant Principal
	Rex Weltz, Rossiter Principal
	Brian Cummings, Jim Darcy Principal
	Carrie Owen, Broadwater Principal
	Jane Shawn, HEA President
	Many members of the public

JEFFERSON STAFF MEMBERS

Lona Carter, Principal	Emily Lynn	Cara Heath
Brenda Laramore	Sherri Haller	Rachel Ueland
Jill Putnam	Nicole Perschon	Francis Leonard
Andrea Thisselle	Kellen Alger	Anita Kearney
Shelley Franklin	Andy Sund	Brenda Mollet
Matthieu Oppedahl	Andrew Mozer	Beth Gordon
Abby Kuhl	Margaret O'Connor	Annette Moore
Roni Hawkins	Susan Sielbach	Cristin Bermingham
Heather Lieberg	Mattea Erickson	Gabrielle Laramore
Sammi Conrad	Emily Hilliard	

I. TOUR OF JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY

II. CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Luke Muszkiewicz called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. REVIEW OF AGENDA

No changes were requested to the agenda.

IV. PRESENTATION:

Jefferson Principal, Ms. Lona Carter, provided a brief history of the school, which was built in 1948 to replace the original school, which was built in 1891, and detailed the school's mission statement and guiding principles.

Ms. Carter provided an overview of Jefferson Elementary School's staff, which included 13 classroom teachers, six paras, one special education teacher, one librarian, two custodians, three SACC professionals, and many school-shared support staff (partial FTE at Jefferson). These staff members serve 260 students in Grades k-5.

In the classroom, Jefferson focuses on a guaranteed and viable curriculum, clarity and consistency, and a common vocabulary. Jefferson expects its students to be respectful, responsible, safe, a learner, creative, and present.

Ms. Carter addressed the results of the transition to standards-based progress reports and trimesters this school year. She presented Jefferson's iReady Math and Reading scores, which a majority of students on or above grade proficiency. Ms. Carter noted specifically the high percentages of reading proficiency. Ms. Carter next described the three-tiered approach to student success.

Ms. Carter presented Jefferson's self-care program for students, families, and staff. Part of that program included a "Calm Down Kit" to help students practice self-regulation and manage emotions. These kits and the self-care program were designed and implemented by school counselor, Emily Hillard. Jefferson also utilizes the PAX good behavior program, offers foreign language lessons to students, and teaches virtual art.

Looking forward, Jefferson will undergo safety upgrades, a teacher speaker system, smart projectors in classrooms, and a new heating/cooling system.

Ms. Carter highlighted a few programs offered by her creative and dedicated staff. These programs included literacy nights, book fairs, book clubs, student council, guitar and ukulele club, a school garden, Mario music, art classes, and many more. She stated that a lot of these programs are on hold this school year but will resume next year.

Ms. Carter voiced her appreciation for her strong parent council, who raises and donates almost \$10,000 annually to the school. Those funds are utilized for the library and classroom

materials, teacher stipends, staff/school support, the foreign language program, and 2nd chance breakfast when not provided by federal grants.

V. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Member of the public, Amanda Osborne, presented public comment regarding the use of plexiglass dividers in classrooms.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Items for Action

1. Consideration of Ballot Language for General Fund Levy Propositions

Ms. Mickelson provided an overview of the ballot language, adding it was due to the county on March 26. She confirmed approval of the ballot language would clarify the amount to be levied would be up to a certain amount.

a) Elementary District

A motion was made by Trustee Sullivan to approve the ballot language for the Elementary District General Fund Levy. The motion was seconded by Trustee McEwen. After receiving neither public comment nor board comment, the motion passed unanimously.

b) High School District

A motion was made by Trustee Sullivan to approve the ballot language for the High School District General Fund Levy. The motion was seconded by Trustee McEwen. After receiving neither public comment nor board comment, the motion passed unanimously.

2. Consideration of 2021-2022 District Calendar

Assistant Superintendent, Josh McKay presented the proposed calendar for the next school year. He stated that while the three-day, four-day, five-day school year start was ideal, some years it didn't work out; next year was one of those years. Next year's calendar also didn't allow for a full two-week winter break. He added the school year calendar was based on a return to "normal" for bell schedules and school days.

A motion was made by Trustee Sullivan to approve the 2021-2022 District Calendar. The motion was seconded by Trustee Goldes. After receiving neither public comment nor board comment, the motion passed unanimously.

3. Consideration of Superintendent's Contract

Chair Muszkiewicz voiced his appreciation for the process. He added the contract was reviewed by HR Administrator, Stacy Collette, Business Services Administrator, Janelle Mickelson, and district council.

A motion was made by Trustee Sullivan to approve the superintendent's contract. The motion was seconded by Trustee McKee. After receiving neither public comment nor board comment, the motion passed unanimously.

4. Consideration of Bid for Four Georgians Reroof

District Facilities Director, Kalli Kind, provided an overview of the bid to reroof Four Georgians Elementary School. She said it was on the list of necessary improvements assessed by the facilities department on an annual basis.

A motion was made by Trustee Beaver to approve the bid for the Four Georgians Reroof project. The motion was seconded by Trustee McEwen. After receiving neither public comment nor board comment, the motion passed unanimously.

5. Consideration of Bid for Capital High School Partial Reroof

Ms. Kind provided an overview of the bid and clarified it was on the list of necessary improvements assessed by the facilities department on an annual basis.

A motion was made by Trustee McEwen to approve the bid for the Capital High School Reroof project. The motion was seconded by Trustee Beaver. After receiving neither public comment nor board comment, the motion passed unanimously.

6. Consideration of Bid for Vigilante Stadium Improvements

Ms. Kind presented the bid for Vigilante Stadium improvements, which included new lights, track replacement, ADA accessibility additions, and a retaining wall repair. Ms. Kind answered several clarifying questions from trustees related to the longevity of the facilities and the needed improvements.

A motion was made by Trustee Goldes to approve the bid for the Vigilante Stadium improvements. The motion was seconded by Trustee McKee. After receiving neither public comment nor board comment, the motion passed unanimously.

7. Consideration of Bid for the Capital High School Air Handling Replacement

Ms. Kind presented the bid for an air handling replacement at Capital High. She stated the project had been on the facilities department's list of necessary projects and had been prioritized due to Covid.

A motion was made by Trustee Goldes to approve the bid for the Capital High School Air Handling Replacement. The motion was seconded by Trustee McKee. After receiving neither public comment nor board comment, the motion passed unanimously.

B. Items for Consent

A motion was made by Trustee Sullivan to approve the items for consent. The motion was seconded by Trustee Beaver. After receiving neither public comment nor board comment on the items listed for consent, the motion passed unanimously.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Ream provided a Superintendent's Update beginning with a discussion pertaining to the recently updated COVID School Guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. While many of the updated recommendations align with already implemented

aspects of Phase II, the use of partitions was removed from the CDC guidance. Dr. Ream noted that the district would be working with each school and teacher to consider how these partitions can be modified and/or removed as they are no longer cited as a health/safety measure. In addition, Dr. Ream noted that the district is considering other modifications to Phase II including schedules and formats at all three levels. However, with more than 17% of the district's middle and high school students attending via remote options, Dt. Ream stressed making sure that any/all modifications keep in mind the needs of all students. Lastly, Dr. Ream provided a brief vaccine update including recent and forthcoming vaccine clinics through the Helena Indian Alliance and the Leo Pocha Memorial Clinic, and Osco Pharmacies (Safeway and Albertsons).

VIII. BOARD COMMENTS

No further board comments were offered.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.

The next Board of Trustees Work Session has been scheduled for April 27, 2021.