

COLUMBUS SCHOOL DISTRICT #6

The **REGULAR** meeting of the Board of Trustees of Columbus School District #6 was held on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, in the middle school commons area. Chair Morse called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was established, and the meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Those participating were Trustee Joe Morse, Trustee Ryan Meier, Trustee Sue Ivankovich, Trustee Stephanie Wright and Trustee Jay Baum. Superintendent Jeff Bermes, Middle School Principal Joseph Morse, Elementary Principal Tom Kurtz, High School Principal Jim Browning, BCEA Union President Vickie Gibson, Katherine Dawe, Racheal Prather, Makenna Prather, Marah Murphy, Lisa Westervelt, John Schmitt, Tanya Ellis-Baum, Travis West, Isis Torres, Nichole Brower, Maureen Culbertson, Emmery Kurtz, Ella Olsen, Beth Ann Steffan, Samantha Gerlach, Rhanda Vindiola, Degen Nelson, Becky MacEwen.

- A. Approve Board Meeting Minutes
- B. Approve Warrants, Extracurricular Balances & Expenditures.
- C. Approve Resignation for Christine Langstein- Custodail

Trustee Baum made a motion to accept the agenda. Trustee Ivankovich seconded. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously

Trustee Wright made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Trustee Meier seconded. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

Warrant numbers 25964-26010 were approved.

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

No Student Council update.

Middle School Honor Society presented the board with an update on their concession fund raiser, their community service and angel tree gift project.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Approval of 8th Grade Extra-Curricular Procedures for Participation

The board discussed putting a 8th grade participation procedure in place to help determine if 8th graders should be allowed to participate in a given sport or situation. This procedure identifies the steps the board will take in making a final decision. Trustee Meier made the motion to accept the 8th grade extra-curricular procedure for participation. Trustee Wright seconded. Motion passed with a 3 to 2 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Retirement Incentive Determination

The Collective Bargaining Agreement for the Certified Staff states that the board is to determine the offering of a retirement incentive by the January board meeting. Trustee Ivankovich made a motion to not approve the offering of a retiring incentive for certified staff for the 23-24 school year. Trustee Meier seconded. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

B. Teacher Resignation Effective at the End of the School Year

Ms. Beth Ann Steffan will be resigning her position at the end of the 23-24 school year. This position will be posted immediately. Trustee Baum made a motion to approve Ms. Steffan's resignation effective the end of this year. Trustee Ivankovich seconded. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

C. Review of MHSA Proposals

The board reviewed and approved the MHSA proposals. Trustee Wright made a motion to authorize Mr. Osborne, as the district representative, to vote as directed by the Columbus School Board on the current proposals. Proposal 1-9 as a yes vote; and proposal 10-no. Trustee Baum seconded. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

D. Hiring of New Staff

Trustee Baum made the motion to hire Andrea Haines as the new assistant cook and Kody Stahl as a part-time math teacher for the rest of the 2023-24 school year. Trustee Meier seconded. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

E. Set Date for Superintendent Application Reviews

Working session for board to review applications will be February 6th at 5:30 p.m. in the middle school commons. No motions will be made at this meeting.

F. Request for Extended Leave

Mr. Robinson is requesting that the board approve his leave request from March 25th to March 28th and possibly April 2nd depending on flights. Trustee Meier made a motion to approve Mr. Robinson's extended leave. Trustee Wright seconded. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

G. Student Out-Of-District Application

With the hiring of the new assistant kitchen cook, Mrs. Haines is requesting that her two sons be allowed to attend Columbus School with her hiring. Trustee Ivankovich moved to approve the out-of-district application. Trustee Meier seconded. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

H. Approval New Bus Barn Garage Door Bid

The board discussed replacing the worn-out garage doors on the bus barn. The bid came from A-One Garage Door at \$26,956. Trustee Baum made a motion to approve the A-One Garage Door bid. Trustee Meier seconded. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

I. First Reading of Board Policy 3141 and 3141F-Nonresident Student Enrollment

The board approved the first reading of policy 3141 and 3141F. Trustee Ivankovich made a motion to approve the first reading. Trustee Wright seconded. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

J. Official Request for 8th Grade Participation in Softball

Coach John Smith requested from the board to bring 8th graders up to play softball this spring. The board has asked to see a roster of those participating and a list of players that are being considered to bring up along with their evaluations of those players. Trustee Baum made a motion to table the discussion until this information was provided. Trustee Meier seconded. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

Administrative Reports

A. Elementary Report:

- Enrollment 321
- Second trimester midterm is this Wednesday, January 10th.
- MAPS testing window closes on January 19th.
- 4th and 5th grades are doing their classroom spelling bee.
- February will be our next AR challenge.
- PE classes in the upper grades have been doing Winter Olympic events.
- 4th and 5th grade classes will be going to Red Lodge on January 19th.
- February 7th is School Counselor Appreciation.
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B. Middle School Report

- Enrollment 180
- Second round of MAPS
- Classroom spelling bees will be next week.
- District spelling bee will be January 31st.
- County spelling bee will be February 20th.

- Jr. High Boys Basketball is underway.

C. High School Report

- Enrollment 243
- Three junior boys are transferring to Montana Youth Challenge.
- Semester is ending.
- Will be working with Montana colleges to replace retired and non-returning teachers.

D. Superintendent Report

- Visually impaired student has enrolled in the district. Deaf and Blind school is helping us with recourses for this student.
- Construction update: Finishing up remodel and working on bids for roof.
- Bus driver complaints on Pine Crest Route.
- Park City Co-op agreement is in review.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Transportation:

Personnel Committee:

Buildings:

Finance: They met to approve and sign warrants.

Technology:

Policy:

ADJOURNMENT:

Trustee Baum made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm, Trustee Ivankovich seconded it. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.


Chairman

Attest:

