

Melrose-Mindoro Board of Education

Regular Monthly Board Meeting

Monday April 22, 2019

Board Vice President Rick Paisley called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Administrators present: Superintendent Jeff Arzt, Jr/Sr. High School Principal Rick Dobbs, ECH-6th Gr. Principal Corey Peterson. Board Members present: Shane Zeman, Terry Blaken, Rick Paisley, Kathy Dunn, and Kim Sacia. All who were present then stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Deputy Clerk Michelle Murray gave the Oath of Office to the elected board members Terry Blaken, Shane Zeman and Jodi Anderson.

The election of officers took place after Rick Paisley was appointed unanimously as chairperson to lead the process. Motion by Blaken, second by Dunn to nominate Rick Paisley as president. Motion by Zeman, second by Dunn to nominate Terry Blaken as vice-president. Terry declined. Motion by Blaken, second by Sacia to nominate Shane Zeman, who accepted nomination. Motion by Zeman, second by Sacia to nominate Kathy Dunn as Clerk. Motion by Sacia, second by Paisley to nominate Becky Whalen as treasurer. All accepted nominations were approved unanimously.

Motion by Sacia, second by Blaken to approve the minutes from last month's meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

Correspondence: The Mindoro Lions Club sent a thank you for allowing them to use the building for their annual pancake breakfast recently.

Administrator's Report: Mr. Arzt offered congratulations to re-elected board members Blaken and Zeman and welcomed new member Jodi Anderson (Area 4). All three were elected to a three year seat on the board.

7-12th grade students will start five minutes earlier due to our latest (and hopefully last) snow day on April 11. We will meet the DPI required minutes of instruction by doing so and not adding on another day of school.

Staff attended in-service today April 22, 2019 to collaborate with teachers in their grade-levels and participate in school improvement activities.

May is Mental Health Awareness month. On May 20, the district will be hosting an event titled "Resilience: The Biology of Stress & the Science of Hope". This is just one of the events put on in conjunction with Black River Memorial Hospital, Jackson County Department of Health & Human Services, Peace of Mind Counseling Services & Jackson County Children & Family Services.

Sandy Paisley was selected for the Karen Smith award through Project ADAM. The grant was completed by Mary Sinclair and it is awarded to a person who has demonstrated passion, innovation, and excellence in serving as a champion for their school's CPR-AED program.

In a follow up to last month's open forum question regarding the lack of home track meets, Mr. Arzt reported that Melrose-Mindoro High School was not in the Dairyland Conference rotation to host this year. In addition, we cannot host the conference meet because we do not have a pole vault pit. We need to have a pole vault pit in order to host a conference track meet. The district is looking at purchasing a pole vault pit.

Grandparents/Grandfriends Day was a huge success. Adults & students in 1-2nd grade rotated between music, art, technology, library and homework/snack stations and participated in a variety of activities. There were very positive comments from the participants with the hope that the activity will continue in the future.

The school forest will be logged off in mid-May as part of the management program.

Congratulations to our Forensic students. They received a silver medal at state competition. Mr. Ebert entered some of his economic students compete for the first time in a state economics challenge, and they won! They will go on the National level this week.

Weather issues are continuing to create scheduling problems. In order to get conference softball and baseball games played, they may have to reschedule on Wednesday evenings.

Open Forum: Mr. Jay Everson questioned the length of the teacher contracts (days) vs. the number of minutes of instruction for students. Students are now required to meet minutes of instruction vs. days of instruction and he feels the teachers are teaching longer than they have in past years.

Mr. Erick Hanson stated the band and choir students participated in large group festivals at Blair-Taylor and received favorable critiques.

Finance: Review of the expenditures and receipts through March. Motion by Dunn, second by Zeman to approve the check summary & vouchers in the amount of \$674,907.68. Motion carried 5-0.

Other Business

1. Erik Hanson presented a brief introduction to 'E-sports'. E-sports is an online gaming league that could get more students involved at school. Students participating in the league are eligible to receive scholarships for college. No decision was made tonight on whether or not to offer e-sports in the upcoming school year.
2. Motion by Blaken, second by Sacia to hold the May board meeting on Tuesday, May 21 at 7:00 p.m. since Memorial Day holiday falls on our regularly scheduled night. Motion carried 5-0.
3. Motion by Sacia, second by Zeman to approve a \$.25 increase in pay for returning lifeguards and water safety instructors. Park & Rec Director Sandy Paisley will receive a \$300 increase in pay over last year. Motion carried 4-0 with Paisley abstaining.
4. Motion by Zeman, second by Blaken to accept the retirement notices of 7-8th Gr. Science teacher Jill Gunderson and Library Media Aide Kathy Young. Motion carried 5-0.
5. There were no recommendations for hiring professional staff at this time. Motion by Blaken, second by Dunn to hire Paul Lash as a bus driver contingent upon passing his driving test later this week. Motion carried 5-0.
6. Motion by Sacia, second by Blaken to accept the \$2,000 donation towards the purchase of wrestling mats and \$500 from the Melrose Express to be split between the Academic Decathlon and Melrose-Mindoro High School Trap Shooting team. The team does not have an activity account set up with the school so that portion of the donation was written given directly to the team. Motion carried 5-0.
7. Jodi Anderson was appointed to be the district's CESA 4 annual convention representative.
8. Motion by Zeman, second by roll call vote to adjourn to Executive Session 19.85 1(c) to consider employment, promotion or performance evaluation and 1 (f) to consider a disciplinary matter at 8:15 p.m.
9. Motion by Zeman, second by Blaken to reconvene to Open Session at 8:52 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.
10. Motion by Zeman, second by Sacia to adjourn at 8:53 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Michelle Murray
Recorder of Minutes