

Melrose-Mindoro Board of Education

Regular Monthly Board Meeting

Monday, December 16, 2019

Board President Rick Paisley called the regular monthly meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Administrators present: Superintendent Jeff Arzt, 7-12th Gr. Principal Rick Dobb, ECH-6th Gr. Principal Corey Peterson and Finance Administrator Kim Bobo. Also sitting in tonight was part-time Finance Administrator Casey Pfaff. Board Members present: Shane Zeman, Terry Blaken, Kathy Dunn, Becky Whalen, Jodi Anderson and Kim Sacia. All who were present then stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Zeman, second by Blaken to approve the minutes from last month's meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

Correspondence: We received a thank you card from Toni Adams and family for the sympathy card for her father's passing. In addition, a thank you card from Karri Barrett for allowing her to work in the district.

Administrator's Report: The junior high Robotics team competed in Black River Falls this past Saturday and did very well. In the round-robin matches, our two teams finished 3rd & 10th out of 52 teams and made it to the final round. They were winning the competition but the battery on their remote control quit working and so the team ended up finishing in fourth place. Advisor Chad Mather and administration were very proud of the students' performance.

We received the final audit report from Engelson & Associates. A copy of the final document was on the board table for members to review.

The district received the IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) accountability report and we met all requirements with a score of 94%. The categories in this report are 'meets requirements', 'needs assistance', 'needs intervention' and 'needs substantial intervention'. We also received our report on our ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) compliance. The ESSA accountability system includes five indicators: academic achievement, student growth, graduation rate, progress in attaining English language proficiency and absenteeism. Our ESSA identification status at both schools is 'not identified'. That means we are in compliance.

The district will seek bids for property, general liability, commercial auto and worker compensation among other policies for the upcoming school year. We are in the process of getting a spec sheet together in order to be able to get comparable bids.

Mr. Arzt reported on the number of transportation requests the elementary office received after a letter was sent to all elementary parents. The district continues to average about 20-25 transportation changes a day. The board and administration plan to implement a new policy for the 20-21 school year.

The district received a \$2,000 grant from our health insurance provider, Wisconsin Counties Association, as a wellness incentive for our staff. Two massage chairs were purchased with these funds and are in both staff lounges.

The Wisconsin School Board convention is coming up January 22-24 in Milwaukee. Please let Mr. Arzt or Michelle know if you would like to attend the convention. We will arrange registration and hotel accommodations for you.

Casey Pfaff has been training with our current finance administrator about once a week and is busy learning about payroll, reporting and budgeting. The transition plan is working well.

Open Forum: Kathy Dunn commended Ed Gappa & Jennifer Goodenough and thought they should be recognized for their commitment to photograph the many events that occur at Melrose-Mindoro High School. For several years, they have been the unofficial sports photographers. Many of the sports teams provide some sort of gift of

appreciation to these two, but it would be nice if we could do something as a board to recognize their efforts. These two go above and beyond fan photography.

Finance: Review of the expenditures and receipts through November. Motion by Whalen, second by Dunn to approve the check summary & vouchers in the amount of \$1,853,366.79. Motion carried 6-0.

Other Business:

1. Motion by Blaken, second by Dunn to accept the \$500 donation from Muddy Creek & Kyle Knudtson. A Chili Cook-off was held at Muddy Creek and Kyle donated proceeds and tips to the school to help offset student lunch account balances. Motion carried 6-0.
2. Motion by Zeman, second by Sacia to allow the request for modification of second semester schedules for four students. They are requesting to be released after fifth hour in order to work more hours or complete youth apprenticeship hours. Motion carried 6-0.
3. Motion by Sacia, second by Dunn to approve the district mission, vision & value statements. Motion carried 6-0. Mr. Arzt presented information describing the process used to create these statements.
Mission: *Knowledge + Integrity + Determination = Success "Kids Come First"*
Vision: *"Setting the standard for rural schools through relationships, rigor and responsibility"*
Values: **Community:** We value community partnerships and service opportunities. **Student Achievement:** We value encouraging and supporting students in their pursuit of academic excellence. **Relationships:** We value building personal connections among students, staff, and community members.
Communication: We value developing and maintaining effective communication between our district and community. **Professionalism:** We value highly qualified staff delivering effective and engaging instruction.
4. Motion by Whalen, second by Sacia to approve the request for unpaid time off for Amy Thesing. Motion carried 6-0. Amy is requesting 20 hours of unpaid leave.
5. Motion by Whalen, second by Zeman to approve the resignation of School Wellness Coordinator Mary Lynn Sinclair effective at the end of the 19-20 school year. Motion carried 6-0.
6. Motion by Blaken, second by Dunn to approve the resignation of Assistant Baseball Coach Steve Hruza. Motion carried 6-0.
7. Motion by Sacia, second by Anderson to hire Amy Becker as the high school Cross Country head coach. Motion carried 6-0.
8. Motion by Whalen, second by Dunn to approve the posting for a 7-12th grade business education teaching position starting in the 20-21 school year. Motion carried 6-0.
9. Motion by Sacia, second by Anderson to approve the 7-12th grade curriculum/course handbook. Motion carried 6-0.
10. Motion by Dunn, second by Zeman to approve the resignations of special education aides Lisa Paulson and Tammy Johnson. Motion carried 6-0.
11. Motion by Whalen, second by Sacia to approve hiring Tammy Johnson as a full-time custodian and Ken Kettledon as part-time custodian. Motion carried 6-0.
12. Motion by Dunn, second by Sacia to adjourn at 7:05 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Michelle Murray
Recorder of Minutes