

Melrose-Mindoro Board of Education

Regular Monthly Board Meeting

Monday, February 28, 2022

Board President Rick Paisley called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Administrators present: Superintendent Jeff Arzt, ECH-6th Gr. Principal Corey Peterson, 7-12 Grade Principal Rick Dobbs, Building & Grounds/Transportation Director Dan Stetzer and Finance Administrator Casey Pfaff. Board Members present: Becky Whalen, Jodi Anderson, Kim Sacia, Terry Blaken, Kathy Dunn & Shane Zeman. All who were present then stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Sacia, second by Blaken to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

Correspondence: The board received thank you cards from Cathy Ramsey & Doni Polenz concerning the retention stipend staff recently received. A thank you card was also received from Judy Brauner for the memorial given in memory of her father John Sternaman who recently passed away. Elementary Library also received donations from Cindy Tracey in memory of Sharon Radcliffe; Del Deberg in memory of Sarahann Jones & Nema Grafing.

Administrator's Report: The 4Kw solar panels were installed last Tuesday and are located near the maintenance shed. Jackson Electric has the system functional and we are now generating power.

Effective February 25, 2022, the CDC revised the requirement to wear masks on public transportation, including school buses or vans. School systems at their discretion may choose to require masks. Melrose-Mindoro will allow family choice to mask or not.

With fuel prices increasing, Mr. Arzt contacted our current LP gas provider to determine when the best time to contract LP for the upcoming year and was told to wait for a time.

In sporting event, the Lady Mustang basketball team saw their season come to an end against Darlington last Wednesday. Boys basketball will play tomorrow night here vs. Lancaster in our first Regional game. Individual state wrestling competition was held this past weekend with Jackson Blaken, Tanner Anderson & Braydon Lockington participating. Tanner took 3rd place at State. The gymnastic team finished 3rd in Sectionals this past weekend also and Abby Miller will move on to state competition on the vault, beam & all-around.

The district hosted the Music Solo/Ensemble festival and 12 students are moving on to State on their Class A entries, which is very difficult to do. Both Mr. Hanson & Mrs. Bernau are very proud of all the students for their efforts, especially after the trials and difficulty of coming out of our COVID year.

Congratulations to the Academic Decathlon team! They are the Division 4 champs and have qualified for the online national competition held later this year.

Mr. Arzt informed the school board about the large amount of K-12 legislative bills that are being introduced, none of which seem to be addressing school districts biggest concerns which are staffing, inflation and the upcoming fiscal cliff that we will be facing in two years. Mr. Arzt encouraged the board the read about the proposed bills on the WASB website.

Open Forum: None

Finance: Review of the expenditures and receipts through January. Motion by Whalen, second by Dunn to approve the check summary & vouchers in the amount of \$1,928,159.40. Motion carried 6-0. There were no budget transfers.

Other Business:

1. Head Football coach Tory Lockington requested football players to attend an overnight camp in Ladysmith tentatively planned for mid-June. COVID has prevented them attending the last few years. Motion made by Dunn, second by Sacia to approve them attending the camp. Motion carried 6-0. Tory also provided a brief equipment update.
2. Motion by Whalen, second by Zeman to approve the addition of HSRA (High School Racing Association) and Figure Skating as co-curricular sporting events. These activities are similar to Rodeo and Trap Shooting by allowing them to earn letters in the respective sport. Motion carried 6-0.
3. District Nurse Tara Tjerstad gave the District Health and Immunization report. We currently have 99.6% of the student population current on their immunizations. There are 59 students who have claimed an exemption due to history of disease, personal or religious conviction.
4. Tara then continued with providing the update to the Cardiac Emergency procedures. To date, the Emergency Response team has been activated three times (all for staff members) and response was immediate to the minor incidents.
5. District Building & Grounds/Transportation Director Dan Stetzer provided his annual update of the building & fleet. Replacement of the roof over the high school gym and refinishing the junior high gym floor are some projects to be aware of in the future. The oldest vehicles in the fleet should be cycled out with a new bus/van purchase each year.
6. ECH-6th Grade Principal Corey Peterson reported that two math programs will be piloted this year before selecting one program to start the 22-23. Those programs are ReadyMath & Envision.
7. Both Mr. Peterson & 7-12 Principal Rick Dobbs provided their annual updates to School Violence drills held recently. These drills allowed staff & students to practice a few different scenarios using ALICE techniques. Parents of elementary students received a letter a week before the drill explaining what was going to happen. Prior to the drill it was stressed to all students that it was not an actual incident. Afterwards, students were allowed to ask questions and review the training process.
8. Motion by Blaken, second by Anderson to accept the \$1,000 grant from the La Crosse Autism Foundation Board. Motion carried 6-0.
9. Motion by Dunn, second by Sacia to accept the resignation of Library Director Tom Leis at the end of the 21-22 school year. Motion carried 6-0. No action to be taken on the retirement of professional or support staff.
10. Motion by Blaken, second by Whalen to hire Christina Montalvo has a paraprofessional. Motion carried 6-0.
11. Motion by Zeman, second by Dunn to accept the resignation of Assistant Baseball coach Rob Sbraggia. Motion carried 6-0.
12. Motion by Whalen, second by Anderson to hire Marcus Leland as the head Track & Field coach. Motion carried 6-0.
13. Motion by Zeman, second by roll call vote to adjourn to Executive Session per WI Statute 19.85 1(c)-To consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation of staff at 8:24 p.m.
14. Motion to reconvene to Open Session at 9:24 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.
15. Motion by Sacia, second by Anderson to adjourn at 9:29 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Michelle Murray
Recorder of Minutes