

Melrose-Mindoro Board of Education

Regular Monthly Board Meeting

June 26, 2023

Board President Rick Paisley called the regular monthly meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Administrators present: Superintendent Jeff Arzt, Finance Administrator Casey Pfaff. Board Members present: Terry Blaken, Becky Whalen, Kim Sacia, Geoff Rozek & 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: Thank you notes were received from Kathy Dunn & Tammy Radcliffe for the memorials given for Kathy's husband, Bud and Tammy's mom, Donna Role, who both recently passed away.

Administrator's Report: Mr. Arzt provided a state budget update in regards to K-12 education. School districts will see some state help with a small boost in special education funding as well as per pupil funding once the budget is finalized. The Right to Read Act (AB321) has not passed yet but will direct schools to select a state approved literacy program.

GEO classes were held June 5-16 with 255 average student attendance (not including swimming lesson attendance). This was a great turnout and students were able to select from many unique classes.

Mr. Dobbs & Mr. Peterson were not in attendance at tonight's board meeting due to leading a group of teachers at PLC training in Minneapolis through Wednesday.

The irrigation system on the baseball field has been installed. New scoreboards in the large gym have also been installed with the old scoreboards getting installed in the JH gym. Stage lighting system will be installed in July.

The district received funds for the electric bus and charging system. We anticipate delivery of the electric bus in October.

Mr. Tom Anderson from Anderson Driving School is retiring. Enhanced Driving Institute will be picking up where Mr. Anderson left off and have in-person & virtual instruction to allow student athletes to complete the classes around their sports schedule.

Mr. Arzt is working with the Lunda Center to use their facilities as a reunification site in the event of a large scale school evacuation.

Bridging Brighter Smiles provided a report of all their services they offered our students over the past year. We feel that they have provided wonderful dental care for our students right here at school and look forward to working with them in the coming years.

The custodians have been working very hard getting our building cleaned and floors waxed. Summer is always a busy time for them and they are doing a fantastic job.

Open Forum: Kathy Dunn read a letter from her daughter, Kari Peterson. Kari was very grateful for the support she received from the board and district she received the last few weeks of school. She was allowed to spend time to be with her sister and nieces during Joey Beard's illness and passing.

Finance: Review of the expenditures and receipts through May. Motion by Whalen, second by Sacia to approve the check summary & vouchers in the amount of \$2,298,705.14. Motion carried 6-0.

Other Business:

1. District Librarian Anne Wachter-Labus presented the district library plan to the board members. This is required by the state and outlines what the Library/Media teacher does as well as how common school funds are spent.
2. Motion by Dunn, second by Whalen to approve the District Library Plan. Motion carried 6-0.
3. Business education teacher & DECA Advisor Allison Boudry along with outgoing DECA President Brianna Baker spoke about their experience at DECA International competition in Florida. This was a wonderful opportunity for Brianna and really solidified her decision to enter into business as a career. The school store completed its first full year in business and students gained experience in all aspects of running the store from ordering, marketing and customer interactions. DECA students also organized a variety of community events, such as "Trick or Can" where canned food items were collected from the community and then donated to our local food pantry.
4. There is no action to be taken for the first reading of Policy & Rule 458-School Wellness.
5. District Nurse Tara Tjerstad presented her annual district report. She was also certified to teach CPR and 33 sophomores were CPR certified. Sophomores are required to learn CPR but our students completed the written and hands on test to become CPR certified.
6. Motion by Blaken, second by Sacia to approve changes to the Safe Return to In Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan. This plan will be available on our district website. Motion carried 6-0.
7. Motion by Dunn, second by Zeman to accept the donation from Melrose-Mindoro Youth Volleyball in the amount of \$3,550. These funds will go towards the purchase of new volleyball standards & nets. Motion carried 6-0.
8. Motion by Zeman, second by Sacia to renew the district's WIAA membership for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried 6-0.
9. Motion by Sacia, second by Zeman to approve the resignations of Joie Stark (custodian); Del Deberg (bus driver); Jamie Koss (Head JH Volleyball coach); Elizabeth Herzberg (High School Assistant Boys Basketball coach); and Beth Miller (Title 1 teacher). Motion carried 6-0.
10. Motion by Whalen, second by Blaken to accept the LP bid for 2023-2024 from Consolidated at \$1.10/gal. Motion carried 6-0. Other bids received were from ProVision at \$1.11/gal; Allied Co-Op at \$1.12 and Chippewa Valley Energy at \$1.29/gal.
11. Motion by Blaken, second by Rozek to approve hiring Haylee Gilster (Elementary Special Education teacher); Whitney Tollefson (4K teacher); Tessa Severson (4th grade teacher); Nicholas Yanske (Elementary PE/Adaptive PE teacher); and Emily Wolf (Elementary paraprofessional & High School C-Team volleyball coach). Motion carried 6-0.
12. There was a brief discussion pertaining to future compensation for professional and support staff. No action to be taken at this time.
13. Mr. Arzt review the 2022-2023 school budget. There is approximately \$400,000 in expenditures for June.
14. Mr. Arzt also previewed the 2023-2024 budget. The figures are very preliminary and will change once the state budget is finalized.
15. Motion by Whalen, second by Sacia to adjourn at 7:33 p.m.

Michelle Murray
Recorder of Minutes