

## Melrose-Mindoro Board of Education

Regular Monthly Board Meeting

Monday, May 23, 2022

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

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

**Correspondence:** Thank you from the family of Alex Berg for the plant they received from district staff and students in memory of Alex who passed away in April.

**Administrator's Report:** The family of Sarahann Jones donated a monetary gift along with two framed pictures from local artist Jamie Heiden. The artwork can be seen in each of our school libraries. Approximately \$15,000 in donations from 'Mad Minutes' held at recent sporting events, Hat Day and Penny Wars we collected and deposited into a local bank account for the Coats family. Four of the children who were students in the district, perished in a recent home fire.

The Village of Melrose continues to search for a swimming pool director in light of Sandy Paisley's resignation from the position. Sandy is working to get the pool ready prior to the start of swimming lessons which begin June 6, 2022.

Mr. Arzt received a letter from GSS Inc., a company representing US Cellular, looking for a location in the area to put a 280 ft. cell tower. The company is offering a yearly rent amount of \$6,000.00 for up to a 100 year lease. Mr. Arzt will report back to the board when more details are available and if there is a viable place to build on district property.

Congratulations to the Academic Decathlon, they placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the small school division at national competition. Noah Hanson had the highest score in the scholastic division.

The Sparta School Board will be meeting tomorrow to discuss the possibility of allowing area district buses to transport students who open enrolled out of Sparta for the upcoming school year. A large number of students open enrolled out of Sparta due to the closure of Cataract Elementary at the end of the 21-22 school year. No decision by this board will be made until the outcome of Sparta's board meeting is known.

Graduation ceremonies were held last Friday & Saturday. 39 kindergarten students walked the stage on Friday followed by 65 high school seniors on Saturday afternoon.

**Open Forum:** None

**Finance:** Review of the expenditures and receipts through April. Motion by Whalen, second by Dunn to approve the check summary & vouchers in the amount of \$546,550.80. Motion carried 6-0. There were no budget changes.

### **Other Business:**

1. Motion by Whalen, second by Blaken to approve the open enrollment applications into and out of the district for the 22-23 school year. A total of 46 applications including one denial (due to no space in a capped program) to enroll into the school district and 25 applications for students to open enrolled out of the district. Motion carried 6-0.

2. Motion by Zeman, second by Dunn to accept WI Counties Association (WCA) & Delta Dental as health and dental insurance providers for the 22-23 plan year. Motion carried 6-0. There was no rate increase over last year for health insurance premium and a 7% increase in dental premiums.
3. Motion by Sacia, second by Zeman to renew WIAA membership for the 2022-23 school year. Motion carried 6-0.
4. Motion by Dunn, second by Rozek to accept the monetary donation in the amount of \$619.25 and two framed pictures in memory of Sarahann Jones by her family. Motion carried 6-0.
5. Motion by Zeman, second by Rozek to approve the change from *Everyday Math* to *Ready Math* curriculum for K-6<sup>th</sup> grade students starting in the 2022-23 school year. Motion carried 6-0.
6. Motion by Blaken second d by Dunn to accept the resignation of 7-8<sup>th</sup> gr. Science teacher Isaiah Schmidt and paraprofessionals Jordan Paisley & Katelyn Ramsey. Paraprofessional Clifftin Stanton will move to Custodial/Maintenance effective June 1, 2022. Motion carried 6-0.
7. Motion by Whalen, second by Sacia to hire Annie Wachter-Labus as district librarian and Sadie Korth as the 7-8<sup>th</sup> gr. Math teacher. Motion carried 6-0.
8. Motion by Zeman second by roll call vote to adjourn to Executive Session 19.85 1(c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or evaluation of personnel and (f) consider financial, medical, social or personal histories of specific persons at 7:30 p.m.
9. Motion by Sacia, second by Whalen to reconvene to Open Session at 8:05 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.
10. Motion by Sacia, second by Rozek to this motion is to approve a 5.00% increase based on the total package (salary & benefits) for administrative staff, effective July 1, 2022. Motion carried 6-0.
11. Motion by Dunn, second by Zeman to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Michelle Murray  
Recorder of Minutes