

Melrose-Mindoro Board of Education

Regular Monthly Board Meeting

Monday, February 22, 2021

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-6th Gr. Principal Corey Peterson & 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 Whalen, second by Dunn to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

Correspondence: There was no correspondence.

Administrator's Report: Mr. Arzt showed the board a visual rendering of the new auditorium chairs. Remodeling of the auditorium is scheduled to begin soon.

We have had four weeks without students or staff members having a positive COVID test. This is great news. We are still diligent about wearing masks and social distancing. Approximately 20 staff members have received their second dose of the COVID vaccine last week.

Graduation ceremonies have been moved from Friday May 28 indoors to Saturday, May 29 at 2:00 p.m. outside at the football field, similar to last year. If there is a need to postpone due to weather, it will be held on Sunday, May 30. Prom is scheduled for April 17, 2021. Jackson County Public Health approved both these events provided social distancing guidelines are met.

Twenty-one students received transcribed credit in Wood Tech and eight in CADD. Both of these classes are taught by Mr. Briggs. There are a total of 78 students (46 in JH/SH and 32 in Elementary) that are attending school virtually which is about 10% of our student body. Area schools are seeing approximately 30% of their students attend virtually.

Congratulations to our winter sports & academic teams. Abby Miller will be heading to compete at individual state gymnastics on bars & floor this coming weekend.

Mr. Arzt updated the board members on Gov. Evers proposed state budget. The governor would like to increase educational spending 1.6 billion over the next two years and get back to 2/3 funding for schools.

Open Forum: Head Football coach Tory Lockington provided information about the equipment rotation cycle that the program is on. Junior high football helmets are nearing the end of their 10 year life cycle and will need to be replaced in two years. These helmets were purchased with grant money received from the JJ Watt Foundation in 2013. Other items to be considered for replacement are game pants and rain coats.

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 \$3,283,197.12. Motion carried 6-0.

Other Business:

1. Building & Grounds/Transportation Director Dan Stetzer provided the annual updates for each department. Several drivers have been making deliveries to students attending school virtually and any quarantined students after their morning bus routes. Kari Johnson has done a great job helping Dan using the new transportation mapping software which creates efficient bus routes. Staff members have expressed an interest in obtaining their CDL licensing as help out as substitute drivers. The new, under body auto washing system should be installed this week. While our vehicles are in good conditions, the purchase of a new bus and a couple vans are needed in the future. Two of our oldest vans ('06 & '09 have

185,000 and 200,000+ miles on them. Building & grounds have also been updated with new air conditioning in the high school, gyms repainted and high school library renovations.

2. Motion by Sacia, second by Zeman to approve the installation of a 4K solar power system from Jackson Electric. The estimated value of this system is \$30,000 which Jackson Electric will install. The district will need to clear the site and get the required permits for installation. After five year the district would need to pick up the bill for the cell phone connection and \$5.00/month meter charge. The district will also teach alternative energy curriculum. Motion carried 6-0.
3. Motion by Whalen, second by Dunn to increase GEO class pay from \$17 to \$20 per hour and Remedial class pay from \$22 to \$24 per hour. Motion carried 6-0.
4. Motion by Dunn, second by Zeman to approve the Fund 49 projects as presented and receive approval for these purchases from Quarles & Brady. Motion carried 6-0.
5. Motion by Sacia, second by Blaken to approve the 2021-2022 school year calendar. Motion carried 6-0.
6. 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 at 8:50 p.m.
7. Motion by Sacia, second by Blaken to reconvene to Open Session at 9:12 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.
8. Motion by Whalen, second by Anderson to approve the resignation of Assistant Volleyball coach Abby Aasen along with the resignation of Connie Craig at the end of the 20-21 school year as high school secretary, athletic director and web designer. Motion carried 6-0.
9. Motion by Dunn, second by Blaken to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Michelle Murray
Recorder of Minutes