

Melrose-Mindoro Board of Education

Regular Monthly Board Meeting

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

Correspondence: Thank you cards were received from Ann Suttie & Stanley Stetzer. Ann's father and Stanley's daughter recently passed away.

Administrator's Report: Sixth grade students completed a Valentine's Day project where they sent letters to people in the community and in nursing homes. The students received thank you letters in return and Mr. Arzt shared those with the board.

The Academic Decathlon team won their fourth straight Division 4 State title. The Mustangs finished seventh among all schools competing and earned a place in the National competition which would have been held in Des Moines, IA but will be a virtual competition once again this year.

The Finance & Investment Quiz Bowl team took second place in recent competition and each of the four participants received a \$250 scholarship. They will participate in State competition this May.

Congratulations to the Drama directors Kari Johnson & Nancy Gilligan and the entire cast for their recent performance of 'Reality Stars-Greek Gods & The Ever After (A Musical)'. Attendance was limited to four people per actor but it was live streamed and recorded for audiences to watch.

The CDC has issued new guidelines that decrease the amount of physical distance from six to three feet for students in classrooms. Contact tracing still needs to be done when close contact is within six feet.

The American Rescue Plan Act passed and the DPI estimates WI public school will receive \$1.4 billion in funding. These funds will be available through September 30, 2024. Melrose-Mindoro received \$457,723 in the second round of this funding and this amount is expected to double for the third round.

Fourth grade students will be presenting their WI History Fair boards this week for students. Unfortunately, it will not be open to the public.

All staff that wanted the COVID vaccine had the opportunity to receive their series of shots over the past couple of months with some to receive their second vaccine in April.

Mr. Arzt would like the board to consider at next month's meeting to change the last day for students from Tuesday, June 1 to Friday, May 28.

GEO course booklet has been published and registration will begin on March 29. Classes are scheduled to start on June 7. GEO classes will also be offered after morning remedial classes July 26-August 6.

Open Forum: None

Finance: Review of the expenditures and receipts through February. Motion by Whalen, second by Dunn to approve the check summary & vouchers in the amount of \$1,342,351.91. Motion carried 6-0.

Other Business:

1. Motion by Zeman, second by Whalen to approve the short term borrowing bid of 1.05% from Black River Country Bank for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. Motion carried 5-0 with Blaken abstaining. First National Bank provided a bid of 1.95%.
2. Mr. Arzt updated the board as to the progress of the Fund 49 projects.
3. Motion by Whalen, second by Dunn to approve the additional Fund 49 projects. Motion carried 6-0. These projects include flooring for the Family & Consumer Ed room, stage curtains, blacktop area by propane tank, a kiln for the elementary Art room, CADD computers and new livestreaming equipment. Staff computers will be purchased provided there are contingency funds remaining.
4. Motion by Sacia, second by Anderson to approve the CESA 4 & CESA 10 2021-2022 contracts. Motion carried 6-0.
5. Motion by Dunn, second by Blaken to approve the unpaid leave request for Kathy Barrett-Helgeson in January 2022. Motion carried 6-0.
6. Motion by Blaken, second by Sacia to approve the resignations from Assistant Track & Field coach Aaron Schaitel and Food Service worker Sue Stark. There were no retirement notices. Motion carried 6-0.
7. Motion by Dunn, second by Anderson to hire an additional high school assistant baseball coach for the upcoming season only. Motion carried 6-0. There is an increase in athletes participating and warrants the addition of coaching staff.
8. Motion by Whalen, second by Zeman to hire Tom Knudston as an assistant track & field coach specifically for pole vaulting. This position is three days a week. Motion carried 6-0.
9. 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 7:45 p.m.
10. Motion by Dunn, second by Blaken to reconvene to Open Session at 8:10 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.
11. Motion by Sacia, second by Whalen to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Michelle Murray
Recorder of Minutes