

Melrose-Mindoro Board of Education

Regular Monthly Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Board President Rick Paisley called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Administrators present: Superintendent Jeff Arzt, Jr/Sr. High School Principal Rick Dobbs, ECH-6th Gr. Principal Corey Peterson and Finance Administrator Kim Bobo. Board Members present: Shane Zeman, Terry Blaken, Rick Paisley, Kathy Dunn, Becky Whalen, Jodi Anderson and Kim Sacia. All who were present then stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Sacia, second by Blaken to approve the minutes from last month's meeting. Motion carried 6-0.

Correspondence: The district received a card from the family of Doni Polenz thanking the board and administration for their donation for her mother who passed away in late April. The money will go towards a bench by her gravesite.

Administrator's Report: Another great performance by Mrs. Hanson and the 3rd-5th grade students. Their 'Beats of Broadway' musical concert was a huge success and the students did an exceptional job.

The students who participated in the National Economic Challenge placed 19th out of 33 teams and was led by Mr. Ebert! Nice job everyone. Academic Decathlon team took third in the nation in the small school division and is also led by Mr. Ebert. Ethan Kastenschmidt earned Golds in Science, Art, Mathematics, Economics, Social Science and Overall in the Honor category. Anna Giertych earned Bronze medals in Music, Art and Economics, also in the Honor category. Ty Jenniges earned a silver medal in Essay and Jonah Waughtal earned a bronze medal in Science in the Scholastic category. Again, an outstanding job by all the students!

The high school choir received a first place finish in the large group festival held in April along with the solo/ensemble competition. Josie Anderson, Nate Roy, Ethan Byom & Xio Perez moved on to state competition and did a great job.

Attorney Jack Buswell filed the admission of service of Lawrence Curtin who is the closest heir to the Sims family in relation to the small parcel of land near the former Melrose school building. We must wait 20 days before we will be able to take a default judgement. Once this time has passed the district can record the default judgement. Then the district will be in a position to deed the remainder of Lot 5 to the Village of Melrose and they will have a clean title to the entirety of Lot 5. The final hearing is scheduled on June 19.

On May 13, Mr. Arzt met with Representative Jeff Smith to discuss the upcoming biennial budget. Discussion included the importance of increasing the percentage the district gets reimbursed for special education services and raising revenue limits by \$200 per student in the first year of the budget and an additional \$204 in the second year. Mr. Arzt sent an email to the district's other representatives as well asking for their support for K-12 education.

We were contacted by our insurance company, Bluffview Insurance Agency, who gave us a preliminary dollar value of \$38 million for building & contents. Final numbers will be sent to the district this week.

Mr. Arzt provided a handout regarding the comparison of last year vs. this year's various insurance rates for health, dental, vision and long-term disability. Starting in the 19-20 school year, the district will offer employees the opportunity to purchase accident, cancer, and critical illness insurance. More information will be provided at the staff meeting held on June 7 about all plans.

Graduation will be held this Friday at 7:30 p.m. for our seniors and KG students will have their ceremony on Tuesday, May 28 at 6:30 p.m.

On Monday, May 20, the Trauma Informed Care meeting was held here at the school. The movie, Resilience, was shown followed by discussion to collaborate with health care workers and parents residing in Jackson County.

Open Forum: Kim Sacia asked what was the status of the signs being removed from the Melrose & Mindoro buildings. Mr. Arzt stated that the Melrose sign was taken down. He has not contacted the owners of the Mindoro buildings. He will do that this week.

Finance: Review of the expenditures and receipts through April. Motion by Whalen, second by Sacia to approve the check summary & vouchers in the amount of \$975,666.48. Motion carried 6-0.

Other Business

1. Due to the rain, Mr. Arzt provided a virtual tour of the new passenger van rear lift.
2. Motion by Dunn, second by Blaken to approve the music trip to Chicago in April 2020. This is a weekend trip and no school days will be missed. Motion carried 6-0.
3. Motion by Zeman, second by Whalen to add 'E-Sports' as an extra-curricular activity in the upcoming school year. Erik Hanson will advise the group of students. Twenty-nine students expressed an interest in participating in the Fall season. Motion carried 6-0.
4. Motion by Blaken, second by Sacia to approve travel outside the 100-mile radius to allow AP Government students to travel to Madison to visit Capital and meet with local representatives. Motion carried 6-0.
5. Motion by Whalen, second by Dunn to approve the retirement of Library Media Director Pam Smetana with thanks for her service to the district and resignation of part time custodian Carrie Owen. Motion carried 6-0.
6. Motion by Blaken, second by Zeman to hire Ronald Jones as a 7-12 Special Education teacher starting in the 19-20 school year. Motion carried 6-0.
7. Motion by Dunn, second by Blaken to accept the resignations of C-Team Volleyball Coach Sandy Paisley and Head Boys Basketball Coach Kevin Christopherson. Motion carried 6-0.
8. Motion by Sacia, second by Zeman to hire Chris Radcliffe as Assistant Girls Basketball Coach. Motion included hiring Lindsay Rozek as the C-Team girl's basketball coach and Nelson Baker as the Assistant Wrestling Coach. Motion carried 6-0.
9. The school board had the first reading of Homeless Education Program policy. The district is required by the Department of Public Instruction to have a district Homeless Education Program policy.
10. Motion by Zeman, second by Dunn to allow the addition of cheerleaders to fall sports season. The cheerleaders would cheer at all home football games and two away games. Motion carried 6-0.
11. Motion by Whalen, second by Sacia to accept the donation from Deb Schaefer with many thanks. Deb has agreed to donate up to \$2,000 to the Track & Field program for the purchase of uniforms or warm-up clothing. Motion carried 6-0.
12. Motion by Blaken, second by Sacia to renew our membership to the WIAA. Motion carried 6-0.
13. Motion by Zeman, second by Dunn to accept the open enrollment applications in and out of the district for the 19-20 school year. Motion carried 6-0.
14. Motion by Sacia, second by Zeman to allow the district to purchase the WASB Policy Resource Guide in order to streamline our policy guidelines. Motion carried 6-0.
15. Mr. Arzt asked the board for guidance regarding use of the facilities particularly when there is not a custodian on site. Adult supervision for the gym and weight room is needed. No action was taken tonight but will move forward to prepare some guidelines for using the facilities.
16. No action was taken regarding using Fund 49 to build a maintenance shed. Since only one bid was received for the construction of a storage shed, the board requested the district seek additional bids.
17. Motion Blaken, second by Sacia to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Michelle Murray
Recorder of Minutes