

## **Minutes for September 18, 2019 School Board Meeting Holdingford Public School**

Chair Ben Christensen called the regular meeting of the School Board of Independent School District #738 to order at 6:00 PM in the LMC.

Pledge was recited.

Members present: Evelyn Martini, Ed Feia, Ben Christensen, Mike Higgins, Pat Meier, Russ Wolter and Student Rep. Spencer Trobec.

Member absent: Dale Streit.

Also attending was Superintendent Chris Swenson, Business Manager Beth Heinze, and Secondary Principal Angela Safran.

Motion by Higgins, second by Wolter, to approve the amended agenda. Items added: 6.7. Approve K-6 Targeted Services; 6.8. Approve 7-8 Targeted Services; 6.9. Approve MSHSL Form A Resolution; 7.13. Accept resignation from Steve Stoermann from Grounds and Maintenance Position and 7.14. Approve Work Agreement with Rodney Ebnet, Transportation Director. Motion carried. All In Favor (AIF).

Motion by Feia, second by Higgins, to approve the consent agenda. Items in consent agenda included: approval of the minutes from Aug. 21<sup>st</sup> regular board meeting, Aug. 21<sup>st</sup> closed meeting and Sept. 11 work session; approval of the schedule of bills in the amount of \$1,029,794.66 computer checks approved 82907--83143; approval of the electronic transfer for Aug. \$2,258,862.87; acknowledgement of the August Treasurers Report; approval of 2019-2020 Advisors and Department Chairs; approval of Lane Changes for Jessica Mickelson, Lauren Volkers and Shauna Seaman; and approval of the Lioness to sell chili at home football games and concessions at fall cross country meet, spring baseball games and track meets.

On roll call voting in favor: Martini, Wolter, Feia, Christensen, Higgins, and Meier. Voting against the same: None. Motion carried.

Chairperson Christensen welcomed fellow board members, administration, staff and guests.

Citizen participation: Shawna Merdan addressed the Board relating to Bullying. She has several questions regarding procedures for reporting and the steps involved after reports are filed. Shannon Paggen spoke in support of Ms. Merdan's concerns. Tracy Popp and Jennifer Marstein were also present at the meeting. Chair Christensen thanked the guests for their input and informed them their concerns would be discussed by the Board at a future meeting.

### **REPORTS**

Superintendent Mr. Swenson reported on Work with Holdingford Fire & Rescue & Stearns County on ALICE Training, he informed the Board that the new sound systems are in and will be used for the first time for the swim meet and volleyball game this week. Mr. Swenson also talked about political speech in the school and reminding the staff to be respectful of all sides. Lastly he reported he would be attending a Law Seminar on Friday.

Student Board Rep. Spencer Trobec reported on Homecoming Week with dress up days and different events happening each day, on Swim Team, which has their first, home Swim Meet this week and Volleyball earned a win over Upsala this week.

Secondary Principal Ms. Safran reported on a wonderful start to the school year. The new staff members are

getting great support, 98% of the families were at open house, 7<sup>th</sup> grade orientation went well, the student count is at 501 which is a nice increase from last year. She updated the Board on testing with the fall aimsweb testing in grades 7 and 8 being complete the staff will have benchmarks moving forward. Ms. Safran also updated the Board on MCA Scores. She is working with staff to improve scores in the high school, however one of her concerns is the students that opt out of testing end up with a score of 0, which really has a negative effect on the scores. Ms. Safran mentioned some important dates Coronation on Sunday evening, Homecoming Week and Parent Teacher Conferences on Oct 14 & 15.

Mr. Swenson reported on a few Elementary School things in the absence of Mr. Stang. There was a concern on lunchtime in the elementary being too short for some. Staff will encourage those still eating to stay and finish typically they have another 5-8 minutes from the time they may leave to the time they must leave. Also Ms. Anderson, Food Service Director is working on what the schedule will look like next year when the 6<sup>th</sup> grade is moved to the 7-12 side. This will work well because they have similar servings and requirements as grades 7 and 8 and Homecoming involvement on the Elementary side will be Spirit Day on Friday.

Ms. Martini reported on the BSED meeting. They approved hires and now the staffing is set, approved granite city roofing for the roof project, approved stipend for mentors for new staff, and discussed the training for the transition to Handle with Care.

Business Manager Ms. Heinze reported on the Annual Audit with KDV that started today, the initial numbers are looking good. Student reporting is being finalized for last year and in progress for the current year. She is also working on levy reports and the levy certification at tonight's meeting. Mr. Swenson thanked Ms. Heinze for her diligence and hard work!

#### BUSINESS

Ms. Heinze presented the proposed Tax Levy including a comparison to last year. The increase is due to the levy that was passed last fall. Her recommendation is to Certify at the Maximum. Motion by Meier, second by Higgins, to Certify the Proposed Tax Levy at the Maximum Amount as Presented. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Higgins, seconded by Martini, to call for a Special Closed meeting on October 16<sup>th</sup> following the regular board meeting to discuss negotiation strategies. Motion carried. AIF.

Kyle Wolter summarized the Bid tabulations. ICS Consulting, Inc. has reviewed the bids and the low responsible bidder is within the project budget. He reported bids came in very well from four reputable companies: Larson Excavating Contractors, Inc., Breitbach Construction Co., J.R. Ferche Inc., and Kraemer Trucking and Excavating, Inc.

Kyle Wolter presented the parking lot renovation time line with the majority of the work to be done summer of 2020. Coordination between the two contractors is going well. Engineers are working on sewer line to go out through the parking lot instead of through a classroom. Motion by Meier, seconded by Wolter, to enter into contract with Kraemer Trucking and Excavating Inc. for a total bid amount of \$1,003,900 for the Parking Lot Projects. Base Bid and alternate #1. Alternate #2 Loading Doc Renovation is declined. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Feia, second by Martini, to appoint the Election Judges as presented including alternates to be used if substitutes are necessary. Motion carried. AIF.

The meeting continued with the first reading of Policy 613 Graduation Standards. Ms. Safran summarized the changes. HHS actually has higher requirements than the state in some areas.

Motion by Meier, second by Feia, to accept \$250 worth of Gift Certificates from Cherry Berry donated to the PBIS Husker Strong Team to be used for positive behavior rewards for students. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Higgins, to approve K-6 Targeted Services Program & Budget. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Higgins, second by Martini, to approve 7-8 Targeted Services Program and Budget. Ms. Safran informed the Board she is anticipating some possible revisions and if so, those revisions would be brought to the Board for approval. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Higgins, second by Feia, to adopt the Resolution Of School Board Supporting Form A Application To Minnesota State High School League Foundation. Dollars go to the Conference for awards for students. On roll call voting in favor: Martini, Wolter, Feia, Christensen, Higgins, Meier. Motion carried. AIF.

## PERSONNEL

Motion by Martini, second by Wolter, to accept resignation from Tiffany Pyka Elementary Para Professional. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Wolter, to approve the Revised 19-20, 20-21 Work Agreement with Technology Director, Lance Feia. Motion carried. Abstaining was Feia and Martini.

Motion by Martini, second by Wolter, to approve the Revised 19-20 and 20-21 Work Agreement with Community Education Director, Kendra Posch. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Higgins, to approve the Revised 19-20 and 20-21 Work Agreement with Business Manager, Beth Heinze. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Feia, second by Martini, for authorization to hire Cassy Peabody Elementary Paraprofessional at Grade IV starting wage. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Wolter, second by Meier, to approve 19-20 and 20-21 Work Agreement with District Administrative Assistant, Linda Zapzalka. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Feia, second by Higgins, to approve 19-20 20-21 Work Agreement with Dean/Activities Director, Jason Bruns. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Feia, to approve the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 Master Agreement with Education Holdingford. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Feia, second by Higgins, to hire Wendi Clark for JH Study Skills/Targeted Services Teacher Position. Motion carried. AIF. The position requires the Teacher to be Licensed in Math or Language Arts. Ms. Clark is licensed in Language Arts.

Motion by Meier, second by Martini, to hire Jaden Breth for Kid Zone Assistant Position. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Feia, second by Higgins, to accept resignation from Virgil Stich, Custodian effective 8/28/2019. The Board thanked Mr. Stich for his time with the District. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Higgins, second by Martini, to create a new category of Sub Pay Rate for retired custodians at \$13 per/hr when they come back to Sub. Motion carried. AIF.

Motion by Meier, second by Feia, to accept resignation from the Steve Stoermann Grounds and Maintenance

Custodian Position effective 9/27/2019. Motion carried. AIF. The Board thanked Mr. Stoermann for his time with the District.

Motion by Martini, second by Higgins, to approve the 19-20 and 20-21 Work Agreement with Transportation Director, Rodney Ebnet. Motion carried. AIF.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board Work Session October 2, 2019 @ 6:00 PM in the board room

Regular Board Meeting October 16, 2019 @ 5:00 PM in the LMC

Special Board Meeting September 16, 2019 following the Regular meeting in the boardroom

The agenda was completed at 6:55 PM with a motion to adjourn by Martini, second by Feia. Motion carried. AIF.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Linda Zapzalka, Clerk Designee