

REGULAR MEETING, AUGUST 11, 2020

The trustees of Manhattan School District No. 3, high school and elementary districts, met in regular session, August 11, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Activities Room. Chairman Brownell called the meeting to order.

Members Present: Rob Brownell, Dennis Grue via phone, Brand Robinson, Mike Swan, Ethan Severson, and Matt White.

Superintendent Brian Ayers, High School Principal Jason Slater, 5-8 Principal Eric Fisher, and Clerk Ann Heisler were present throughout the entire proceedings. Guests attending the meeting are on the list attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Brownell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Chairman Brownell recognized the visitors in attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Brownell read the public comment statement, and asked for public comment on any non-agenda items. No comments were made.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ethan Severson made a motion to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: Board Minutes – Regular July 14, 2020; July 2020 Payroll Warrants 39389-39403, \$105,360.52; July 2020 Claims Warrants 79025-79076, void 79040, \$181,275.16; July 2020 Student Activities Checks 26171, \$297.93; Resignation from April Callantine - PT Custodian effective 7/27/2020; the current Substitute Teacher and Volunteer list for the 2020-2021 school year; Laura Sandidge – from Substitute Custodian to FT Custodian. The motion was seconded by Brand Robinson and it carried unanimously. The approved warrant and check listings; and the approved substitute teacher and volunteer list are attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS - The Board Information Items were moved up to accommodate the schedule of guest speakers. All Trustees were in favor of the agenda change.

PLAYGROUND PROJECT UPDATE

Bernadette McCrory gave an update to the Board regarding the status of the playground project and that it is nearing completion. She mentioned that the PTO is hoping to raise additional money to complete some of the middle school areas that were unable to be completed due to a funding shortfall.

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Our technology coordinator, Todd Lucier, gave an update to the Board on our technology upgrades in progress & required to provide synchronous learning to those students opting for remote distance learning. Teachers are receiving additional support and training from Todd Lark to manage the remote distance learning requirements. He also mentioned that because our Free/Reduced student percentage dropped, the school will be getting less E-rate reimbursement (from 60% to 40%) to help pay for our internet access through Spectrum.

TITLE IX UPDATE

Our Title IX coordinator, Neil Harvey, reviewed the most recent Title IX changes after attending a workshop going over the detailed updates. In the near future, the Trustees will be reviewing required Board policy updates for these Title IX changes and any required student handbook changes if necessary.

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

SCHOOL REOPENING PLAN FOR 2020-2021

Superintendent Brian Ayers recommended that the Board approve the proposed School Reopening Plan for 2020-2021. The plan includes two learning scenarios for the fall: full in person learning and full online remote learning. The District will accommodate all families with medical, health, or safety concerns regarding COVID-19 by offering the full online remote learning platform. Parents should notify the K-12 registrar of their decision to access online remote learning by August 14. Students accessing the online learning platform will be eligible to return for onsite in person instruction at the end of the quarter and semester grading periods. The plan includes health, safety, and distancing measures. The most effective way to reduce the spread of COVID is to use multiple mitigation strategies in combination: hand hygiene, physical distancing, face coverings (preferably cloth, but shields will be utilized where appropriate), and cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces. The plan follows CDC and GCHD guidelines.

Each Trustee expressed their thoughts and opinions on the recommended plan and were overall in favor of it.

The Board opened up the discussion to the public and they heard many opinions about reopening up our schools and the administrators answered many questions about how it is going to work and the details required to make it happen.

After further discussion, Mike Swan made a motion to approve the proposed School Reopening Plan for 2020-2021. Matt White seconded the motion and it carried with one dissenting vote (Grue). The approved School Reopening Plan is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

COVID-19 PROPOSALS FOR 2020-2021

Brand Robinson made a motion to approve the following COVID-19 proposals for the 2020-2021 school year:

1. Adopt a resolution declaring the continuation of an emergency pursuant to 20-9-801 et seq. for the longer of June 30, 2021, or when COVID-19 no longer remains a threat.
2. Authorize the district to provide offsite instruction for the longer of June 30, 2021, or when COVID-19 no longer remains a threat.
3. Authorize the administration to determine and declare proficiency for our students for the longer of June 30, 2021, or when COVID-19 no longer remains a threat.

The motion was seconded by Ethan Severson, which carried unanimously.

2020-2021 STUDENT HANDBOOKS

K-4 Principal Neil Harvey reviewed the 2020-2021 proposed changes to the Manhattan K-4 Student Handbook. Mike Swan made a motion to approve the K-4 Student Handbook as proposed. Matt White seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

5-8 Principal Eric Fisher reviewed the 2020-2021 proposed changes to the Manhattan 5-8 Student Handbook. Matt White made a motion to approve the 5-8 Student Handbook as proposed. Brand Robinson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

HS Principal Jason Slater reviewed the 2019-2020 proposed changes to the Manhattan High School Student Handbook. Ethan Severson made a motion to approve the HS Student Handbook as proposed. Matt White seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

2020-2021 FINAL BUDGETS

Brand Robinson made a motion to approve the 2020-2021FY Elementary School final budgets as follows: General Fund - \$3,733,960.40; Transportation Fund - \$270,752.39; Tuition Fund - \$50,533.12; Retirement Fund - \$583,000.00; Technology Fund - \$27,135.29; Flexibility Fund - \$6,867.27; Building Reserve Fund - \$234,661.94; Debt Service Fund - \$590,672.43. Total Budgeted Elementary Funds = \$5,497,582.84. Mike Swan seconded the motion and it carried with no dissenting votes.

Ethan Severson made a motion to approve the 2020-2021FY High School final budgets as follows: General Fund - \$2,392,772.64; Transportation Fund - \$177,678.45; Bus Depreciation Fund - \$20,000.00; Tuition Fund - \$25,563.54; Retirement Fund - \$421,250.00; Adult Education Fund - \$22,500.00; Technology Fund - \$36,831.92; Flexibility Fund - \$9,821.62; Building Reserve Fund - \$81,902.25; Debt Service Fund - \$908,038.84. Total Budgeted High School Funds = \$4,096,359.26. Matt White seconded the motion and it carried with no dissenting votes.

The 2020-2021FY Proposed Final Budget spreadsheet comparisons over the previous year for the Elementary and High School are attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

NEW POSITION – SUPERINTENDENT EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Ethan Severson made a motion to approve the new position of Superintendent Executive Assistant. The motion was seconded by Matt White and it carried unanimously.

PRINCIPALS' AND ATHLETIC DIRECTOR REPORT

K-4 Principal Neil Harvey, 5-8 Principal Eric Fisher, High School Principal Jason Slater, and Athletic Director Pat Lynch, updated the Board on COVID-19 expectations in each of their schools and MHSA limitations with Fall Activities.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Ayers gave a report to the Board on the following topics:

1. He is continuing to work through his new Superintendent Entry Plan.

CLAIMS

Vouchered claims for the month of August 2020, were examined and approved for payment.

No further business appearing before the Board, Chairman Brownell adjourned the meeting at 10:45 p.m.

Robert Brownell, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Ann Heisler, District Clerk

Board Approved September 8, 2020