

REGULAR MEETING, MARCH 10, 2020

The trustees of Manhattan School District No. 3, high school and elementary districts, met in regular session, March 10, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Activities Room. Vice-Chairman Grue called the meeting to order.

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

Members Absent: Rob Brownell

Superintendent Jeff Blessum, High School Principal Jason Slater, 5-8 Principal Eric Fisher, K-4 Principal Neil Harvey, 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

Vice-Chairman Grue led the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Vice-Chairman Grue recognized the visitors in attendance.

Manhattan Schools Rotary Student of the Month Spencer Oldenburger was recognized and congratulated by the Board.

Mr. Jack O'Connor, Title I and Federal Grants Program Director at OPI, presented Manhattan Elementary with the National ESEA Distinguished School Award, one of only two schools in the state to receive this national recognition because of the success of our educational programs and progress made by our students in closing the achievement gap. This is a prestigious honor and a team of four elementary teachers (Helen Sivertsen, Bridget Royce, Amanda Priquette, Sarah Hendrickson), along with K-4 Principal Neil Harvey, attended the National ESEA Conference which was held February 4-7, 2020, in Atlanta, GA. Each teacher expressed their thanks and appreciation for being able to attend the national conference and they each briefly shared what they learned which will be passed along to their colleagues. Special thanks to Mr. O'Connor for attending our Board meeting and presenting the award to our elementary school.

BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS #1

Maggie Secrest, Manhattan School's Nurse, spoke to the Board about how our district is managing all communicable diseases and their transmission, including the recent outbreak of COVID-19. She reviewed the coronavirus plan at our school and will continue to monitor the current situation and provide further guidance as necessary.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice-Chairman Grue 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 – Special February 4-5, 2020, Regular February 11, 2020; February 2020 Payroll Warrants 39147-39190, \$523,309.39; February 2020 Claims Warrants 78619-78679,

\$170,066.50; February 2020 Student Activities Checks 26058-26101, 26108, 26130, voids 26093, \$16,362.01; the current Substitute Teacher and Volunteer list for the 2019-2020 school year;

Resignation from Pamela Hurst – kidsLINK Afterschool Program Assistant effective February 18, 2020; Student Attendance Agreement FP-14 with Amelia Ortiz (7th grade student Natalia Solorzano Ortiz) who moved into the Amsterdam school district on February 15, 2020. The motion was seconded by Mike Swan 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 ACTION ITEMS

ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION – MAY 5, 2020

The Annual School Election will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2020. The two Trustees who are up for re-election are Mike Swan and HS Trustee Ethan Severson. Nominating Petitions for the open positions must be filed with the District Clerk by March 26, 2020, in order for the candidate's name to appear on the ballot.

The 2020-2021 General Fund Preliminary Budget Data information was reviewed.

After discussion, Mike Swan made a motion to approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees for Manhattan Elementary School District No. 3, Gallatin County, State of Montana, will hold the Annual Regular School Election on Tuesday, the 5th day of May, 2020. Approval of additional levies in the amount of \$192,809.96, which is approximately 20.88 mills for the purpose of properly operating and maintaining the Manhattan Elementary School District for the 2020-2021 school year will be requested. Brand Robinson seconded the motion, which carried with no dissenting votes.

Ethan Severson made a motion to approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees for Manhattan High School District No. 3, Gallatin County, State of Montana, will hold the Annual Regular School Election on Tuesday, the 5th day of May, 2020. Approval of additional levies in the amount of \$146,285.82, which is approximately 10.17 mills for the purpose of properly operating and maintaining the Manhattan High School District for the 2020-2021 school year will be requested. Brand Robinson seconded the motion, which carried with no dissenting votes.

A summary of the 2020-2021 General Fund Preliminary Budget Data is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

Matt White made a motion to adopt a resolution per 20-9-116, MCA, estimating changes in tax revenue and mills for the ensuing fiscal year as noted in the proposed Notice of Intent to Increase Nonvoted Levies, which will be published in the Belgrade News prior to March 31, 2020. The motion was seconded by Ethan Severson, which carried unanimously. The approved Notice of Intent to Increase Nonvoted Levies resolution is attached to these Minutes and made a part hereof.

BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS #2

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH BELGRADE SCHOOLS SOCCER

Athletic Director Pat Lynch went over the number of interested soccer players at our school that would like to join the Belgrade soccer players through a cooperative agreement between

our two schools. It creates another sport opportunity for our students and the only cost to our school would be the MHSAA fee and then each Manhattan player would have to purchase a Belgrade activity ticket. The MHSAA Cooperative Agreement with Belgrade Schools soccer would be a 3-year agreement beginning in the 2020-2021 school year and will be brought to the Board for approval at the April meeting.

BP 3141 DISCRETIONARY NONRESIDENT STUDENT – SECOND READING

The Board held a second reading on BP 3141 Discretionary Nonresident Student.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE UPDATES

Superintendent Blessum gave the Board a brief update on the committees that have met this past month.

PRINCIPALS' REPORT

K-4 Principal Neil Harvey, 5-8 Principal Eric Fisher, and High School Principal Jason Slater updated the Board on upcoming events and activities in each of their schools, as well as the projects they have been working on.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

1. The school district was notified that our K-4, 5-8, and 9-12 schools were all identified as Universal Schools for ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act), meaning we do not perform in the bottom 5 percent on statewide assessments and we have a graduation rate above 67 percent. This is good news for all of our schools.

CLAIMS

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

No further business appearing before the Board, Vice-Chairman Grue adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Robert Brownell, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Ann Heisler, District Clerk

Board Approved April 14, 2020