BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 19, 2020 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President, Denise McBride. Present: Denise McBride, Curt Gottschalk, Bob Pasch, Heather Curtiss, and Ron Neyer. Rod Cole and Tom Gross were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said

Heather Curtiss read the Board Mission Statement.

Motion by Bob Pasch, seconded by Curt Gottschalk to approve the agenda with no additions or deletions. Motion carried 5/0.

Denise McBride welcomed Erin Ludwig, Stacie Pratt, Shannon Duynslager and Julie Christensen.

Stacie Pratt addressed the Board with the following statement:

Good evening ladies and gentleman of the board. My name is Stacie Pratt and I am here today to talk about the Michigan Supreme Court ruling from Oct 2nd. I have had 2 phone conversations with Mr. Chilman regarding that ruling. My conversations with Mr. Chilman pertained to my children and myself wearing a face covering while attending school or participating in school events whether as an athlete or an attendee. Mr. Chilman informed me that they were using the school's Return to Learn Plan along with direction under the mdhhs and the local health department to mitigate the risks for staff and students. I would like to acknowledge that I appreciate the school board and Mr. Chilman implementing the decision to have 5 days a week in person schooling. I also appreciate the efforts being taken by the school to mitigate risks, but ultimately it should be myself and my children's decision on how to mitigate our own risks by exercising our constitutional and God given rights. It is my intention today to remind the board that everyone employed by the school took an oath of office to uphold the Michigan constitution. I would like the board to consider leaving the mitigation of risks to the individual or the individual’s parent or guardian when gathering for a sporting event, having an assembly, or attending school. I was made aware that I may be an outlier among people who are willing to do whatever it takes to have their kids in school, but it was important to me to express my opinion and how it pertains to mine and my children’s freedom. Thank you for your time.

There was no scheduled Student & Staff Spotlight due to COVID.

Ali Barnes from Yeo & Yeo presented the 2019-2020 Audit.

Motion by Ron Neyer, seconded by Heather Curtiss to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 21, 2020. Motion carried 5/0.

Bill Chilman presented the Board with the following correspondence: Educational Magazines, School Equity Caucus Newsletter, budget information, COVID mask issues, RESD Reading Interventionist MoU, Flu Shot Clinic Flyer from the Health Department, The Aggie Express Newsletter, information on the Mid Michigan College Annexation, COVID letter to families and other COVID related information, and a MASA budget update.

Bill Chilman reported on the Building, Grounds, Maintenance and Transportation Committee meeting. They met with the Architects to discuss Phase 2 of the Bond. They were give a Sewer Project update and they discussed the sale of the bonds for Phase 2 of the Bond.

Bill reported for the District School Improvement Committee meeting. They were given a quick budget update. Bill and Jake reported on the extended COVID-19 Return to Learn Plan. They were given a SSIT and ESIT update. They discussed Title 1 and the Reading Interventionist. They reviewed the 6th Gr. Sex Ed. Curriculum. Dan gave an E-Sports update. Dan & Jake also reported on Parent Teacher Conference turnout.

Bill reported on the Business & Finance Committee Meeting. They were given a State Budget update and reviewed the 2020-2021 budget amendments. They were also given an update on the 2019-2020 Audit.

Bill reported that the Board Policy Committee had a meeting by email. They discussed the Neola Policies that were being reviewed. Their recommendation is to approve the policies as presented except for Policy #35 No. 1 Code po 8450.01 Protective Facial Coverings During Pandemic/Epidemic Events.

Dan Boyer reported that SAT testing is complete. The band performed at last Friday’s football game and sounded awesome. Everyone really appreciated them being there. Homecoming is this week. They are celebrating with Spirit Week events and are planning an assembly on Friday. Weather will determine where the assembly will be held. Dan reported that 12 or 22% of online student were on pace or ahead of pace in all classes, 13 or 24% were on pace or ahead in some classes and 30 or 55% were behind pace in all classes. Online Aggie 2-way attendance for September was 82%. He expects that this percentage will increase in the next month as we increase guidance in our manner of calculating the number.

Jason Johnston reported that we currently have 40 elementary online students enrolled. As of 10/13/20, 12 of them were ahead of the projected pace in all of their classes as determined by Educere. Many more fall into a category that he would deem as on track. Some of them are way ahead in Math and ELA courses but haven’t put a lot of time into PE. They have been able to maintain consistent 2-way communication with 36/40 (90%) of the online learners. He reported that Parent Teacher Conferences went very well.

Rod Freeze reported that he and Bill met with Baker Tilly on the sale of the bonds for Phase 2 of the Bond Project. Rod reported on the Munis Software, and he reported that count day went very well.

Bill Chilman thanked the Admin. Team and staff for all the work they have done with the start of this school year.

Motion by Bob Pasch, seconded by Heather Curtiss to approve the September payments of bills as presented in detail in the board packet: General Fund payments of $537,026.56, Payroll Account payments of $1,751.94, Hot Lunch payments $9,627.21. Student Activity Account payments of $8,395.39, Athletic Fund payments of $2,609.05, Arbiter Sports payments of $2,878.45, and Capital Project payments of $39,538.00. Motion carried 5/0.

Bill Chilman reported that he included some financial information on the sale of the bonds and a timetable document for that sale. He also included some power points for working through the structure of the bond debt.

Rod Freeze reported that the BCEF has decided to cancel the Trunk or Treat event. They are looking into sending out letters to past sponsors asking for donations to help with scholarships for this year.

Bill Chilman reported that he and Jason McDonald met with the contractor of the Sewer Project. They discussed road closures and detours during the spring for sewer construction. They are still waiting for our attorney and the township’s attorney to work through the sewer agreement.

Dan and Jake reported on the extended COVID-19 Return to Learn Plan during their update.

Motion by Ron Neyer, seconded by Heather Curtiss to approve the 2nd reading of the Neola Policies as presented, excluding Policy # 35 No. 1 code po 8450-01 – Protective Facial Coverings during Pandemic/Epidemic events. Motion carried 5/0.

Motion by Ron Neyer, seconded by Curt Gottschalk to approve the 2019-2020 Audit as presented. Motion carried 5/0.

Bill Chilman and Rod Freeze presented the 2020-2021 Budget Amendments to the Board.

Motion by Heather Curtiss, seconded by Ron Neyer to approve the 2020-2021 Budget Amendments as presented. Motion carried 5/0.

Motion by Heather Curtiss, seconded by Ron Neyer to approve the hiring of Connie Haley as a halftime daytime custodian and halftime bus driver as presented. Motion carried 5/0.

Bill Chilman reported that Heather Curtiss will be resigning at the November Board meeting as a Beal City Public School Board of Education Member to pursue an elected position with Nottawa Township effective November 20, 2020. He included several FYI documents on the process of filling that seat through appointment. The position will be posted in November and it will be posted for 2 weeks. Interviews will be scheduled in early December. Bill thanked Heather for her service to our school and community.

Bill Chilman will forward the list of Tribal Grants that were submitted at the end of September.

Bill Chilman reminded the Board of the November 3rd election.

Motion by Ron Neyer, seconded by Bob Pasch to adjourn at 9:17 p.m. Roll call. Motion carried 5/0.

Recording Secretary

Carrie Bleise

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Denise McBride, President

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Curt Gottschalk, Secretary