

Regular Meeting

Cascade School District 3B

Board of Trustees

July 23, 2024 - 6:00 pm

Board Members Present

High School Board

John Rumney - Chair

Iain McGregor

Ruth Mortag

Rick Cummings

Chris Wilson

Mark McKamey

Elementary Board

John Rumney - Chair

Iain McGregor

Ruth Mortag

Rick Cummings

Chris Wilson

Others Present: Levi Collins, Karsen Floerchinger, Jason Raether, Lawni Raether, Wiley Aker, Merrill McKamey, Ray Castellanos, Susie Nelsen, Dave Nelsen, Savannah Collins, Tami Snyder, Farrah McGregor

John Rumney - Board Chair, called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 6:04 pm. The Board said the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Rumney asked for public comment on non-agenda items. There was no public comment.

Staff Reports

A. Jason Raether, Activities Director

- a. Football scoreboard installed; sponsor panel pending.
- b. All orders received except HS Girls Basketball uniforms (due July 31).
- c. Advertising HS Track Head Coach position; recommending Heather Lewis for hire.
- d. Handbooks reviewed and revised with School Board Policy committee.
- e. Academic Letter Qualifiers determined; awards to be given at new school year start.
- f. Air Quality Monitors installed.
- g. Staff and Coach shirts ordered and received.
- h. ImPACT concussion testing account fixed; remote testing plan in development.
- i. CPR class held (new MHSA coach requirement) on July 17.
- j. Fall Sports Picture Day set for September 3.
- k. Wall pads installed in Wrestling Room.
- l. Breakthrough Basketball Camp held July 19-21.
- m. Cascade Sports Physical Day scheduled for July 31 with Alluvion Health.

B. Levi Collins, Superintendent

- a. All certified positions are filled or covered for the upcoming school year.
- b. Most classified staffing positions are also filled.
- c. Positive outlook on the quality of staff and their potential to improve student success.
- d. Interviews for the open secretary position were successful; recommending Brittany Smith

- for hire.
 - e. Maintenance is on track, with the building expected to be ready for Day 1.
 - f. Concern about window project delays, but completion before school starts is still possible.
 - g. Several HVAC-related projects funded by ESSER are underway.
 - h. Enrollment increase from Ulm has necessitated changes to bus routes.
 - i. Ford Expeditions are being used as school buses, helping with transportation efficiency and cost-cutting
- C. Karsen Floerchinger, Business Manager
- a. Year End summary - recoded technology expenses (EL: \$58,393 ; HS: \$68,022) to the general fund and transferred transportation funds to the interlocal agreement fund(EL: \$33,279; HS: \$52,197.02).

Board Report

- A. Board Evaluation
- B. Board Training Hours
- C. Finance Committee Report
 - a. XCELL
 - b. Early Literacy
 - c. Debt Service Fund
 - d. Tech Levy

New Business

- A. Consideration of Recommendation for K1-12 Librarian SY2024-2025, Savannah Collins
Rick Cummings moved, seconded by Iain McGregor to approve the recommendation to hire Savannah Collins as K1-12 Librarian for SY2024-2025.
Mortag asked if this position was a 1 or 3 year contract since it was a emergency, to which Mr. Collins answered 1 year, as all teaching contracts are.
Mr. McKamey asked who was on the hiring committee and how many applicants there were for the position. He was informed that Mr. Michael Wilson, Mr. Chris Wilson and several teachers were on the committee and there were only two applicants.
Passed unanimously.
- B. Consideration of Recommendation for Front Office Secretary SY2024-2025, Brittany Martinez
Iain McGregor moved, seconded by Ruth Mortag to approve the recommendation to hire Brittany Martinez as Front Office Secretary for SY2024-2025, pending background check.
Mr. McKamey asked how many applicants there were for the position. He was informed there were three.
Passed unanimously.
- C. Consideration of Recommendation for Long-Term Sub SY2024-2025, Genevieve Kimble
Ruth Mortag moved, seconded by Iain McGregor to approve the recommendation to hire

Genevieve Kimble as Long-Term Sub for SY2024-2025.

Passed unanimously.

D. Consideration of Recommendation for SY2024-2025 Coaches

Rick Cummings moved, seconded by Iain McGregor to approve the recommendation to hire the coaches as listed for SY2024-2025.

Coaches recommended for hire include Heather Lewis for HS Track Head and Tina Mann for JH Track Head.

Passed unanimously.

E. Consideration of Recommendation of SY2024-2025 Bus Routes

Chris Wilson moved, seconded by Mark McKamey to approve the bus routes for SY2024-2025.

Passed unanimously.

F. Consideration of Recommendation for SY2024-2025 Handbook Updates

Chris Wilson moved, seconded by Iain McGregor to approve the 2024-2025 handbook updates.

The board discussed the newly proposed fee schedule. A discussion was held on if the District should charge technology fees when opting to use funds to run the XCELL program through the semester.

Amendment 1:

Mark McKamey moved to amend motion to remove the technology fees. Rick Cummings seconded.

Merril McKamey made public comment in support of the amendment.

Chris Wilson noted that XCELL and Tech are separate funding and since the technology levy failed, its necessary to charge the technology fees. Mr. McKamey quoted the mission statement. Rick Cummings stated that the technology fees ensure the students have some skin in the game when it comes to the chromebooks. Ruth Mortag pointed out that if families are FRAM, they will not be charged these fees. Approximately 38% of our families qualify. Iain McGregor noted that the technology fees help in campaigning for the passage of the next levy. John Rumney noted that the District is not unique in charging technology fees and we must be forward thinking in case the next levies fail again.

Vote: Mark McKamey & Rick Cummings in favor. Chris Wilson, Ruth Mortag, Iain McGregor, John Rumney opposed. Amendment motion fails.

Mark McKamey asked about Friday school and how often it was implemented, as well as the 7 day probation policy. Mr. Raether noted that grades are pulled every tuesday, including those for AP, dual credit & MTDA.

Amendment 2:

Mark McKamy moved to amend the academic eligibility policy to require students notified that they are on the ineligibility list to attend Friday school. Ruth Mortag seconded.

Levi stated that this change will greatly increase discipline. Chris Wilson noted that the teacher who can and should help the student in the particular area may not be on Friday School duty. Mr.

Collins noted that there is Badger Time during the school day for this particular reason. Mr. McGregor inquired if the district was required to provide transportation for student if this were implemented, which administration believed to be true.

Vote: Mark McKamey in favor. Chris Wilson, Rick Cummings, Ruth Mortag, Iain McGregor, and John Rumney opposed. Amendment motion fails.

Amendment 3:

Mark McKamey moved include nonparticipating students for attendance to activities will have the same 7 day grace period that student athletes have in order to participate in the activity or ride the bus to events. Chris Wilson seconds.

Rick Cummings stated it's not good practice to write handbook policies during the board meetings as the entire board.

Vote: Chris Wilson, Mark McKamey, Ruth Mortag, Iain McGregor, John Rumney in favor. Rick Cummings opposed.

Amendment motion passes.

Mark McKamey commented his concerns on the 7 day absence policy and the 2.0/pass language. Merrill McKamey made public comment in regards to funding, ANB, and the technology levy. Passed unanimously.

G. Consideration of Policy Revisions and Updates - 2nd Reading

Ruth Mortag moved, seconded by Iain McGregor to approve and adopt the 2nd reading of the policy updates and revisions as listed.

Passed unanimously.

H. Consideration of Recommendation to Close Debt Service Funds

Iain McGregor moved, seconded by Chris Wilson to approve the close of the Debt Service Funds and transfer the monies to the Building Reserve Fund.

Passed unanimously.

I. Consent Agenda (Appendix D)

- a. Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, June 25, 2024
- b. Business Claims
- c. Student Activity Account
- d. Sub List
- e. Individual Transportation Contracts

Rick Cummings moved, seconded by Chris Wilson to approve the consent agenda.

Mrs. Mortag noted the negative balances in the BPA and HS Girls Basketball funds.

Passed unanimously.

Board Meeting Evaluation (I)

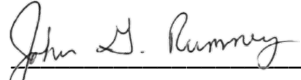
A. Complete evaluation and turn into Mr. Collins.

Announcements (I)

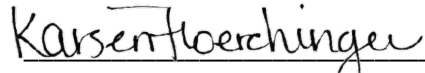
- A. Regular School Board Meeting, August 20, 2024
- B. Upcoming Trainings

Adjournment (A)

At 8:18 pm Iain McGregor moved, seconded by Chris Wilson to adjourn. Passed unanimously.



John Rumney, Board Chair



ATTEST: Karsen Floerchinger, District Clerk

Date Signed _____

For additional details on items presented in the minutes of the meeting, please see the coinciding board agenda found on Cascade Public Schools' webpage: www.cascade.k12.mt.us/District/1141-Board-Agendas-and-Packet.html