

**MADISON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPECIAL MEETING
Sunday, April 5, 2020**

The regular meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chair William T. C. Wood. Superintendent Micheal Wetherbee was present. Principal Rod Stout, William Fabel (joined the meeting at 5:10), Charles Gilman, John Russ Hamilton, Kendra Horn, and Therese Sutton attended the meeting electronically.

Visitors (electronically): Laurie Bartoletti, Desaray Tipton, Rob Tipton, Tonya Tipton, and James Schrank. Rodney Braaten attended the meeting.

Public Comment: None.

Consideration of Suspension of Policy 1310-District Policies and Procedures for the Purposes of Consideration of Adopting Policies #1900 and #1901 After One Reading: John Russ Hamilton moved to suspend Policy #1310 for the purpose of considering and adopting Policy #1900 and #1901, and Kendra Horn seconded the motion. The motion carried.

New Temporary Policies: #1900-COVID-19 Emergency Policies and #1901-Use of Transportation Funds During Periods of School Closure: Therese Sutton moved to adopt Policy #1900 as presented, and John Russ Hamilton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

John Russ Hamilton moved to adopt Policy #1901, with the optional language except for line 27 regarding transportation contractors. Charles Gilman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Charles Gilman moved to retroactively implement Policies #1900 and #1901 to March 15, 2020 to coincide with the Governor's order to close schools, and Kendra Horn seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Discussion regarding possible use of transportation fund expenditures included, but was not limited to, the following: Approximately 20% of K-8 families do not have internet access and aren't wired for it; the policy will allow for latitude in spending money for the stated purposes; we may not need to use it but it is a precaution to adopt it in case of an unforeseen expenditure; the District is considering purchasing additional Chromebooks to have them available for 5th-8th grade students.

Five Day School Week for Duration of School Closure: Superintendent Wetherbee reported that the staff has been working approximately five or six days per week during the school closure; he recommended that the Board approve a five-day school week during the closure, effective March 15. If school re-opens this year, the four-day school week will resume; if school is closed for the rest of the year, May 15 would be the last day with a five-day school week; any holidays

Public
Comment

Policy #1301

Policy #1900

Policy #1901

Five-Day
School Week

on the school calendar will be observed. Therese Sutton moved to approve a five-day school week effective March 15, 2020, and Charles Gilman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Fire Alarm System Bid: Superintendent Wetherbee reviewed a quote from Systems Northwest to install a wireless fire alarm system in the CB Murray building for \$29,544.00; the fire marshal has approved the system; there is a \$400 annual fee for monitoring the system; the project is expensive but it is a priority to get it done; the building reserve fund will be used for the expenditure; the system can be installed while school is closed. Charles Gilman moved to accept the bid from Systems Northwest for the CB Murray fire alarm system, and Kendra Horn seconded the motion. Discussion included, but was not limited to, the following: this system will only be in the CB Murray; the high school and vo-ag building systems also need to be upgraded but this is the higher priority; the systems can be integrated in the future. The motion carried.

CB Murray
Fire Alarm
System

Dual Credit Update: Rodney Braaten reported that due to colleges also having to modify their curriculum and instructional delivery, MSU is advising teachers offering dual credit courses to do the best they can; currently, we have four students enrolled for dual credit, and all have access to some welding equipment at home; he is using what is practical and available, and MSU seems that they will be easy to work with under the circumstances.

Dual Credit
Update

Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Wetherbee reported on the following:

- The 2018-19 Accreditation Reports came, and the District received regular accreditation for K-6, 7-8, and 9-12, meeting all the standards and requirements; there were no hiccups or bumps, our testing went well, our classes are taught by qualified instructors, and students are performing well.
- Currently, the State of Montana has closed schools through April 10th, but he is expecting another announcement from the Governor's Office early this week about extending the closure through the end of April.
- The current delivery system for dropping off and picking up student packets has been successful, with about 90% participation; parents are providing baskets for work. Additionally, about 50 students are receiving meal deliveries every day.
- The staff is aware of the current security risks with using Zoom and is taking steps to improve security or using other platforms.

Supt. Report

Principal Stout reported that the elementary staff is doing a great job preparing packets for students; staff is making contact with parents or kids at least twice per week, and are checking in with him daily; meal delivery is going well, with Rahn Abbott handling the deliveries in town and north of town, and he is doing the Alder and Upper Ruby areas.

The next regular board meeting is Tuesday, April 14, so there will be no special meeting held on Sunday, April 12.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:43 p.m., John Russ Hamilton made a motion that the meeting be adjourned.

Adjourn

The minutes of this meeting were recorded and transcribed by Rebecca E. Larsen, District Clerk.



CLERK



CHAIRMAN