

**MADISON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, October 12, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Kendra Horn. Ridgley Elser, Kendra Horn, Cory Rowberry, Therese Sutton, Kaylie Theis, and William T. C. Wood were present. Superintendent Micheal Wetherbee and Principal Rodney Stout were present. Bronwen Pfau was absent.

Visitors: Britney Bieroth (Zoom), Sara Decker (Zoom), Fred Morganthaler (Zoom), Kaiden Batzler, Emilie Sayler, Pam Birkeland (Zoom), Laurie Bartoletti (Zoom).

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Therese Sutton led the Board and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None at this time.

REPORTS:

Madison County Public Health: Emilie Sayler, Madison County Public Health Director, summarized the COVID quarantine process from the Board of Health and County Commissioners to stop contact tracing and quarantining for close contacts, and instead recommends school boards adopt masks for close contacts while they are working or in school. The recommendation comes after all Madison County schools have faced quarantine issues this fall.

Student Council: Kaiden Batzler, student body president, reported on sports and student activities: the varsity football team is currently ranked first in the conference and has secured a playoff spot; there are 47 students in FFA; FFA held their highway cleanup on October 3, and the 50th annual RVI was held September 28 after being cancelled last year; they will be attending JDAE in Bozeman in November; there are 5 students in FCCLA; FCCLA attended a leadership rally on September 27 and will have a food drive this winter; the Variety Show is scheduled for November 2, along with a silent auction bake sale; students are also preparing for their winter concerts, and pep band is preparing for basketball season; Juniors and Seniors were able to attend Highlands College for a tour. Homecoming was the week of September 13, and went well with lots of events and good attendance.

Classified Pay Committee: The committee reviewed the classified pay matrix and compared other districts, and discussed increasing the base from \$8.85 to \$10.10 per hour, and raising bus driver trip pay.

Safety Committee: The committee discussed needed upgrades to the door lock system software, the ice problem on the sidewalk between the CB Murray and high school, and the DEQ's new requirements for lead testing.

Pledge

Public
Comment

Reports

BOARD GOALS AND TRAINING:

Sheridan School Board will maintain board policy in order to be current with state and federal laws with a focus on quality education.

Sheridan School Board will encourage board training for all members using state and local resources.

The Board meets both goals through regular review and updating of policies, and trainings offered by MTSBA.

MCEL-October 20-22 (Virtual): The District is registered for MCEL, and the Trustees were provided with the schedule.

OLD BUSINESS:

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF CLASSIFIED PAY MATRIX:

Ridgley Elser moved to increase the classified pay matrix base from \$8.85 to \$10.10, increasing the rate of pay for all current employees as of October 1, 2021, and changing the bus driver trip rate to \$12.10 for driving and wait time. Kaylie Theis seconded the motion and the motion carried.

CONSIDERATION AND REVIEW OF POLICY 1900 SERIES: The Board reviewed the revised model Policies 1905 and 1905P, and compared them to the policy as it is currently adopted; the plan to notify close contacts was discussed; the administration has ordered test for students to use at home. William T. C. Wood moved to approve policy 1905 and 1905P as presented. Cory Rowberry seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

OUT OF DISTRICT ATTENDANCE AGREEMENTS: Ridgley Elser moved to approve out of district attendance for the Allhands, Bock, Huttinga, A. Gilman, C. Gilman, Meyer, White, Morgan, Morganthaler, Nichols, Reynolds, Root, Rowberry, Smail, Todd, and Willauer families. Therese Sutton seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Therese Sutton moved to acknowledge the attendance agreements for the Anderson, Bartolomei, Carter, Dale, Elser, Frederick, Hayden, Hellwinkle, Hendrickson, Keltz, Kinoshita, Wasley, Ita, Pearce, Schultz, Stack, Stockett, Sullivan, and Witham families. Kaylie Theis seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

HIRING AND/OR RESIGNATION: The Board reviewed Sara Decker's letter resigning as the Assistant Varsity Girls' Basketball Coach. William T. C. Wood moved to accept the resignation, and Ridgley Elser seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Board Goals

MCEL

Classified
Matrix

Policy Series
1900

Out of District
Attendance

Hiring/Resigna
tion

REVIEW OF FALL ENROLLMENT DATA: The Board reviewed the enclosed fall enrollment summary for the District. Compared to the District's enrollment for the budget, high school is holding steady, but there is an increase of 20 students in the elementary; this increase is due to the implementation of the Jumpstart Kindergarten program, and budget limits being calculated using the 3-year average enrollment.	Fall Enrollment
CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF FY22 SUBSTITUTE TEACHER LIST: Ridgley Elser moved to approve the substitute teacher list as presented, pending the positive result of background checks, and Therese Sutton seconded the motion. The motion carried.	Sub List
CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF REVISED BUS ROUTES: The Board reviewed the updated maps and route information provided by Principal Stout, reducing the four routes to three. The Wisconsin Creek route will remain unchanged; the Laurin route will change to 56 miles, and the Upper Ruby route will be 170 miles; the Laurin and Upper Ruby routes will be able to pick up all students; the busses are full, but it is working for now in light of the driver shortage. Discussion included, but was not limited to, the following: The Upper Ruby route is 9 miles longer than it was previously, it is a long bus ride for kids. Therese Sutton moved to approve the revised bus routes, and Ridgley Elser seconded the motion. The motion carried.	Bus Routes
CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF COMMERCIAL ENERGY AGREEMENT: Superintendent Wetherbee recommended that the Board approve the contract with the 2 year fixed price of \$4.21/dekatherm; fuel prices are increasing, and the contract allows for review in 6 months and adjusting if the fixed price is lower at that time. William T. C. Wood moved to approve the Commercial Energy contract with the 2 year fixed price, and Ridgley Elser seconded the motion. The motion carried.	Commercial Energy
CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF REQUIRED POLICY REVISIONS: #1420-School Board Meeting Procedure: Therese Sutton moved to approve the revised policy #1420 as presented, and William T. C. Wood seconded the motion. There was brief discussion regarding approval of the agenda and notice requirements. The motion carried.	Policy 1420
CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF REQUIRED REVISIONS OF RECOMMENDED POLICIES: #2140-Guidance and Counseling, #2168-Distance, Online, and Technology-Delivered Learning, #3121-Enrollment and Attendance Records, #3222-Distribution and Posting of Materials, #3231-Searches and Seizure, #3235-Video Surveillance, #4330F-Community Use of Facilities, #5223-Personal Conduct, #5314-Substitutes: William T. C. Wood moved to adopt revised policies 2140, 2168, 3121, 3222, 3231, 5314 as presented, and Cory Rowberry seconded the motion. The motion carried.	Policy 2140, 2168, 3121, 3222, 3231, 3235, 5223, 5314

Superintendent Wetherbee advised the board that the district's cameras do not record sound, and recommended adopting the policy with Option 1; Ridgley Elser moved to adopt the revised policy with option 1, and Kaylie Theis seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Policy #4330 is addressed under another agenda item.

The Board discussed revised policy #5223; the policy seems far reaching, and it should be evaluated to ensure it will still work with the District's Reflex Protect product. Therese Sutton moved to table the policy, and William T. C. Wood seconded the motion. The motion carried.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF OPTIONAL UPDATE TO RECOMMENDED POLICY: #1210-Qualifications, Terms, and Duties of Board Officers: Cory Rowberry moved to adopt the updated policy with the optional language stricken, and Therese Sutton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDED UPDATES TO POLICY 4330F AND REMOVAL OF POLICY 4330F1: William T. C. Wood moved to table Policy 4330F and removal of 4330F1. Cory Rowberry seconded the motion and the motion carried.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF COVID/QUARANTINE LEAVE FOR CERTIFIED AND CLASSIFIED STAFF: The Board considered extending additional leave for staff members who are affected by COVID or are quarantined due to close contact. Discussion included, but was not limited to, the following: The federal provisions for leave have expired; if the District doesn't offer additional leave, is it encouraging staff members to come to work when they are sick; certified staff receives 13 days of leave at the beginning of the year; most staff has sufficient leave. There was no motion.

RESIGNATION OF TRUSTEE AND DECLARATION OF VACANCY: Bronwen Pfau submitted a letter resigning from her Alder trustee position. (See enclosed.) William T. C. Wood moved to accept her resignation, and Kaylie Theis seconded the motion. Cory Rowberry moved to declare the position vacant, and William T. C. Wood seconded the motion. The motion carried. The clerk will begin advertising the position.

READING AND/OR APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

MINUTES: Ridgley Elser moved to approve minutes from the August 10, 2021 regular meeting and August 23, 2021 special meeting as presented, and William T. C. Wood seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REVIEW AND/OR APPROVAL OF CURRENT BILLS AND EXPENDITURE PROPOSALS:

William T. C. Wood moved to approve the September and October warrant lists as presented, including warrants #109633

Policy 1210

Policy 4330F
& 4330F1

COVID Leave

Trustee
Resignation

Minutes

Claims

through #109719 totaling \$187,319.63, and Ridgley Elser seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Expenditure Proposals: None at this time.

Expenditures

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

- Principal Stout reported on the following:
- September attendance for grades K-6 = 92%, 7-8 = 95%, 9-12 = 93%, and K-12 = 93%
- September students of the month;
- Upcoming events including the Elk's Lodge Hoop Shoot and Fall Festival;
- K-6 students participated in a pediatric cancer awareness project called "Hope for Harlee" and raised \$1100 in two weeks; a portion of the proceeds will benefit the Smail family; the school also accepted donations instead of admission at a recent volleyball game, and raised an additional \$630;
- Enrollment is currently 123 students in grades PK-6, which is the highest he has ever had.

Principal's Report

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Superintendent Wetherbee reported on the following:

- He asked the Trustees to review the enclosed energy/efficiency audit before the next meeting;
- There is excitement around the football team's success
- Students and staff are getting into a groove around school;
- The middle school students are doing well;
- We are still enrolling new students even though we are several months into the year;
- The ineligibility list is staying small so far, and there have been few discipline issues.

Supt. Report

ADJOURNMENT:

At 9:08 p.m., Therese Sutton moved to adjourn the meeting.

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


CLERK


CHAIRMAN