

**MINUTES**  
**LAMOTTE SCHOOL DISTRICT 43**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING**  
**November 16, 2021 5:00 p.m.**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, LaMotte School District #43 was held on November 16, 2021 for the purpose of considering business to come before the Board of Trustees. Board Chair Knoff called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

**Trustees Present:** Birgen Knoff, Ken Miller, Katie Ivester

**Staff Present:** LeeAnn Burke-Superintendent, Sue Becker-District Clerk/Business Manager, Michelle Clark-Administrative Assistant

**Public Present:** Scott Hedglin, Bridget Ekstrom, Sandy Wilson, Renee Thill, Marci Torres, Lyndsey Arrowsmith

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Presiding Trustees Explanation of Procedures**

*The LaMotte Board of Trustees welcomes public comment on issues and concerns. Members of the community are given an opportunity to make brief comments to the board on any matter not included in the agenda. Comments on agenda items will be accepted when that item comes up during the meeting. Interested persons may also submit views in written form to the Clerk prior to the meeting, and those comments will be brought to the attention of the Board during the meeting.*

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

October 19, 2021 Special Meeting

October 20, 2021 Regular Meeting

Board Discussion: Trustees reviewed the minutes of the October 19, 2021 Special Meeting and the minutes of the October 20, 2021 Regular Meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2021 Special Meeting and the minutes of the October 20, 2021 as presented.

Motion: Trustee Ivester

Second: Trustee Miller

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Staff Discussion & Reports**

- Superintendent's Report
  - Enrollment is 66.
  - Parent Teacher conferences will begin this week. The conferences include a virtual option as well as a face-to-face option.
  - Kindergartners will begin coming on Fridays after Thanksgiving.
  - Election results: The District has 769 registered voters, 379 cast votes. This resulted in 49% voting. Of the 379, 61% voted yes on the bond.
  - The November lunch count averaged 45 lunches/day. Superintendent Burke will look into tracking cost per meal to help defray any deficit in the School Food Fund.

-No applications have been received for the counselor and paraprofessional positions. Ms. Cota is taking over the paraprofessional position.

-Superintendent Burke applied for a grant through MT Humanities for a guest speaker. Kim Quigley, a retired teacher, is coming to do lesson plans with K/1 and 2/3 on Pictographs, Petroglyphs, and Poetry. She will apply for lessons 4/5 and 6/7/8 if this goes well.

### **Trustee Discussion and Reports**

Michelle Halberg, Special Education Director, Gallatin-Madison Special Education Cooperative, gave a presentation on the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)-what's required by law, what it means for students, and responsibilities of the Board.

Public Comment:

Marcia Torres

Lyndsey Arrowsmith

### **Public Input on Non-Agenda Items**

None.

### **Financial Update**

This item was tabled.

### **Agenda Action/Discussion Items**

#### **1. Bozeman School Update**

Sandy Wilson, Bozeman School District (BSD7) Board Chair and rural school representative on the BSD7 Board of Trustees presented a BSD7 update. Topics discussed included: the new superintendent hire; the interim superintendent newsletter; the Bozeman High renovation schedule; 8<sup>th</sup> grade signup plan; and possibility/procedure of signing up for the other high school.

#### **2. Canvass the Results of the November 2, 2021 Bond Election/Certificate of Election**

Board Discussion: District Clerk/Business Manager Becker reviewed the final election results. Trustees are approving the Official Tally of the Gallatin County Election Administrator for the General Obligation Bond Election held on November 2, 2021 by certifying the passage of the General Obligation Bond proposition (\$1,800,000). Motion to certify the passage of the General Obligation Bond proposition (\$1,800,000) and adopt the Certificate of Election as presented.

Motion: Trustee Ivester

Second: Board Chair Knoff

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

#### **3. Bond Information Discussion with Bridget Ekstrom of D.A. Davidson & Co.**

Board Discussion: Bridget Ekstrom, D.A. Davidson, discussed the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Bonds. She discussed the Preliminary Financing Time Schedule and also the pros and cons of paying for a credit rating. She provided the Board with updated information on



debt structuring considerations, tax impact, and projected lifetime interest costs of bond structure.

**4. Adopt Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Bonds, which will name a Bond Finance Committee as prepared by Dorsey & Whitney**

Board Discussion: The resolution authorizes District officials (Board Chair, Superintendent, District Clerk/Business Manager and one member of the Board designated by the Board) to work on the bond financing.

Motion to approve Vice Chair Duneman as designated Board member and to approve the Resolution Relating to up to \$1,800,000 in Principal Amount of General Obligation School Building Bonds; Authorizing the Issuance and Private Negotiated Sale Thereof.

Motion: Trustee Ivester

Second: Trustee Miller

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

**5. Building Project-Alternative Delivery method**

Board Discussion: Mr. Hedglin, Architecture 118, explained that the State allows an alternative delivery method for the construction project if 2 of 3 critical items are project factors. These critical items include: 1) schedule; 2) cost/material availability; and 3) project complexity. He presented the Alternative Delivery Method Findings Memo which includes a summary of how these critical items are project factors.

Motion to approve the Building Project Alternative Delivery Method Findings Memo as presented.

Motion: Trustee Miller

Second: Board Chair Knoff

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

**6. Contractor RFQ/P**

Board Discussion: Superintendent Burke informed the Board that the Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA) reviewed the AIA Document A105-217 which is included in the Contractor Request For Qualifications/Proposals (RFQ/P) and Mr. Hedglin, Architecture 118, included MTSBA's revisions in the final document. Superintendent Burke recommended that the Board designate Mr. Hedglin to answer contractor questions on the Contractor RFQ/P and to receive all submitted Contractor RFQ/Ps.

Motion to approve the Contractor RFQ/P as written with minor adjustments as needed per Mr. Hedglin and to designate Mr. Hedglin to answer questions and accept the Contractor RFQ/Ps.

Motion: Trustee Ivester

Second: Trustee Miller

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

**7. Building Committee**

Board Discussion: Mr. Hedglin, Architecture 118, has scheduled a meeting with the building committee next week. He will be meeting with the County Flood Plain Administrator on a

Zoom meeting on Thursday, November 18th. This will give him definitive information on the flood plain. The Building Committee will discuss and will bring options to the Board for final placement. Superintendent Burke sent an email yesterday to community members to inform them of the Zoom meeting with the County Flood Plain Administrator.

Public Comment:

Renee Thill

**8. Safe Return to School Plan 2021-2022**

Board Discussion: Superintendent Burke recommended that no changes be made to the “Safe Return to School Plan 2021-2022” that was approved on 8/31/21. The Board concurred.

Public Comment: None.

**9. Personnel Action**

**a. Counselor resignation**

**b. Paraprofessional resignation**

**c. Paraprofessional hire**

Board Discussion: Superintendent Burke informed the Board of the Counselor and Paraprofessional resignations and recommended hiring Mary Cota as a paraprofessional for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion to approve Kaitlen Carter’s resignation and Carolyn Boor’s resignation as well as approving Mary Cota as a 2021-2022 school year paraprofessional at \$15.80/hour.

Motion: Trustee Ivester

Second: Trustee Miller

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously.

**10. Approval of Snow Plow Contract**

This item was tabled.

**Policy**

2332 Religion and Religious Activities	Second Reading
3121 Enrollment and Attendance Records	Second Reading
3150 Part-Time Attendance	Second Reading
3233 Student Use of Buildings-Equal Access	Second Reading
3311 Firearms and Weapons	Second Reading
3413 Student Immunization	Second Reading
3510 School Sponsored Student Activities	Second Reading
3550F Student Club or Group Form	Second Reading
3550 Student Clubs	Second Reading
4211 School Name Imagery and Colors	Second Reading
4331 Use of School Property for Posting Notices	Second Reading
1135 School Board Advocacy	First Reading
1332 Authorization of Signatures	First Reading

Board Discussion: Superintendent Burke stated that currently Policy 3150 allows part-time attendance for 6-8 grades only. She is recommending changing the wording to: “The District

will review requests for part-time enrollment of 6-8 grade students for purposes of academic courses on a case-by-case basis...". Policy 1135 is a new policy for LaMotte. The Board discussed the need for this policy and will re-evaluate the need for this policy at the next meeting. No changes to Policy 1332 were deemed necessary at this time.

Motion to approve Policies 2332, 3121, 3233, 3311, 3413, 3510, 3550, 3550F, 4211 and 4331 as presented and to approve Policy 3150 with the change as recommended by Superintendent Burke.

Motion: Trustee Ivester

Second: Trustee Miller

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn 7:01 p.m.

Motion: Trustee Ivester

Second: Trustee Miller

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

**The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.**

  
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Birgen/Knoff, Board Chair

  
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Sue Becker, District Clerk/Business Manager