

MINUTES
LAMOTTE SCHOOL DISTRICT 43
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
March 22, 2022 5:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, LaMotte School District #43 was held on March 22, 2022 at LaMotte School for the purpose of considering business to come before the Board of Trustees. Board Chair Knoff called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Trustees Present: Birgen Knoff, Collin Duneman, Katie Ivester, Edward Kronfuss

Staff Present: LeeAnn Burke-Superintendent, Sue Becker-District Clerk/Business Manager

Public Present: Approximately 5

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. Public comment submitted in written form to the Board prior to the meeting will be shared with the Board but not read at the Board meeting.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

February 17, 2022 Regular Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2022 Regular Meeting as presented.

Motion: Vice Chair Duneman

Second: Trustee Kronfuss

Public Comment: None.

Board Discussion: Trustees reviewed the minutes of the February 17, 2022 Regular Meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

Staff Discussion & Reports

- Superintendent's Report
 - Enrollment is currently 68.
 - The staff has begun to prepare for the Art Auction on May 12th.
 - Superintendent Burke discussed staff positions to be filled for the 2022-2023 school year.
 - She presented information on the OPI District Report cards.

Trustee Discussion and Reports

Trustee Ivester asked about filing for Trustee positions for the May 3, 2022 election. District Clerk/Business Manager Becker reported that the Declaration of Intent and Oath of Candidacy forms are due March 24, 2022.

Trustee Duneman asked about the progress on the Crisis Procedure Manual. Superintendent Burke said the draft is complete but it still needs to be reviewed by the resource officer. The Board discussed the importance of presentations (resource officer, counselor, teacher) to students on awareness that if they see something say something.

Public Input on Non-Agenda Items

Jennifer Duneman read a prepared letter on concerns of the handling of the recent event at the school. Morgan Potter commented that concerns that are brought before the Board are discussed at the meeting but not discussed again. He is interested in what can be proposed to further address any concerns.

Financial Update

- **Approval of Accounts payable and Payroll warrants report and ACH payments**

Motion to approve the accounts payable, payroll warrants and ACH payments as presented.

Motion: Trustee Ivester

Second: Vice Chair Duneman

Public Comment: None.

Board Discussion: Trustees reviewed the warrants and ACH payments.

Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Action/Discussion Items

1. Construction Project

a. Architect Update

Public Comment: None.

Board Discussion: Scott Hedglin, Architecture 118, gave a report on the construction project progress. The County Planning & Zoning Commission voted to recommend denying the setback variance to the County Commissioners. He discussed what the next steps are in this process. The exhibit associated with the existing variance (issued at the time the Annex was installed) shows the intent of what the school wanted to do but the language is confusing. Mr. Hedglin is asking for clarification from the County Planning Director. If the interpretation is favorable, he has an idea of how to redesign the kitchen and get the permit as soon as possible. If not favorable, he will have to consider how to move forward. Trustee Kronfuss voiced his concern about the project timeline. Mr. Hedglin explained that if this can be resolved in a timely manner, the contractor feels the timeline can still be met. Board is in agreement with Mr. Hedglin's recommendation to proceed with the clarification of the existing variance.

2. Safe Return to School Plan 2021-2022

a. Future Agenda Item Determination

Superintendent Discussion: In the fall, the Board agreed this document should be on the monthly regular meeting agenda. Superintendent Burke is recommending removing this document discussion from future meeting agendas with the caveat that it can be added to future meeting agendas if there are concerns.

Motion to remove the Safe Return to School Plan 2021-2022 from the monthly agenda and revisit this document at the September 2022 meeting.

Motion: Trustee Kronfuss

Second: Trustee Ivester

Public Comment:

- Morgan Potter

Board Discussion: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Resolution of Intent to Increase Nonvoted Levies

District Clerk/Business Manager Discussion: District Clerk/Business Manager Becker discussed the information presented in this resolution. The resolution is required per state law.

Motion to approve the Resolution of Intent to Increase Nonvoted Levies.

Motion: Vice Chair Duneman

Second: Trustee Kronfuss

Public Comment: None.

Board Discussion: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

4. Official Ballot Language

District Clerk/Business Manager Discussion: District Clerk/Business Manager Becker discussed the general fund levy language on the ballot. She will let the County Election Office know the name(s) of the trustee candidates to include on the ballot.

Motion to approve the May 3, 2022 election official ballot language for the General Fund Levy as presented.

Motion: Trustee Kronfuss

Second: Vice Chair Duneman

Public Comment: None.

Board Discussion: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

5. Student Parent Staff Survey

Board Discussion: Chair Knoff gave a summary on what she did in working with the survey vendor in developing the survey that went out. The survey went out a week ago and is due April 4th.

Public Comment:

- Morgan Potter
- Jennifer Duneman

Further Board Discussion: The Board discussed survey question development in conjunction with current school concerns. The consensus was that another survey will go out with an adjustment of goals after second survey.

6. Personnel Action-Resignations

Superintendent Discussion: Superintendent Burke presented resignation letters from Jeff Vick (retirement), Jordan Going and Clinton Watton.

Motion to accept resignations as presented.

Motion: Trustee Ivester

Second: Vice Chair Duneman

Public Comment:

- Jennifer Gerlach

Board Discussion: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

7. Approval of 2022-2023 Calendar

Superintendent Discussion: Superintendent Burke presented the proposed 2022-23 school calendar.

Public Comment:

- Jennifer Duneman

Board Discussion: The Board discussed the proposed calendar.

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

8. Superintendent Evaluation

Board Discussion: Board Chair Knoff discussed the superintendent evaluation procedure. The Board will compile the evaluation in a closed executive session at a special meeting and then will present the evaluation to the Superintendent at a closed executive session at the next regular meeting.

Public Comment:

- Jennifer Duneman
- Jennifer Gerlach

Further Board Discussion: The Board set the special meeting to compile the superintendent evaluation for 4/25/22 at 8:00 a.m. and set the regular meeting for 4/26/22 at 5:00 p.m.

9. Disposal of Property Resolution

Superintendent Discussion: By Montana law, the Board has to pass the resolution authorizing the sale of property that is no longer of use to the District and then advertise the resolution. Superintendent Burke recommended approving the resolution as presented.

Motion to approve the Disposal of Property Resolution as presented.

Motion: Trustee Kronfuss

Second: Trustee Ivester

Public Comment: None.

Board Discussion: District Clerk/Business Manager Becker worked with Kris Goss, MTSBA, to include the Annex on this resolution. Superintendent Burke said the Annex was originally going to be demolished but there is an interested party who would like to remove it which will be a savings of \$10,000 to the District.

Motion passed unanimously.

Policy

1400 Board Meetings

Second Reading

District Clerk/Business Manager Discussion: District Clerk/Business Manager discussed the changes to the policy.

Motion to adopt Policy 1400 as presented.

Motion: Vice Chair Duneman

Second: Trustee Kronfuss

Public Comment: None.

Board Discussion: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:25 p.m.

Motion: Trustee Ivester


Second: Vice Chair Duneman

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Monday, April 25, 2022 at 8:00 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, April 26, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.



Birgen Knoff, Board Chair



Sue Becker, District Clerk/Business Manager