

MINUTES
LAMOTTE SCHOOL DISTRICT 43
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
March 23, 2021 5:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, LaMotte School District #43 was held on March 23, 2021 for the purpose of considering business to come before the Board of Trustees. Chair Ivester called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m.

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

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

Public Present: Marilyn King, Casey Bertram, Sandy Wilson, Greg Neil, Scott Hedglin, Raquel Perea, Rose Quinn

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.

Trustee Discussion and Reports

Sandy Wilson, Bozeman School District (BSD7) Board Chair and rural school representative on the BSD7 Board of Trustees, introduced Marilyn King, Interim Co-Superintendent, Casey Bertram, Interim Co-Superintendent and Greg Neil, Board Member. Marilyn King and Casey Bertram presented a BSD7 update. Topics discussed included: Gallatin High School opening and Bozeman High School remodel; plans for future transition to the two high schools; COVID collaboration and consensus; expanded credit recovery summer school; K-8 Bozeman Charter School request to OPI (only available to BSD7 students); remote high school option; May 4th election; and Interim Co-Superintendents' monthly newsletter. Superintendent Burke said registration went well this year for the 8th graders. There will be opportunities for LaMotte students to visit the schools before school starts in the fall.

Agenda Action/Discussion Items

1. Building Discussion

a. Architect Proposal and Contract

Board Discussion: Scott Hedglin determined during an Annex review that it is well beyond its building life which indicates the Board should not put any major money into trying to extend the building's life. The surveyor will be out next week to look at stream setbacks and how the setbacks affect the foundation. Mr. Hedglin indicated cost estimates would be prepared for the 2 or 3 concepts developed for consideration during Phase 2-Conceptual Options. Once the Board has vetted the options and selected the preferred option, they will assist the Board in educating the community about the project and dollar amount requested. He suggested the Board appoint a Building Committee consisting of board members, staff, community members and the superintendent to work with the architect. The Board would like

Superintendent Burke to coordinate finding committee members. Trustee Duneman and Trustee Kronfuss volunteered to be the Board members on the committee. The Building Committee and architect will be ready at the next board meeting with more information. Motion to approve the Architecture 118, LLC contract as presented not to exceed Twenty-Four Thousand dollars (\$24,000.00).

Motion: Vice Chair Knoff

Second: Trustee Duneman

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously.

2. Occupational Therapist Proposal

Board Discussion: Raquel Perea, occupational therapist intern with the Gallatin-Madison Special Education Cooperative, presented a LaMotte School sensory path proposal with various options & pricing. Superintendent Burke would like to purchase a sensory path for the next school year. She will let the Board know if there are any year-end monies available for this purchase.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

February 17, 2021 Regular Meeting

Board Discussion: Trustees reviewed the minutes of the February 17, 2021 Regular Meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes from the February 17, 2021 Regular Meeting as presented.

Motion: Vice Chair Knoff

Second: Chair Ivester

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

Staff Discussion & Reports

- Superintendent Report
 - Enrollment is currently 66. Superintendent Burke updated the Board on the current number of out-of-district applications received for FY22.
 - Superintendent Burke discussed the kindergarten registration format.
 - Changes being considered for FY22 include Spanish for just 6/7/8, hire a .20 FTE art teacher, incorporate computer science in K-5 classroom (teachers will teach) and as an elective for 6/7/8 and continue with a .40 FTE counselor. The Board would like Superintendent Burke to give some more thought as to how to incorporate Spanish in grades K-5.
 - Superintendent Burke will apply for a \$1,000 grant to provide summer reading materials to students.

Public Input on Non-Agenda Items

Rose Quinn said she thinks Spanish and art are very important for younger kids. It is easier for kids to learn Spanish when they are younger. The current Spanish teacher is very good with conversational Spanish. Art is important too. She understands that the Parent Group hasn't been able to fundraise this school year, but she is willing to donate for each of her students in order to offer these programs next year. Maybe the school can ask for donations for either art or Spanish and can offer scholarships if needed so all students can have Spanish and art. She asked if there are any government COVID relief monies available as there was definite learning loss in both art and Spanish

due to COVID. Superintendent Burke will look carefully at the allowable uses of the COVID relief monies the district will be receiving. She will also research virtual fundraiser possibilities.

Financial Update

- Approval of Accounts payable and Payroll warrants report and ACH payments
Board Discussion: Trustees reviewed the warrants and ACH payments.
Motion to approve the accounts payable, payroll warrants and ACH payments as presented.
Motion: Vice Chair Knoff
Second: Trustee Kronfuss
Public Comment: None.
Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Action/Discussion Items (continued)

3. Reopening Plan

Board Discussion: There were no changes to the Reopening Plan.

4. Approval of 2021-2022 Calendar

Board Discussion: Superintendent Burke presented the proposed 2021-22 school calendar. School for students will start on September 7, 2021. The school year ends June 10, 2022 which is into the second week of June.

Motion to approve the 2021-2022 School Calendar as presented.

Motion: Vice Chair Knoff

Second: Trustee Duneman

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously.

5. Resolution of Intent to Increase Nonvoted Levies

Board Discussion: District Clerk/Business Manager Becker present two resolution options to the Board: 1) the display ad option shows estimated FY22 mill levy increase/decrease projections for all funds; and 2) the legal ad option shows estimated FY22 mill levy increases only. The legal ad costs substantially less than the display ad. The resolution is required per state law.

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

Motion: Vice Chair Knoff

Second: Trustee Duneman

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously.

6. Official Ballot Language

Board Discussion: District Clerk/Business Manager Becker explained that using the tuition revenues, LaMotte will be able to take advantage of the maximum FY22 budget authority without requesting an overbase mill levy from the LaMotte taxpayers. The only levy on the ballot will be the Technology Acquisition and Depreciation levy. 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 4, 2021 election official ballot language for the Technology Acquisition and Depreciation Levy as presented.

Motion: Vice Chair Knoff

Second: Chair Ivester

Public Comment: None
Motion passed unanimously.

7. County Superintendent Substitute List Updated 3-9-21

Board Discussion: The County Superintendent's office provides the substitute list and does background checks for those employees on the list. Superintendent Burke recommended approving the updated list as presented.

Motion to approve the County Superintendent 2020-2021 substitute list updated 3-9-21.

Motion: Vice Chair Knoff

Second: Trustee Duneman

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Policy

Consideration of update to District Emergency Policy 1905

Second Reading

Board Discussion: None.

Motion to adopt Policy 1905 as presented.

Motion: Vice Chair Knoff

Second: Trustee Duneman

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn 7:07 p.m.

Motion: Vice Chair Knoff

Second: Chair Ivester

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.



Katie Ivester, Board Chair



Sue Becker, District Clerk/Business Manager