

MINUTES
LAMOTTE SCHOOL DISTRICT 43
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
April 26, 2022 5:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, LaMotte School District #43 was held on April 26, 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, Ken Miller, Katie Ivester, Edward Kronfuss

Staff Present: LeeAnn Burke-Superintendent, Sue Becker-District Clerk/Business Manager, Michelle Clark-Administrative Assistant, Jerry Brunt-Teacher, Eva Ticknor-Teacher

Public Present: Approximately 11

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.

Agenda Action/Discussion Items

1. Bozeman School District Presentation

Public Comment: None.

Board Discussion: Mike Waterman, Director of Business Services, Bozeman School District #7, presented information on the Bozeman School District high school levy issues on the upcoming school election ballot.

2. Construction Project

a. Architect Presentation

Architect Discussion: Scott Hedglin, Architecture 118, and Shane Lutey, Lutey Construction, gave a report on the construction project progress. The variance is scheduled to go in front of the County Commissioners on May 3, 2022. Mr. Lutey presented the pros and cons of three construction timeline options for moving forward with the project: 1) proceed without variance; 2) wait for variance to proceed which will extend the project completion date into the school year; and 3) delay building project to next year while proceeding with existing school improvements and outside improvements this summer.

Public comment:

- Bryan Preiss

Board discussion: Chair Knoff asked Mr. Lutey about a timeline for option 3. Mr. Lutey said with lead time issues out of the way and bids determined, construction would start the first or second week in May 2023. Superintendent Burke said that as much as the staff would like to move forward this year, the disruption into the school year would be hard. Vice Chair Duneman asked if the project costs would increase in a year. Mr. Lutey is optimistic that prices will come down but he can't predict what will happen. Superintendent Burke said that the bond money is invested and earns interest. The interest can be used for the ballot project costs if needed. Mr. Hedglin said if the County Commissioners deny the variance, the

architect will have to redesign the building. Trustee Miller, Vice Chair Duneman, Superintendent Burke and Mr. Hedglin will meet to discuss the course of action to present at the County Commissioner meeting. Board consensus is to move forward with option 3. Vice Chair Duneman and Superintendent Burke have been approved by the Board to make contract changes so no formal vote is needed by the Board.

Public Comment:

- Bryan Preiss
- Marci Torres

Minutes of Previous Meeting

March 22, 2022 Regular Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2022 Regular Meeting as presented.

Motion: Vice Chair Duneman

Second: Trustee Kronfuss

Public Comment: None.

Board Discussion: Trustees reviewed the minutes of the March 22, 2022 Regular Meeting.

Motion passed unanimously.

Staff Discussion & Reports

- Superintendent's Report
 - Enrollment is currently 68.
 - Ms. Leadbetter agreed to continue as the lunch cook for the next school year. The program will be expanding to three days a week.
 - Mrs. Cota's last day as the After School Program Director will be May 13, 2022. Ms. Banks will take over for the remainder of the year.
 - Superintendent Burke gave a review of the Teton Science School middle school trip.
 - Smarter Balanced Testing is May 9-11, 2022.
 - Art Auction and Music Appreciation Night is scheduled for May 12, 2022 at the Senior Center.
 - Kindergarten registration will be May 19, 2022.

Trustee Discussion and Reports

Trustee Ivester asked about calculus on the projector screen. Superintendent Burke explained it is Mr. Watton's work.

Public Input on Non-Agenda Items

Jerry Brunt read a prepared letter on parent interaction concerns.

Bryan Preiss commented that he appreciates what Mr. Brunt said. He feels it is evident the voiced interaction concerns are happening and as a parent, he supports Mr. Brunt's observations.

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: Trustee Miller

Public Comment: None.

Board Discussion: Trustees reviewed the warrants and ACH payments.

Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Action/Discussion Items (continued)

3. Approval of 2022-2023 Calendar

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

Public Comment: None.

Motion to approve the 2022-2023 Calendar as presented.

Motion: Trustee Kronfuss

Second: Trustee Ivester

Board Discussion: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

4. Student Parent Staff Survey

Board Discussion: Chair Knoff indicated that survey results were presented to the Board in the 4/25/22 administrator evaluation executive session. Results will be reviewed by the incoming elected board as they will be guiding goals and survey questions for next year. It is important to continue to survey staff/parents/students.

Public Comment: None.

Board Discussion: Trustee Ivester suggested publishing a thermometer to let parents know how many responses are in. This would encourage more parents to respond as there was a low response average with this survey. Chair Knoff thanked Trustee Miller for all the thought and time he spent on this survey.

5. Crisis Procedure Manual

Superintendent Discussion: Superintendent Burke presented the electronic crisis procedure manual folder that staff has access to. She printed out a hard copy for reference during times of need. There is a flow chart which shows how to move through the procedural steps in an emergency. There is still work to be done on the manual before finalizing.

Public Comment: None.

Board Discussion: The Board discussed the importance of staff training especially if the Superintendent is not available at the time of the emergency. Vice Chair Duneman asked if there was preventative training available. Superintendent Burke explained this is part of the counseling curriculum and she is hoping the school resource officer can address this before the end of the school year.

6. Personnel Action

a. Request for leave of absence

Superintendent Discussion: Superintendent Burke recommended allowing Ms. Mast to take a year's leave of absence.

Public Comment: None

Motion to approve Ms. Mast's unpaid extended leave of absence request for a year with the expectation that she notifies the School Board by April 1, 2023 of her intent to return.

Motion: Trustee Ivester

Second: Trustee Kronfuss

Public Comment: None.

Board Discussion: Superintendent Burke explained that Ms. Lytle is working on getting her elementary certification. She can be hired as a teacher and also do student teaching at the same time. Superintendent Burke will be her supervisor. She will complete her education in December and be a fully certified teacher in January. She will get a provisional license in the fall. Superintendent Burke is working on the art program for next year.

Motion passed unanimously.

b. Hire music/band teacher for 2022-2023

Superintendent Discussion: Superintendent Burke recommended hiring Jeremy Sanok as the .20 FTE music teacher for the 2022-2023 school year. She discussed his background/qualifications.

Public Comment:

- Bryan Preiss

Motion to approve Jeremy Sanok as the .20 FTE music teacher for the 2022-2023 school year.

Motion: Trustee Miller

Second: Trustee Ivester

Board Discussion: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

7. FY21 Financial Report

This item was tabled.

Executive Session

1. Administrator Evaluation

Superintendent Burke requested an executive session for the administrator review. Chair Knoff found that Superintendent Burke's right of privacy clearly exceeded the public's right to know in this matter in accordance with Section 2-3-203 MCA. Trustees entered executive session at 6:52 p.m. The meeting was opened to the public at 7:21 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:26 p.m.


Motion: Trustee Ivester

Second: Trustee Kronfuss

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.



Birger Knoff, Board Chair



Sue Becker, District Clerk/Business Manager