

**MINUTES
LAMOTTE SCHOOL DISTRICT 43
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
August 18, 2020 5:00 p.m.**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, LaMotte School District #43 was held on August 18, 2020 for the purpose of considering business to come before the Board of Trustees. Board Chair Ivester called the meeting to order at 5:07 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, Present via Zoom: Abby Mast-Teacher, Eva Ticknor-Teacher, Jerry Brunt-Teacher,

Public Present: Alex Svensrud, Travis Svensrud, Joshua Kronske, Jen Duneman, Present via Zoom: approximately 5-7

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.

Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items

Alex and Travis Svensrud discussed submission of a Student Attendance Agreement. The Student Attendance Agreement will be considered at the next Board meeting.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

July 15, 2020 Regular Meeting

Board Discussion: Trustees reviewed the minutes of the meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting on July 15, 2020 as presented.

Motion: Vice Chair Knoff

Second: Trustee Kronfuss

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

Staff Discussion & Reports

- Superintendent's Report
 - Enrollment is currently 71 students.
 - Insurance adjuster looked at roof hail damage last week; he will come back to look at broken window hail damage.
 - Superintendent Burke discussed results of a reopening survey presented to District families.
 - Space allocation: The current plan is to move the 4/5 classroom to the annex. An isolation room will be built for sick kids in the back of the annex on the southeast corner. Parents will be able to pick up sick children using the fire door. In the main building, the 6th grade will

move into the vacant 4/5 classroom and the vacated 6th grade classroom will become the intervention room.

-Maintenance: Floors and carpets were cleaned. Light fixtures have all been replaced or fixed.

-Grade 2/3 student desks are here.

-We are awaiting the Chromebook delivery.

-The new custodian will start cleaning at the end of this week. She spent time training with the Belgrade School maintenance staff to learn effective cleaning processes.

-Most teachers are planning on coming in two days early to flex PIR days in October.

-Lawn: There is an irrigation water pressure issue. Superintendent Burke and Administrative Assistant Clark will research repair options.

Trustee Discussion and Reports

None.

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

1. Re-open Plan

Board Discussion: Superintendent Burke discussed the development of the *LaMotte Reopening Plan*. The Crisis Response Team and staff were involved in developing the procedures in the document. She discussed procedures to follow in each section of the plan (Safety-Facility, Safety-People, Daily Procedures, Classroom Information, Illness Monitoring and Procedures, Social/Emotional Impact). The Board discussed: 1) When/where masks are required throughout the school day; 2) Keeping classes separated throughout the day; 3) Visits-initial document stated that no visitors, including parents, will be allowed inside the school-the Board would like Superintendent Burke to modify language to indicate visitors will be limited inside the school and child can be brought out to parent at any time; 4) Arrival-initial document stated temperatures will be taken by a staff member while the parent is still at school-the Board would like Superintendent Burke to modify the language to include that while temperatures are being taken, children will wear masks; 5) Lunch program-Superintendent Burke indicated there will not be a hot lunch program at this time which concerned the Board; they requested a Superintendent report on how students are doing with bringing daily lunches at the next meeting; 6) After School Program-Superintendent Burke reported in an effort to keep cohorts, there will be no after school program; 7) Sports-Superintendent Burke reported that a no fall sport decision was made by all rural schools; this will be reevaluated each season; 8) Dismissal-K/1 will be dismissed at 1:00 p.m. on days the kindergarteners are in school. The Board is concerned about parent hardship and would like to discuss this schedule at the September meeting; 9) Classroom information-students will

stay in their grade level classrooms. Students will be allowed in the library with ample time to clean surfaces between classes. Superintendent Burke will meet with ArtSplot to discuss the art program. The music teacher is developing the music program. Physical Education will be outside. All teachers are committed to making sure the students know how to use the learning platform in case of remote classes; 10) Illness monitoring and procedures were pulled directly from the Gallatin City/County Health Department (GCCHD) procedures. The Board discussed procedures in case someone tests positive. Trustee Knoff will ask the GCCHD if they will contact the school in the case where someone tests positive. The Board would like to review the section in the Student Handbook that addresses how long students have to be symptom free before coming back to school; 11) Social/Emotional Impact-guidance counselor time doubled to two full days a week to allow extra help with social/emotional impacts. Paraprofessional FTE has also increased to provide extra help; 12) Chair Ivester addressed a parent request for a blended model and concern over remote learning preparation and increased air circulation/ventilation of classrooms. Superintendent Burke explained the staffing and expense difficulties of a blended model. Staff are prepared for online remote learning if needed and for working with students who are home for an extended period due to illness. If a parent chooses to keep their child home without a health condition, then it is a homeschool situation and they need to register with the County Superintendent of Schools; 13) Board appreciates all the hard work of the Superintendent and staff throughout this period.

Chair Ivester opened the discussion to the public.

Joshua Kronske: 1) would like something to go out to parents about the importance of fitness and vitamins; 2) asked about being able to use a face shield instead of a mask; 3) asked about using a blended option; 4) would like Board to research additional land for the school; 5) he would like to see food donations to ensure all students are getting enough to eat; 6) suggested contacting Montana State University regarding student teachers in the fall.

Jerry Brunt: 1) as a teacher, he would like to see everyone wearing face coverings as this protects everyone and allows the school to function in person.

Jennifer Duneman: 1) sees blended model as necessary when students are sent home to quarantine so they can participate; 2) she agreed with expanding symptom free hours before a student can come back to school; 3) as a parent, she is worried about not being contacted if a child has close contact to someone who tested positive or was sick and didn't get tested; 4) asked if face shields could be used to help with learning; 5) concerned that LaMotte is not offering a hot lunch program as nutrition is important and she is concerned about families in need; 6) she is interested in the blended model, online option and what learning will look like for students that are home sick.

Board discussion: The Board discussed the use of face shields versus masks. Vice Chair Knoff will check with Matt Kelly, Gallatin County Health Officer, to see what the County policy is on face shields. Type of face coverings used will be addressed at the special August meeting.

Motion to approve the *LaMotte Reopening Plan* with changes (indicate visitors will be limited inside the school and child can be brought out to parent at any time; modify language to include that while temperatures are being taken, children will wear masks).

Motion: Vice Chair Knoff

Second: Trustee Duneman

Public Comment on motion: Mr. Brunt, teacher, said he is fine with face shields for kids but what a face shield will look like needs to be defined.

Motion passed unanimously.

2. Personnel Action

a. Hiring Spanish Teacher, Math Teacher (paraprofessional), Paraprofessional

Board Discussion: Superintendent Burke recommended hiring Clinton Watton as the 8th grade math teacher (classified contract). She discussed his background/qualifications. She is still interviewing for the Spanish teacher and Instructional Paraprofessional positions.

Motion to approve Clinton Watton as the math teacher (paraprofessional classified position) for the 2020-2021 school year at a rate of \$40.00 per hour.

Motion: Vice Chair Knoff

Second: Trustee Miller

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Final FY21 Budget Approval

Board Discussion: District Clerk/Business Manager Becker discussed the FY21 recommended budgets for each of the budgeted funds. The technology levy is limited to 10 years. We are in the 7th year of the 10-year limit. The voters approved a 5-year \$50,000 levy (\$10,000 per year) in the Building Reserve Fund and LaMotte is in the 3rd year of this 5-year levy.

Motion to approve the FY21 budgeted funds budgets as presented.

Motion: Vice Chair Knoff

Second: Trustee Duneman

Public Comment: Joshua Kronske said if the district is in need of donations, he could help raise money for the school.

Motion passed unanimously.

4. Elect Superintendent to Special Education Co-op Board

Board Discussion: None.

Motion to approve the Superintendent as the school representative on the Special Education Co-op Board.

Motion: Vice Chair Knoff

Second: Chair Ivester

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

5. Memorandum of Agreement

Board Discussion: District Clerk/Business Becker explained this clarifies work days/leave for staff given the extraordinary circumstances and challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement as presented.

Motion: Trustee Miller

Second: Trustee Duneman

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

6. 2020-2021 Calendar Revision

Board Discussion: Superintendent Burke discussed allowing staff additional preparation time at the beginning of school year. The initial calendar start date for staff is Wednesday 9/2. She said the staff believed it would be beneficial to have an extra 3 PIR days for prep and to have the students start on 9/8/20. Superintendent Burke received an email from a parent who wrote that there was more benefit to start right away and no benefit in waiting as everyone would lose time. Board members felt in these extenuating circumstances it is beneficial to be as prepared as possible.

Motion to approve revising the calendar to have PIR days on 9/3-5/20 and to change the first day of school to 9/8/20.

Motion: Vice Chair Knoff

Second: Chair Ivester

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

7. Approval of TR-4 Transportation Contracts 2020-2021

Board Discussion: Superintendent Burke presented two new FY21 transportation contracts for the Board to consider.

Motion to approve the TR-4 Transportation Contracts 2020-2021 as presented.

Motion: Vice Chair Knoff

Second: Trustee Kronfuss

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

Policy

8. a. Consideration of suspension of District Policy 1310 for the purposes of consideration of adopting MTSBA Model Emergency Policies after one reading

Board Discussion: None.

Motion to approve suspension of District Policy 1310 for the limited purpose of considering, reviewing, identifying needed options and adopting Policies 1900-1912 after one reading. This motion is exclusive to the consideration of Policies 1900-1912 at the meeting held on August 18, 2020 and will not apply to other meetings or topics.

Motion: Vice Chair Knoff

Second: Trustee Duneman

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

b. Consideration of MTSBA Model Emergency Policies 1900-1912

Board Discussion: Superintendent Burke presented pertinent information for each policy in the series. Policy 1900-1912 are temporary policies related to COVID19 Emergency Procedures-all policies will terminate the earlier of June 30, 2020 or date when all emergency declarations related to COVID-19 that apply to the district have lawfully expired or have been dissolved. Policy 1900P-not needed; Policy 1900F-not needed; Policy 1902 Page 1 line 20 indicate 10 calendar days; line 21 indicate Administrative Assistant; line 25 indicate 70% or higher; delete lines 36, 37, 44; Policy 1903-Page 1 go with option 3; Policy 1903F-delete lines 38-40; Policy 1904-Page 1 delete lines 14, 15, 23, 27 and Page 2 delete lines 33, 35, 36; Policy 1905-Page 1 Physical Distancing go with Option 2; Page 2 Face Coverings as Personal Protective Equipment go with option 1; Page 7 Delete Transportation Services lines 2-7; Policy 1906 Page 2 go with options 1, 2 and 3, Page 4 strike Summer School section and Extended School Year section; Policy 1908-not needed; Policy 1908F-not needed; Policy 1909 Page 1 Work Schedule and Assignment of Duties for Classified Staff go with option 1; Page 2 Add “for hours worked” on line 16.

Motion to adopt Policies 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 1903F, 1904, 1905, 1905P, 1906, 1906P, 1907, 1909, 1909P, 1910, 1910F1, 1910F2, 1911 and 1912 with superintendent recommendations after one reading as permitted by the motion authorizing the limited suspension of Policy 1310. The purpose of adopting Policies 1900-1907, 1909-1912 after one reading for the purposes of establishing emergency policy framework and adopting identified emergency policies with selected options. The board has identified the needed policies with appropriate options as outlined in this motion.

Motion: Vice Chair Knoff

Second: Chair Ivester

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn 8:19 p.m.

Motion: Vice Chair Knoff

Second: Trustee Kronfuss

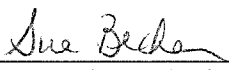
Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Monday, August 24, 2020 5:00 p.m.
The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is Tuesday, September 29, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.



Katie Ivester, Board Chair
Birken Knoff, Vice Board Chair



Sue Becker, District Clerk/Business Manager