

**MINUTES  
LAMOTTE SCHOOL DISTRICT 43  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 21, 2012  
4:00 p.m.**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, LaMotte School District #43 was held on March 21, 2012 for the purpose of considering business to come before the Board of Trustees. Chairperson Amy Allen presided.

Chairperson Allen called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**Trustees Present:** Amy Allen, Elisa Eshbaugh, Ken Miller, Mike Hedegaard, Stacey Etchart

**Staff Present:** LeeAnn Burke, Principal; Sally Birkelo, District Clerk; Sue Becker, Business Manager

**Public Present:** None

### **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**

#### **February 22, 2012 Regular Meeting**

Board Discussion: Trustees did not call for changes in the draft version of the minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes from February 22, 2012

Motion: Trustee Eshbaugh

Second: Chair Allen

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously

### **Principal's Report**

#### **In her report to the trustees Principal Burke presented to the Board:**

- The office floor has been replaced. This is an insurance claim and will be submitted.
- She will attend a Common Core training March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, will bring information from the training to the teaching staff.
- The community calendar task force will continue despite Superintendent Kirk Miller's resignation. The task force is looking at all options for school calendars, not just year-round calendar. Bozeman School District has not published their 2012-2013 calendar yet.
- The RTI application will be due soon; a 5 year commitment is required for the school. This has been excellent professional development for the LaMotte teaching staff and enrichment for the students.
- Kindergarten enrollment numbers for next year are currently at six to eight students in district, and several out of district applicants. A kindergarten orientation will be planned for April or May.

- Mrs. Burke discussed policy 5321 regarding bereavement leave with the trustees. This policy will be on the April meeting agenda as a first reading with minor revisions. Trustees agreed that bereavement leave should not be withdrawn from employee sick time.

### **Trustee Discussion and Reports**

- Trustees discussed projected and current enrollment numbers at LaMotte and the enrollment within the Bozeman School District.
- Trustees discussed the community calendar task force meeting findings.
- Clerk Birkelo will be absent from the April 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Business Manager Becker will take the meeting minutes.

### **Financial Update**

#### **Approval of warrant report # 17292-17316 and warrants # 1798-1810 and ACH payments**

Board Discussion: Trustees requested additional information for several warrant charges.

Motion to approve warrant report #1798-1810 and ACH payments and warrant 17292-17316.

Motion: Trustee Eshbaugh

Second: Trustee Miller

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously.

### **Agenda Action Items**

#### **1. Administrator Evaluation-Executive Session**

Principal Burke did not waive her right to privacy. The Board entered into executive session at 5:38 p.m. concluded at 6:35 p.m.; the meeting was then open to the public.

Board Discussion: Trustees expressed gratitude to Principal Burke for a good job.

Motion to renew Principal LeeAnn Burke contract for the 2012-2013 year.

Motion: Trustee Hedegaard

Second: Trustee Eshbaugh

Public comment: none

Motion passed unanimously.

#### **2. United Way After School Grant**

Principal Burke presented information about the United Way Grant funding for the After School Program. Mrs. Mathews is doing a great job as the program facilitator. MSU Technology and Literature students attend the program and teach the students. The finances are in good order for this program.

Board Discussion: Trustees discussed the raise in fee from \$2 this year to \$3 next year. A monthly fee for families of multiple students was suggested.

Motion to approve submission of United Way After School Grant for the 2012-2013 year.

Motion: Trustee Hedegaard

Second: Trustee Eshbaugh

Public comment: None

Motion passed unanimously

#### **3. Calendar and PIR days approval for 2012/2013 year**

Principal Burke recommended waiting to approve the LaMotte calendar until Bozeman School District has approved their calendar. Trustees discussed calendar dates. No action was taken.

#### **4. Preliminary budget review for 2012/2013 year**

Principal Burke presented a budget scenario to the Board based on her concerns of increased Special Education needs and the overall projected budget for next year. LaMotte has several students needing one-on-one aides, currently the Special Education CoOp pays for one of the aides, next year LaMotte will have to pay for the aides. One possibility for next year would be to hire a .5FTE certified Special Education teacher who would also be an instructional aide for the remaining half of the day.

The budget for next year will not support our current number of instructional aides; one option is to have only the proposed .5FTE Sped/half-time aide and 1.5 FTE aide time between 2 staff members.

Another cost-cutting idea would be scheduling a specialist class to the middle school first period all week and hiring a 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at .8FTE. Another alternative option would have the middle school teachers teach the 5th grades math and language arts; middle school teachers have more prep time than elementary teachers.

Other options to cut budget costs were discussed. The ski program can no longer be paid by the school. Parents will pay for the students ski fees.

Cutting back on Spanish program is an option but Mrs. Burke would like to see it stay the same. Library and PE will be reduced to .2 FTE from .25FTE.

The budget discussion will continue in future meetings.

No action was taken.

### **Policy**

#### **3120 Compulsory Attendance**

Motion to approve policy 3120 as recommended by MTSBA.

Board Discussion: Trustees recognized the policy with changes recommended by MTSBA.

Motion: Trustee Miller

Second: Trustee Eshbaugh

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously

#### **6000 Series Administration**

Board Discussion: Trustees reviewed the 6000 series without change or revision.

No action was taken.

**The next regular meeting is April 18, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.**

#### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 6:40 p.m.

Motion: Trustee Hedegaard

Second: Trustee Miller

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously

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Amy Allen, Board Chair

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Sally Birkelo, District Clerk