

**MINUTES
LAMOTTE SCHOOL DISTRICT 43
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
MAY 15, 4:00 p.m.**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, LaMotte School District #43 was held on May 15, 2013 for the purpose of considering business to come before the Board of Trustees. Chair Amy Allen presided and called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Trustees Present: Amy Allen, Stacey Etchart, Karen Sipes-Schmidt, Ken Miller

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

Public Present: Mary Ellen Fitzgerald, County Superintendent of Schools

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

April 24, 2013 Regular Meeting

Board Discussion: Trustees reviewed the minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting April 24, 2013.

Motion: Trustee Miller

Second: Trustee Sipes-Schmidt

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Principal's Report

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

- She thanked the Board for backing the elections and passing of the levies. She expressed gratitude to the trustees and the taxpayers for supporting the students and the school.
- The budget data sheet presented to the trustees in the board packet showed an increase in entitlement money for schools. It is likely that taxpayers will see a slight decrease in taxes.
- No summer repairs are projected at this point. A crack in the ceiling of the girl's bathroom will be inspected for repair.
- The 4th and 5th grade had an amazing County Science Fair. Many of the students were awarded for their projects.
- June 10th is the 8th grade promotion ceremony. The LaMotte band will play and a speaker is still being sought for the ceremony.
- June 12th is the last day of school, a field day and hot dog picnic is planned. Teachers will have a PIR day on the 13th.
- The fiscal year duties will be finalized during the last week of June.

Clerk's Report

- Clerk Birkelo reviewed her written report for the Board.
- Clerk Birkelo informed the Board that she will be moving and will likely resign within a few months.

Trustee Discussion and Reports

- Trustees discussed a letter submitted by an out of district parent. Out of district applications will be reviewed for acceptance in August.
- Class size and configuration~ Trustees and Principal Burke discussed the projected enrollment for next year. Projections are that the class configuration will remain as currently established.

Financial Update

Approval of warrant report # 1969-1985, # 17781 – 17804 and ACH payments

Board Discussion: Trustees had no questions on warrant payments.

Motion to approve warrant report # -1969-1985, # 17781 – 17804 and ACH payments.

Motion: Trustee Sipes-Schmidt

Second: Trustee Etchart

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Action Items

1. Irrigation Proposal

Board Discussion: The irrigation contract will continue with the same services as last year. The irrigation services have been merged from Blanchford into a new company. Principal Burke recommended the contract for approval.

Motion to approve Irrigation contract with Hydrologics as presented.

Motion: Trustee Sipes-Schmidt

Second: Trustee Etchart

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously.

2. Audit Findings

Board Discussion: No new deficiencies were found. Trustees recognized Business Manager Sue Becker for an outstanding job.

Motion to accept and recognize audit findings as presented.

Motion: Trustee Etchart

Second: Trustee Sipes Schmidt

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Certification of Election and Canvass of Votes

Board Discussion: Trustees discussed the election results. The election results were certified and the votes were canvassed.

Motion to certify the election and canvass the votes.

Motion: Trustee Etchart

Second: Trustee Sipes-Schmidt

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously.

4. Hot Lunch Contract Approval

The contract was not ready for submission by meeting time. This will be tabled until next month. No action was taken.

5. Principal Contract Approval

Board Discussion: Trustees reviewed the salary increase proposal from Principal Burke.

Motion to increase salary 5% and increase insurance benefit from \$600 to \$750 per month.

Motion: Trustee Miller

Second: Trustee Etchart

Public Comment: Superintendent Fitzgerald spoke in favor of Principal Burke.

Motion passed unanimously.

6. Renewal of tenured and non tenured teaching staff

Principal Burke recommended renewal of tenured staff: Nikki Vradenburg, Jerry Brunt, Trista Babcock, Tad Drake, Sue Sailer in Counselor position and Mona Carroll in Spanish position.

Principal Burke recommended renewal of non-tenured teachers: Ann Bernard, Jason Greenwald, Jeff Vick, and Dan McDonough.

Principal Burke recommends renewal of Contracted Services for Mike Pierre.

Principal Burke informed the trustees that tenured staff Tad Drake and Jerry Brunt will move a lane on the salary matrix.

Board Discussion: Trustees discussed renewals.

Motion to renew staff as presented by recommendation of Principal Burke.

Motion: Trustee Etchart

Second: Trustee Sipes-Schmidt

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously

7. Certified Salary Increase

Principal Burke presented information to the Board regarding funds available in the new budget that will support a \$1000 increase on the base for certified staff. She recommends approval of the certified salary increase. She foresees that this increase will be maintainable for future budget years.

Board Discussion: Trustees inquired about lane placement of staff. Trustees questioned if the increase will be sustainable in the future. Trustee Miller expressed concerns about a big increase for the upcoming contract year and not being able to offer a comparable increase the following year. Chair Allen expressed support for a competitive base salary. Trustee Sipes-Schmidt expressed support for increasing the base salary. The base will be \$28,270 with the \$1000 added.

Annual Election and Reorganization of the Board

- 1. Swearing in of Elected Trustees**
- 2. Appoint Board Chairperson**
- 3. Appoint Vice Chairperson**
- 4. Appoint Clerk**

Board Action: Superintendent Fitzgerald swore in elected trustees Amy Allen and Ken Miller. Motion to appoint Amy Allen as Board Chairperson, Elisa Eshbaugh as Vice Chairperson and Sally Birkelo as District Clerk.

Motion: Trustee Miller

Second: Trustee Sipes-Schmidt

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 6:03 p.m.

Motion: Trustee Sipes-Schmidt

Second: Trustee Etchart

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is June 26, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

Elisa Eshbaugh, Vice Board Chair

Sally Birkelo, District Clerk