

MINUTES
LAMOTTE SCHOOL DISTRICT 43
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
June 24, 2021 5:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, LaMotte School District #43 was held on June 24, 2021 for the purpose of considering business to come before the Board of Trustees. Board Chair Knoff called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

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

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

Public Present: Matthew Henry-Gallatin County Superintendent of Schools, Kaitlyn Kuntz, Bridget Ekstrom, Erica Mackey

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.

Agenda Action/Discussion Items

1. Vacant Trustee Position Appointment

Katie Ivester was the lone applicant for the vacant trustee position.

Motion to approve Katie Ivester to fill the vacant Trustee position for the LaMotte School District No. 43 for a term of 1 year beginning June 24, 2021 and ending at the trustee organizational meeting in May 2022.

Motion: Vice Chair Duneman

Second: Chair Knoff

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Ivester was sworn in by Matthew Henry, County Superintendent of Schools.

2. Building Discussion

a. Architect Presentation

Board Discussion: Kaitlyn Kuntz, Architecture 118 discussed the *LaMotte School Building Planning/Assessment Recommendation*. After reviewing the proposed building concept option and budget, the Board decided to go forward with a \$1,800,000 bond election for this project. Per Architecture 118 *LaMotte School Building Planning/Assessment Recommendation*, "In our opinion, the useful life of the mobile/modular building has been exhausted and we recommend replacement with a structurally-sound framing system that meets the requirements of current Building Codes." As the process goes forward, the Board will need to decide: 1) Hire General Construction Contractor Manager (GCCM), lock in maximum bid price and GCCM hires subcontractors; or 2) Architect advertises package and then bids are accepted; 3) Appoint Architect before or after bond passage.

Motion to proceed with a \$1,800,000 bond election for the proposed building project.
Motion: Vice Chair Duneman
Second: Trustee Ivester
Public Comment: None.
Motion passed unanimously.

b. Bridget Ekstrom-D.A. Davidson

Board Discussion: Bridget Ekstrom, Senior Vice President with D.A. Davidson, presented information on: 1) Debt Limitation; 2) Mill Levy Impact analysis; 3) Taxable Value Trends; 4) District Mill Rates; 5) Major Taxpayers in the District; 6) Municipal Market Update; 7) Mail Ballot Timetable; and 8) Underwriting Letter. D.A. Davidson does not charge a fee until the waiting period has expired after the bond election passes and financing goes forward. Business Manager/District Clerk Becker will contact Dan Semmens, Dorsey Whitney (bond counsel) to get a draft resolution calling for a bond election to present at the next meeting.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

May 19, 2021 Special Meeting

May 19, 2021 Regular Meeting

Board Discussion: Trustees reviewed the minutes of the May 19, 2021 Special Meeting and the minutes of the May 19, 2021 Regular Meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes from the May 19, 2021 Special Meeting and the minutes of the May 19, 2021 Regular Meeting as presented.

Motion: Trustee Ivester

Second: Vice Chair Duneman

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

Staff Discussion & Reports

- Superintendent Report
 - Superintendent Burke discussed the office staff summer work and project schedule.
 - Interviews for the Middle School teacher position will be held on Friday, June 25th. Teachers Liz Spyke, Eva Ticknor and Jerry Brunt will assist Superintendent Burke with the interviews.
 - Building Progress-The Board decided the bond value for the November 2021 election at this meeting.
 - Smarter Balanced results will be mailed this week.
 - Superintendent Burke will be purchasing Bridges (new math curriculum K-5 and intervention piece). Training is scheduled for Aug. 2 and 3. Teachers and paraprofessionals will have the option of trading these days for the October PIR days or receiving a stipend.

Trustee Discussion and Reports

The Board acknowledged that due to a short special meeting timeframe, the Superintendent evaluation discussion was incomplete but the written evaluation will go in her personnel file. The Board presented a gift card to Superintendent Burke to thank her for her work during the last school year.

Public Input on Non-Agenda Items

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: Trustee Ivester
Second: Vice Chair Duneman
Public Comment: None.
Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Action/Discussion Items (continued)

3. Approval of TR-4 Transportation Contracts 2021-2022

Board Discussion: The Board reviewed the list of FY22 Individual Transportation Contracts. LaMotte does not provide bus service. Per state statute, parents of students who live more than 3 miles from the school are reimbursed based on a daily rate.
Motion to approve the TR-4 Transportation Contracts 2021-2022 as presented.
Motion: Vice Chair Duneman
Second: Chair Knoff
Public Comment: None.
Motion passed unanimously.

4. Approval of Student Attendance Agreements (FP-14) School Year 2021-2022

Board Discussion: At this time, there are 51 resident students and 17 recommended out-of-district student applications. All out-of-district student recommendations are students returning to LaMotte with the exception of the recommended kindergarten students who are siblings of other out-of-district student and a recommended 8th grader. There are 11 applications that Superintendent Burke is not recommending: 2 in kindergarten, 2 in 1st grade 1 in 2nd grade, 2 in 3rd grade, 2 in 4th grade, 1 in 6th grade and 1 in 8th grade. With these recommendations, there is room if new in-district students were to register. Superintendent Burke said the District had an extraordinary number of applications. FY22 tuition will not be charged for students of employees but the Board would like Superintendent Burke and District Clerk/Business Manager to research this policy.

Kindergarten - 2 application is being recommended.

1st grade – 1 application is being recommended.

2nd grade – 1 application is being recommended.

3rd grade – 2 applications are being recommended.

4th grade – 2 applications are being recommended.

5th grade – 3 applications are being recommended.

6th grade – 2 applications are being recommended.

7th grade – 2 applications are being recommended.

8th grade – 2 applications are being recommended.

Motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for out-of-district student application acceptance.

Motion: Vice Chair Duneman

Second: Trustee Ivester

Public Comment: Erica Mackey, the mother of a student whose application was not recommended, requested the Board re-evaluate the recommendation. She lives on the Park County border. When her family came here four years ago, they had a difficult time finding daycare so she founded MyVillage. Her team is in Bozeman and she can't relocate to

Livingston. She is asking the Board to reconsider her application. She really believes in participating in the school community. Superintendent Burke said her first priority is to look at what is best for District students. It is difficult with larger classes and conditions that take time and energy. Superintendent Burke is willing to take one more student given the family circumstances. There was one child ahead of Erica Mackey's child on the out-of-district application list. The Board would like Superintendent Burke to contact the parent to make sure there is no problem with their child not being accepted.

Vice Chair Duneman rescinded the original motion.

Motion to approve the Superintendent's recommendation for out-of-district student application acceptance and accept one more kindergarten student (total of three kindergarten students accepted).

Motion: Vice Chair Duneman

Second: Trustee Ivester

Motion passed unanimously.

5. Financial Approvals

Board Discussion: District Clerk/Business Manager Becker explained this approval allows the Superintendent and District Clerk/Business Manager to determine the most efficient use of school district resources to close the FY21 financial records.

Motion to approve the Superintendent and District Clerk/Business Manager to move/transfer FY21 expenditures as necessary to ensure efficient use of the school district resources.

Motion: Vice Chair Duneman

Second: Chair Knoff

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

6. Multidistrict Agreement

Board Discussion: District Clerk/Business Manager Becker explained under the provisions of 20-3-363 MCA, two or more districts are allowed to enter into a multidistrict agreement where the parties agree to provide joint funding for services, activities and undertakings of the participants. Transfers are made from General Fund budget authority to the Interlocal Fund. The participating districts are Anderson, LaMotte and Arrowhead. Anderson School, as the prime agency, will be responsible for the financial activity administration.

Motion to approve the Multidistrict Agreement as presented.

Motion: Trustee Ivester

Second: Vice Chair Duneman

Public Comment: None.

Motion passed unanimously.

7. Consider the Elimination of the State of Emergency Declaration for the District

Board Discussion: Superintendent Burke recommended eliminating the 1900 policy series which would eliminate the need to wear masks for the summer months. At the July COVID group meeting, they will look at what the County and CDC are recommending for kids and adults in schools that are not vaccinated. The situation will continually be monitored. Should increases in case transmission occur within the community, the Board may reinstate required mask usage.

Motion to lift the state of emergency pursuant to District Policy #1900 and terminate School District Policies numbered 1900-1912.

Motion: Trustee Ivester

Second: Chair Knoff

Public Comment: None.
Motion passed unanimously.

8. Safe Return to School and Continuity of Services Plan

Board Discussion: As required by OPI and ESSER funds, a Safe Return to School and Continuity of Services Plan will be adopted by the Board and posted to the website. Superintendent Burke said a sample plan template was published by the Montana Office of Public Instruction. She modified the template with the LaMotte District information. Motion to approve the Safe Return to School and Continuity of Services Plan as presented. Motion: Vice Chair Duneman
Second: Trustee Ivester
Public Comment: None.
Motion passed unanimously.

9. Lunch Program 2021-2022

Board Discussion: Per Superintendent Burke, a Gallatin City-County Health Department employee inspected the kitchen to see if it would be suitable to house the National School Lunch Program. In order to comply with regulations, the District would need to add another sink, upgrade the drain system with a grease trap and get a commercial oven with an exhaust system. Superintendent Burke doesn't believe these expenses are justified when a kitchen could possibly be added next year. A two days a week lunch program is contingent on hiring someone to cook for us. If a cook cannot be found for two days, she recommends we do not run a program but offer Costco pizza one day a month (or something similar) utilizing parent volunteers.

Superintendent Burke spoke with OPI and the Bozeman School District. In order for LaMotte to be part of the National School Lunch program, the school needs to have a kitchen that complies with regulations. There is no assistance for startup costs in this program. She asked Bozeman School District if LaMotte could participate in their lunch program. Brittany Selvig, Director, determined it was not cost effective. Trustee Ivester asked if there was any way HRDC could participate. Superintendent Burke explained this is not a possibility. They do give students weekend food packs to take home and they also provide food if needed. Superintendent Burke said the cold lunch program has worked out well this year. Staff monitors to make sure students have lunches. Trustee Ivester mentioned that Gallatin College's Culinary program is looking for a new Director and suggested discussing a guest chef or intern program with them in a few weeks. Superintendent Burke will keep planning the FY22 lunch program.

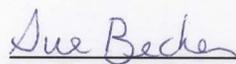
10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn 6:32 p.m.
Motion: Trustee Ivester
Second: Vice Chair Duneman
Public Comment: None.
Motion passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is tentatively set for Thursday, July 22, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.



Birgen Knoff, Board Chair



Sue Becker, District Clerk/Business Manager