

MINUTES
LAMOTTE SCHOOL DISTRICT 43
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
September 20, 2017 4:30 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, LaMotte School District #43 was held on September 20, 2017 for the purpose of considering business to come before the Board of Trustees. Chair Allen presided and called the meeting to order at 4:38 p.m.

Trustees Present: Amy Allen, Ken Miller, Birgen Knoff, Suzanne Ogle (arrived at 4:43)
Staff Present: LeeAnn Burke-Supt./Principal, Sue Becker-Business Manager, Liz Spyke, Jerry Brunt, Abbey Mast
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

August 17, 2017 Regular Meeting

August 25, 2017 Special Meeting

Board Discussion: Trustees reviewed the minutes.

Motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting on August 17, 2017 and the minutes from the Special Meeting on August 25, 2017 as presented.

Motion: Trustee Miller

Second: Trustee Knoff

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Staff Discussion & Reports

- Teacher Presentation on Lucy Calkins writing program-Liz Spyke, Jerry Brunt and Abbey Mast attended a Lucy Calkins writing program in New York City. They presented the scope of the Lucy Calkins writing program, shared what they learned from this workshop and how they plan to implement it in their classrooms.
- Principal's Report
 - Enrollment: 59 students/holding steady.
 - Positive feedback on lunch program-Supt./Principal Burke will keep Board informed of revenues vs. expenditures as year progresses. Mr. Ivester is utilizing botanical garden vegetables and organic ingredients. Supt./Principal Burke called the Bozeman Chronicle to suggest they cover the homegrown program.
 - Smarter Balanced test results-Supt./Principal Burke presented the 2016-2017 school year Smarter Balanced test scores to the Board. The scores were lower than the prior year. Supt./Principal Burke explained the test did not change and she will work on determining why

there was a change in scores. Supt./Principal Burke and the Board discussed possible explanations of why the change in test scores occurred.

-PIR day, Monday Sept. 25-Several staff members will be attending professional development presented by Southwest Montana School Services. Supt./Principal Burke and other staff members will be attending a curriculum consortium featuring presenter Todd Whitaker in Billings. Supt./Principal Burke will go to staff leadership program presented by Todd Whitaker on Tuesday Sept. 26.

-Wednesday, Sept. 27 Open House. Supt./Principal Burke went over the open house schedule.

-Picture day, Oct. 3.

-Walk to school day Oct. 4. Students will start at Fort Ellis fire station. Family/friends are invited. Parent group provides a snack.

-Southwest Montana School Services (SWMSS) Technology Proposal-Supt./Principal Burke presented this technology proposal. Total cost of services = \$2,972.00 which include: Todd Lark, Director of Technology Services will spend 12 full days at the school during the school year helping with staff/student with technology needs; he can access the school's server remotely to troubleshoot; 2 tickets to the Technology Summit sponsored by SWMSS. Trustee Knoff asked if he is monitoring equipment 24/7 to let us know if something is wrong. Supt./Principal will clarify. The Board would like the Technology Proposal to be put on the next meeting agenda for approval. Supt./Principal Burke let the Board know that Todd Lark will be out next week to analyze our system (as we maintain our own servers). If the SWMSS Technology Proposal is not approved at the next meeting, the District will pay his daily rate for that day.

Trustee Discussion and Reports

- Chair Allen asked about climate survey-Trustee Ivester will compile sample survey questions and bring to a Board work session after the first of the year. The Board would like the Supt./Principal to provide the Parent survey to the Board again to refresh memories

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.
Motion: Trustee Knoff
Second: Trustee Allen
Public Comment: None
Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Action Items

1. **Middle School Science Trip**-This item was tabled until the October meeting.
2. **Superintendent Vacation Payout** -This item was tabled until the October meeting.
3. **Personnel Action**
 - a. Classified Staff
 - Hiring Paraprofessional
 - Classified Staff contracts
 - b. Cell phone stipend request Superintendent and District Clerk
 - c. Internet stipend request Business Manager

Board Discussion: Supt./Principal Burke recommended approval of: 1) Hiring Beth Schultz as a Paraprofessional (went over her background/experience); 2) Hiring Mary Cota as the After School Program Director; 3) Correcting Sue Sailer Paraprofessional hourly rate; 4) Cell phone stipend for Superintendent and District Clerk; and 5) Internet stipend for Business Manager. The Board discussed looking into paying these stipends through accounts payable (employee would submit personal cell phone or internet invoice) vs. through payroll.

Motion to hire Beth Schultz as a Paraprofessional.

Motion: Trustee Miller

Second: Trustee Knoff

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve a classified staff contract for Mary Cota, After School Program Director and to correct Sue Sailer, Paraprofessional hourly rate.

Motion: Trustee Knoff

Second: Trustee Miller

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the cell phone stipends for the Superintendent and District Clerk.

Motion: Trustee Knoff

Second: Trustee Ogle

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the internet stipend for the Business Manager.

Motion: Trustee Knoff

Second: Trustee Miller

Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously.

4. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn 6:05 p.m.

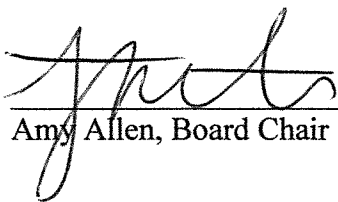
Motion: Trustee Knoff

Second: Trustee Miller

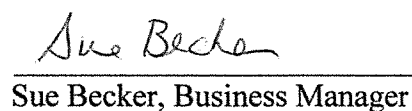
Public Comment: None

Motion passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is October 17, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.



Amy Allen, Board Chair



Sue Becker, Business Manager