

MT. PLEASANT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting Minutes – June 7, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held on June 7, 2021, at 6:30 p.m., in the MPPS Performing Arts Center, 1155 S. Elizabeth Street, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Board Members Present:

Amy Bond, President; Tim Odykirk, Vice-President; Courtney Stegman, Secretary; Dana Calkins, Trustee; Jessica Jernigan, Trustee; Wiline Pangle, Trustee

Board Members Absent:

Sheila Murphy, Treasurer

Administration Present:

Superintendent Jennifer Verleger, Asst. Superintendent Linda Boyd, Chief Financial Officer Ginger Faber, WAY Director Kim Funnell, CEO Joe Judge

Guests:

Debra Ervin, Matt Wernett, Pat Onstott, John Klak, Amy Porschbacher, Elizabeth Husbands, Amanda Garrison, Robert Newby, Eric Baerna, Ulana Klymyshyn, Laura Cochrane, Sara Moslener, Amy Showboose, Allyssa Showboose, Heidi McAlvey, Audrey McAlvey, Kinsley McAlvy, Adam Harmen, Colette Hamlin, Diana Covarrubias, Cindi Tilman, Cindy Poole, Brent Fisher, Tara Leonard, Melissa Isaac, Betsy Weis, Dawn Davis, Hannah Hamlin, Abigail Lewandowski, Josh Axerdi, Alexia Torres, Ashton Wirgau, Keyen Gilsdorf Alcantera, Max Richards, Nikola Swaney, Aubrey Larkwood, Amber Prout, Maureen N. Eke, Drew Stegehuis, Robert Moeller, Michelle Klingensmith, Susan Hoeft, Joshua Hicks, Brian Sponseller, Bryant Greiner, Juan Student, Bob Busch, Kay Bonnell, Dawn Betha, Tonya Norris, David Norris, Stacie Pratt, Jessica Lapp, Phil Hertzler, Stacie Poindexter, Michael Heitman, Alaynah Smith, Edward Clayton, David Klak, Josh McKinley, Phil Kruska, Breanne Moeggenberg, Carol S Gall, Andrea McKinnie, Carlin Borsheim-Black, John Chiodini, Laura Gourlay, Allyson Klak, Eric Rohman, Cathy Willernet, Amy Ford, Elizabeth Evans, Tracy Collins, John Pfeiffer, Chloe McKinley, Nicole Hagle, Justin Henry, Annette Richards Mendez, Laura Richards, Nancy Gillis, Sue Moellor, Kim Fox, Jan Kruska, Paul Kruska, Connie Millor, Valerie Olson, Seally Busch, Elise Bennett

CALL TO ORDER

President Amy Bond called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

President Amy Bond read the Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement.

ROLL CALL

Courtney Stegman called the roll.

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APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was amended to add GI-RESD Election update as VIII F. The amended agenda was approved by general consent.

REPORT(S)/UPDATES

Correspondence Received

Superintendent Jennifer Verleger stated that correspondence was received by Michelle Morey and Jill Wilson.

Budget Discussion

CFO Ginger Faber gave a brief update on the upcoming June Amended Budget and the 2021-22 Fiscal Year Budget. The Business Office is working diligently to be able to bring these items to the Board Members at the June 21, 2021 Regular Board Meeting. The transition to the new financial program has slowed the process down a bit. Ms. Faber indicated that she would email documents to the Board Members as soon as they are completed. Discussion followed.

WAY Report

Kim Funnell, WAY Director, presented the final WAY report for the 2020-21 academic year. In her presentation, she stated that WAY had 52 students who attended face to face and 20 students participated virtually. Meals were delivered to students/families who were in quarantine, 14 students graduated with the anticipation that one more will graduate by the end of June. A total of 103 students were enrolled, 78 high school students and 25 middle school students. Discussion followed the presentation.

CONSENT AGENDA

Board Minutes

Tim Odykirk moved to approve the minutes from the May 17, 2021 Regular Meeting minutes and the May 17, 2021 Regular Meeting minutes with the Closed Session. Wiline Pangle seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with a 6 - 0 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Southwest Foodservice Excellence, LLC (SFE) Contract Renewal

CFO Ginger Faber presented the SFE contract for renewal. This is the second of four allowable one-year extensions of SFE's contract with Mt. Pleasant Public Schools. The contract reflects a 2% increase for the Management Fee and the Administrative Fee.

Tim Odykirk moved to approve the one-year 2021-22 contract renewal with Southwest Foodservice Excellence, LLC, as presented. Wiline Pangle seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with a 6 – 0 vote.

2021 Tax Rate Request

CFO Ginger Faber presented the 2021 Tax Rate Request. If approved, the 2021 Tax Rate Request levies half of the total 6 mills on commercial personal property on July 1, 2021 and half to be levied on December 1, 2021, all for the City of Mt. Pleasant. This request also levies half of the total 18 mills on all other property for operations to be levied on July 1, 2021 and half to be levied on December 1, 2021, all for the City of Mt. Pleasant. This request also levies 1.36 mills for the 2007 Debt, and 2.12 mills for the 2016 Debt, and 0.50 mills for the 2020 Debt; half of each to be levied on July 1, 2021 and half to be levied on December 1, 2021; all in the City of

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Mt. Pleasant. Along with that, this request also levies the total 6 mills on commercial personal property and the total 18 mills on all other property for operations and 1.36 mills for the 2007 Debt, and 2.12 mills for the 2016 Debt, and 0.50 mills for the 2020 Debt; all to be levied on December 1, 2021 in all townships. Jessica Jernigan moved to approved the 2021 Tax Rate Requests as presented. Wiline Pangle seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with a 6 – 0 vote.

Resignations

Courtney Stegman moved to approve the retirement of **Hillary DiMaggio, Karen Kimball, Michaela Kroll, Jamie Morgan, Alexis Paquette, Kristi Volz, and Steven Wheeler**, effective June 30, 2021, with regret and much appreciation, as presented. Dana Calkins seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with a 6 – 0 vote.

New Hires

Dana Calkins moved to approve the employment of **Alexandriah Visner** as a Special Education Teacher for the 2021-22 school year with her salary being established at Step 1 of the MPEA BA level pay for the 2021-22 school year; and **Garrett Wenglikowski** as a Machine Trades Instructor for the 2021-22 school year with his salary being established at 90% of Step 3 of (Annually Authorized) MPEA BA level pay for the 2021-22 school year, as presented. Courtney Stegman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with a 6 – 0 vote.

Student Discipline Recommendation (Student #S2 – 2020/2021)

Superintendent Jennifer Verleger shared a memo regarding the hearing held for Student #S2 - 2020/2021. The Student Reinstatement Committee recommended that the Board approve the change in education program to the WAY Forward Program through the end of the first trimester of the 2021-2022 school year. They also recommend that said student attend the summer school program offered by MPPS and that after the first trimester of attending the WAY Forward program, the administration would need to approve placement at the Middle School if said student would like to change programs.

Wiline Pangle moved to accept the recommendation of the Student Reinstatement Committee regarding Student #S2 – 2020/2021, as presented. Dana Calkins seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with a 6 – 0 vote.

GI-RESD Election Update

Vice President Tim Odykirk stated that he attended the GI-RESD Biennial Election meeting previous to this meeting wherein Julie Pierce and Matthew Showalter were elected to six year terms on the GI-RESD Board of Education. He also shared other updates, including the GI-RESD new year budget.

CITIZENS REQUEST TO ADDRESS BOARD

The following people addressed the Board: Cathy Willermet, Amy Ford, Bree Moeggenberg, Seally Busch, Cindy Poole, Dawn Betha, Valerie Olson, Tonya Norris, Stacie Pratt, Jessica Lapp, Stacie Poindexter, Michael Heitman, Edward Clayton, John Chiodini, Carol Sobieski-Gall, Andrea McKinnie, Carlin Borscheim-Black, Laura Gourley, Hannah Hamlin, Collette Hamlin Amber Prout, Maureen Eke, Drew Stegehuis, Michelle Klingensmith, Robert Newby, Brent Fisher, Elise Bennett, Melissa Isaac, Chloe McKinley, David Klak, Eric Rohman

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BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION

Secretary Courtney Stegman thanked the public for attending and sharing their concerns/views. Ms. Stegman also shared information from Michigan Association of School Psychologists (MASP).

Trustee Wiline Pangle asked how we move forward in the process of our curriculum.

Trustee Dana Calkins thanked Courtney for her comments.

Trustee Jessica Jernigan stated she saw great examples of students at this meeting.

Vice President Tim Odykirk thanked everyone for stepping forward and speaking.

President Amy Bond thanked the community for speaking. This is the end of a very difficult school year and we can celebrate that we made it through!

ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Board Meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m. by general consent.

APPROVED:

Secretary, Board of Education

Recording Secretary

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