

MT. PLEASANT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting Minutes – August 16, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held on August 16, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center, 1155 S. Elizabeth Street, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

Board Members Present:

Amy Bond, President; Tim Odykirk, Vice-President; Sheila Murphy, Treasurer; Dana Calkins, Trustee; Jessica Jernigan, Trustee; Wiline Pangle, Trustee

Board Members Absent:

Courtney Stegman, Secretary

Administration Present:

Superintendent Jennifer Verleger, Asst. Superintendent Linda Boyd, Chief Financial Officer Ginger Faber, GI-TEC Director Mary Kay Voeks, MPHS Associate Principal Jeff Platte, MPCE/WAY Director Kim Funnell, Middle School Principal Darby Weaver, Vowles Principal Kim Bishop, Pullen Principal Diane Falsetta, CIO Joe Judge, Ganiard Principal Marcy Stout, McGuire Principal Erin King

Guests:

Debra Ervin, Pat Onstott, John Klak, Matt Wernett, Jeremy Bond, Ashley Arnett, Pat Heitman, Jennifer Schisa, Cheryl Hahnenberg, Maureen N. Eke, Heather Beardsley, Craig Surbrook, Justin Henry, Delayne Schutt, Erica Hopcraft, Eric Chercover, Xantha Karp, Cheryl Geistrardt, Tierney Popp, Tracey Dodak, Crima Tarah, Katrina Marcinehoug, Cludio Pastelly, Marco Forwan, Jessica Lapp, Cynthia Damor, Steve Gorsich, Scott Daigle, Stephen Juris, Mary Beth Pappas, Nancy Pappas, Peggy Girsith, Nancy Grant, Charles B. Grant, Amy Perschacho, Alaynah Smith, Michael Heitman, Tim Boya, Alexia Cain, Nicole Hagle, Ashton Wirgau, Deborah Finck, Joseph Finck, Allyson Klak, Joyce Henricks, Theresa Vance, Robert Fanning, Joelle MacDonald Snyder, Brooke Swarts, John Zang, Josh Hicks, Shelly Smith, Kris Butcher, Kevin Dawm, Rachel Nelson, Kirsten Weber, Natalie Douglas, Collette Hamlin, Cathy Hicks, Denise Fanning, Laura Gourlay, Katie Reid, Dan Weber, Crina Tarasi

CALL TO ORDER

President Amy Bond called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

President Amy Bond read the Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Statement.

Vice-President Tim Odykirk was appointed Secretary for the purpose of this meeting only, by general consent.

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ROLL CALL

Timothy Odykirk called the roll.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Sheila Murphy stated she would like the agenda amended to include “Mask Discussion” under X. New Business, D. The amended agenda was approved by general consent.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Back to School Update

Superintendent Jennifer Verleger shared a presentation that included “Back to School” information. Staff will attend professional development the week of August 16th, Open Houses take place August 17th and 18th, also bus drivers will be contacting families the week of August 16th. Discussion followed Ms. Verleger’s presentation.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Chief Financial Officer Ginger Faber presented the general fund revenue and expenditure comparison report for the month ending July, 2021 and 2020, the Treasurer’s Report and the 2016 Capital Projects Fund Report. Questions and answers followed her presentation.

CORRESPONDENCE

Board President Amy Bond stated that the Board of Education has received correspondence from the following individuals: Eric Chercover, Mary Anne Zang, Kris Batzner (2), Amy Ford (2), Penny Combs, Beth Garcia, Phil Hertzler, Amy Ford, Ryan Douglas, Kristyn Pearen, Andrea McKinnee (2), Kristin Neubecker, Wendy Schneider, Breanne Moeggenberg (3) Nicole Hagle, and Daria Kluver.

CONSENT AGENDA

Board Minutes & Financials

Tim Odykirk moved to approve the July 19, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes, and the bills payable from July 16, 2021 through August 12, 2021, amounting to \$1,286,172.72. Wiline Pangle seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously with a 6 – 0 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Resignations

Dana Calkins moved to approve the resignation of the following individuals, effective August 16, 2021, with regret and much appreciation, as presented: **Chelsea Filhart, Abigail Lewandowski, and Andrew Shoenborn**. Sheila Murphy seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with a 6 - 0 vote.

New Hires

Sheila Murphy moved to employ the following individuals for the 2021-22 school year, as presented: **Jennie Arlt**, 1st grade teacher at Pullen Elementary at Step 10 of the MPEA pay MA pay scale; **Luke Epple, Jr.** as a Social Studies teacher at MPHS at Step 4 of the MPEA pay BA pay scale; **Leonard Klakulak** as the Culinary Arts Instructor at the GI-TEC at Step 7 of the BA pay scale; **Michelle Morey**, 2nd grade teacher at Vowles Elementary at Step 2 of the MPEA pay

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BA pay scale; and **Cody Pifer** as a Physical Education and Health teacher at Step 2 of the BA pay scale. Wiline Pangle seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with a 6 – 0 vote.

MPTA Contract Ratification

Superintendent Jennifer Verleger presented the MPTA Contract for ratification. The duration of the master agreement, if ratified, will be through June 30, 2021. The agreement also addresses several areas of the master agreement. Tim Odykirk moved to ratify the Mt. Pleasant Transportation Association contract as presented. Sheila Murphy seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: Amy Bond, Dana Calkins, Jessica Jernigan, Sheila Murphy, Tim Odykirk, Wiline Pangle

NAYES: None

The motion passed unanimously with a 6 – 0 vote.

Mask Discussion

Treasurer Sheila Murphy led the discussion regarding the requirement of masks on children 11 years of age and under. Ms. Murphy would like to see the mask requirement removed at this point in time. Discussion followed. The topic was tabled until Ms. Verleger can produce additional data on what has worked and what our next steps may be.

CITIZENS REQUEST TO ADDRESS BOARD

President Amy Bond asked if anyone would like to address the Board of Education. The following individuals addressed the Board of Education: Jennifer Schisa, Katie Reid, Maureen N. Eke, Heather Beardsley, Craig Surbrook, Justin Henry, Xantha Karp, Eric Chercover, Crina Tarasi, Jessica Lapp, Michael Heitman, Kirsten Weber, John Zang, Dan Weber

BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION

Dana Calkins thanked the public for their support.
Jessica Jernigan also thanked the public for their support.

ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Board Meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m. by general consent.

APPROVED:

Secretary, Board of Education

Recording Secretary

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