

**MT. PLEASANT PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Board of Education**  
**Regular Board Meeting Minutes – September 20, 2021, at 6:30 p.m.**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was held on September 20, 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; 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

**Guests:**

Debra Ervin, Pat Onstott, John Klak, Izzy Goodrich, Alex DeMatri, Matt Taton, Seally Busch, James Hertzle, Amy Ford, Marcie Rodriguez, Maureen N. Eke, Bree Moeggenberg, Heidi Rocha, Mark Perry, Daelyn W. Zanath, Sue Hoeft, Josh Hicks, Katie Reid, Paul Kruska, Janet M. Kruska, Pat Heitman, John Chiodini, Jessica Lapp, Jaeden Cregger, Lydia Price, Laura Gourlay, Kris Batzner, Theresa Vance, Beth McClain, Caitlin Dunn, Faith Freedom, Heather Tramms-Beroske, Ray McClain

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Amy Bond called the meeting to order at 6:3 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.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved by general consent.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Student Representative Izzy Goodrich shared with the Board of Education events happening at Mt. Pleasant High School, including upcoming homecoming events (week of October 4<sup>th</sup>).

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## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **COVID Case Update**

Superintendent Jennifer Verleger shared a COVID update which included the number of COVID cases throughout the district, and that one classroom at Fancher moved to virtual instruction from September 15<sup>th</sup> through September 27<sup>th</sup>, and the Middle School moved to virtual instruction from September 17<sup>th</sup> through September 27<sup>th</sup>, and the total number of student and staff mask exemption forms that we have received (50). MPPS is still in the “High Transmission” level. Questions and answers followed the presentation.

### **Educational Goal Report**

Superintendent Jennifer Verleger shared the District Educational Goals for the 2021/22 school year. She will present an update in February, 2022 and June, 2022, as required by the State of Michigan. Discussion followed the presentation.

### **PSC Update**

Superintendent Jennifer Verleger read the following statement:

### **MPPS Superintendent and PSC Statement about Critical Race Theory**

At Mt. Pleasant Public Schools, the Professional Study Committee (PSC) curricular review process intentionally includes a variety of stakeholders in an ongoing effort to look at the curriculum taught and the resources used. Our regular cycle process for all content areas includes: the review of Michigan state standards in comparison to our curriculum documents, the reflection on how diversity of cultures and academic needs are addressed or represented in resources, and identification of appropriate staff development. According to State Superintendent, Dr. Michael Rice, “Critical race theory is not a curriculum, and it is not a pre-K-12 curriculum. It is in fact an academic umbrella of reflections and writings developed in higher education (colleges, universities, law schools, and graduate schools) since the mid-1970s, to consider the elements and impacts of racism and particularly institutional racism on our country and citizenry.” Mt. Pleasant Public Schools follows Michigan State approved standards in all content areas, including social studies and language arts. These standards do not include Critical Race Theory. These standards do include factual, historical information about race and racism. PSC has every intention to continue supporting a DEEPLY **reflective curriculum** review process for all curriculum areas at Mt. Pleasant Public Schools.

Resources & References:

<https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140--565707--,00.html>

“Reflections on Critical Race Theory, Race, Racism, Other Isms and the Teaching of History by Dr. Michael Rice, Ph.D, State Superintendent

[https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Race\\_and\\_Racism\\_August\\_2021\\_732268\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Race_and_Racism_August_2021_732268_7.pdf)

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

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

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence has been received by the following individuals: Andrea McKinnee (6), Jennifer Schisa, Stacey Lim, Eric Chercover and Xantha Karp (3), Lisa DeMeyer, Gregory Colores, Heidi Rocha, Phil Hertzler (2), Jessica Lapp, Robert and Denise Fanning, Marcy Stout, Jennifer Schisa, Amanda Hutchins,

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Audrey Stout, Micki Christiansen, Roxanne Fleeer, Daniel Weber, Jennifer Martin, Ryan Douglas, Lynn E. Simons, Psy. D.

**CITIZENS REQUEST TO ADDRESS BOARD**

The following individuals addressed the Board of Education: Bree Moeggenberg, Heidi Rocha, Mark Perry, Heather Tramms-Beroske, Faith Freedom, Jessica Lapp, John Chiodini, Laura Gourlay, Ray McClain, Marcie Rodriquez

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Board Minutes & Financials**

Tim Odykirk moved to approve the September 7, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes, and the bills payable from August 13, 2021 through September 16, 2021, amounting to \$1,151,399.10. Dana Calkins seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously with a 6 - 0 vote.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Resignation**

Courtney Stegman moved to accept the resignation of Sandy Dubridge, Biology teacher at MPHS, effective September 14, 2021, with regret and much appreciation, as presented. Wiline Pangle seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with a 6 – 0 vote.

**Bands of America Grand Nationals, Indianapolis, Indiana**

Tim Odykirk moved to approve the Marching Band trip to Bands of America Grand Nationals, November 11, 2021 – November 13, 2021, to Indianapolis, Indiana, as presented. Jessica Jernigan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with a 6 – 0 vote.

**Appointment of Delegates for the MASB Annual Leadership**

Jessica Jernigan moved to appoint Amy Bond and Tim Odykirk as Delegates representing Mt. Pleasant Public Schools at the MASB Delegate Council on Thursday, November 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. Wiline Pangle seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with a 6 – 0 vote.

**Hockey Cooperative Agreement**

Jessica Jernigan moved to approve the MHSAA Cooperative Team Agreement for Hockey between Mt. Pleasant Public Schools and Alma Pubic Schools, as presented. Courtney Stegman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with a 6 – 0 vote.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION**

No discussion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Regular Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m. by general consent.

**APPROVED:**

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**Secretary, Board of Education**

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**Recording Secretary**

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