

September 14, 2020
EJCS BOE Meeting Minutes

A regular meeting of the East Jackson Community Schools Board of Education was held in the East Jackson Secondary School Auditorium and remotely accessible via ZOOM. The meeting was called to order by President, Ken Straub at 6:02 PM. Roll call was conducted by Secretary, Jan Maino and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Members Present: Ken Straub, Mishele Wilkins, Jan Maino, Mickey Cromley, Misti Bell, and Mike Buckland

Board Members Absent: Paul Swiatlowski – Resigned as of September 14, 2020

Administrators/ Supervisors Present: Superintendent Doerr
Kirk Warner, via remote participation; Amy Blackledge, Joel Cook, Becky Hager, Jeff Panches, and Randy Wilkinson

Staff Members Present: Deana Minder, and via remote participation; Jessica Arnold, Denise Day, Ray Hill, Cory Hunt, Staci Hunt, Chris Knight, Sammy Rebandt, Trina Schultz, Warner Soper, and Business Manager, Kimberly Miller

Visitors Present: Jason Worthing with Schweitzer, Gabe Alvey with Diekema-Hamman, and Dan Risner. via remote participation; Brent Johnson and Marv Jester with Century 21

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

- 1) Edit/Add to Action Item #2
 - a. Edit Warren Miller to be 2a.
 - b. Add Averie Iovannone as 2b.

- 2) Delete/Edit/Add to Action Item #3
 - a. Delete 3b Payne Blanchard as New Employee; Payne is returning from Leave of Absence
 - b. Edit remaining letter assignments to reflect deletion of 3b
 - c. Add new employees, Jonathan Holder and Ben Muto respectively

- 3) Add Action Item #5 Re-Call

Approval of Consent Agenda

Mr. Buckland

Mrs. Bell 2nd

1) **Meeting Minutes**

- A. Regular Meeting – August 10, 2020

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Questions, Comments, Petitions from the Public: None

Reports

1) Schweitzer

- Jason Worthing shared that 95% of the bond work is complete and at this point we are under budget. He also acknowledged that there have been quality issues with some of the trades.

2) Deikema-Hamman

- Gabe Alvey added that they are addressing warranty items, remaining punch list items, and final details. He ended his report by saying he was looking forward to taking the board members on a walk through after the meeting.

3) Finance Report

- Business Manager, Kimberly Miller, presented the Finance Report.

4) Century 21

- Brent Johnson and Marv Jester reported possible reasons for the withdrawn sale offer for Robinson Elementary. They also shared the work and contacts they have made for moving forward with selling both Robinson and Memorial Elementary Schools. A meeting with Leoni Township is planned in order to discuss zoning options. Their full report is included in the board packet.

5) Summer Read and Feed

- Elementary Principal, Becky Hager and Elementary Teacher, Jessica Arnold shared data from the 6-week summer program. This year distribution was only two (2) days per week, and still 196 books were given out; of which, 82 books went to students who do not attend East Jackson. Their full report is included in the board packet.

6) Board Reports/ Sharing

- Jan Maino announced that on September 29, at 6:00 pm there will be an East Jackson Town Hall Meeting via ZOOM in order to keep parents connected regarding virtual learning. This will be an opportunity for parents to share concerns and ask questions. Time permitting; they will be able to ask additional questions of principals and the superintendent.

7) Superintendent's Report

- Steve Doerr took a moment to thank all of the teachers, administrators and support staff for their hard work and dedication to start off the school year among the challenges posed by COVID-19. He wants the Board to know that the school staff has performed exemplary during these challenging times.
- The district was notified that it is named as a beneficiary in the Trust of Mary Ann and William Kessler. Mary Ann served EJ as the long-time principal at Robinson Elementary and the Middle School.
- On August 11, the district was notified that the formal offer of sale of Robinson Elementary was terminated by the buyer, consistent with the timelines of the Purchase Agreement.
- On behalf of East Jackson Community Schools, Steve Doerr submitted a grant request to the John George Trust. This grant request is much higher than in previous years, so he indicated that the district will graciously accept partial funding if deemed appropriate by the Trustees.
- The following update was shared with the Board in regards to student engagement after 3 weeks of our MiSafeSchools Reopening Plan:
 - EJE: There are 151 online learners in grades K-6 which comprise 40% of the student body.
 - EJSS: There are 173 online learners in grades 7-12 which comprise 47% of the student body.

- As of this meeting date, there are approximately 25-30 online students who intend to return to in-person instruction which will increase the in-person learner engagement to 64% and 57%, respectively. Also as of today, we are still in the process of streamlining the tracking of attendance of online learner 2-way communications in our student information system. Our district is currently over the 75% attendance threshold required by the recently passed state statute.

Action Items

Board Trustee Mrs. Maino moved to appoint former board member, **Dan Risner, as Board Trustee** to fill the four (4) month vacancy. Mr. Risner accepted the Office of Member of the Board of Education and affirmed the Oath of Office. He will be completing the term which ends December 31, 2020.

Mrs. Wilkins 2nd

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0

Resignation Mrs. Maino moved to accept the **Retirement** of the following employees;

- Warren Miller**, Band/Choir Instructor
- Averie Iovannone**, Paraprofessional

Mr. Cromley 2nd

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Hiring Mr. Cromley moved to approve the following **New Employees**;

- Elizabeth Fleming**, 4th Grade Teacher
- Sophia Campbell**, Title I Paraprofessional
- Kim Rumler**, EJE Special Education Paraprofessional
- Christine Beaman**, Transportation
- Jonathan Holder**, Band Director
- Ben Muto**, Daily Teacher Substitute

Mr. Buckland 2nd

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

COVID Mrs. Maino moved to approve, with corrections, the **Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan**, as presented.

Mrs. Maino 2nd

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Re-Call Mr. Buckland moved to approve the **Full FTE Re-Call of Jason Smith** at the secondary school.

Mrs. Maino 2nd

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Other Board Discussion Matters - None

Adjournment

Mrs. Wilkins moved to adjourn this Board of Education meeting at 6:54p.m.

Mr. Buckland 2nd

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Jan Maino
Secretary Board of Education