MINUTES
MORGAN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, January 11, 2022, at the District Office at 5:00 p.m.

Present:

Board Members: President Ron Blunck, Vice President Gaylene Adams, Kelly Preece, Adam Toone, Lars Birkeland, Student School Board Member Jaren Johansen.

District Staff: Superintendent Doug Jacobs, Business Administrator Scott McMillan, Secretary Jana Brown.


Welcome: President Ron Blunck opened the meeting.

Prayer/Pledge: Adam Toone

Consent Agenda:

President Blunck asked if there were any changes to the consent agenda. If there are no additions, the consent agenda including the following is adopted:

a. Public Notice
b. Minutes of the December 14, 2021, meeting
c. Personnel Updates
d. Budget Report
e. Payment of Claims for December in the amount of $3,146,837.79
f. December School Reconciliation Reports

Public Comment:

Concerned citizens addressed the Board regarding their concerns and feelings.

Superintendent’s Report:

Employee Spotlight – MHS

- Chad McLean – MHS/MMS Band Teacher
- Stephanie Simister – MHS Math Teacher
**Ice Day**

Superintendent Jacobs reported that school was canceled on Friday due to icy road conditions. He noted that the county roads director is in contact with Scott McMillan daily. He noted that there are protocols in place for incidences such as this, and all of them worked well. We are evaluating what, if anything, could have been done differently. He stated that this will be counted as a remote learning day.

**USBA Conference**

Superintendent Jacobs reported that the Board recently attended the USBA Conference. The Board members felt that it was a great conference, and the training sessions were very beneficial.

**Business Administrator Report:**

Scott McMillan presented the Budget Report for the month of December. He also discussed the capital projects that are currently underway or those that will be in the future. Scott discussed the GEERS funds which is funding that the district received that must be used for the support of special education students.

**Discussion Items:**

**COVID-19**

Superintendent Jacobs reported that the Covid numbers have increased in the past few weeks. The school nurses are still available for testing of all students and staff members that desire it.

**Special Education Turnover Rate**

Upon the request of Board member Toone, Scott McMillan presented the special education aide turnover rates. Superintendent Jacobs noted that these positions are hard to fill and retain employees because it is a difficult job. He reported that the district is looking at different ways to entice those employees to stay. He stated that this is a state-wide problem with all classified employees.

**Yearly Meeting Dates, Board Calendars, Assignments**

Gaylene Adams recommended that each Board member be assigned a school to attend at least 1 School Community Council meeting during the school year. She also asked Superintendent Jacobs to add work meetings for the September and December Board meetings.

**Policies**

President Blunk reported that these policies have been reviewed by the Policy Committee. Adam Toone expressed concerns with the AS Head Injury-Concussion policy regarding the transportation of every student that loses consciousness to the Emergency Room. Superintendent Jacobs will investigate this and will report at the next meeting.
MHS Trip Approvals

There were no trip requests this month.

Seatbelts on School Buses

Scott McMillan reported that seatbelts on buses was discussed at the last Transportation meeting. He stated that data shows that buses are safer with seatbelts. He indicated that he and Doyle Talbot are gathering information on the matter. Superintendent Jacobs suggested that the Board discuss funding seatbelts on a few buses to start with.

MHS Trust Lands Plan Revision

Scott McMillan reported that MHS is requesting a few minor changes to their Trust Lands Plan. He noted that all the adjustments are within the criteria of how Trust Lands funds may be used.

Action Items:

Home School Applications

MOTION: Gaylene Adams moved to approve the Home School Application.
SECOND: Kelly Preece
DISCUSSION: There was no further discussion.
APPROVAL: The motion passed unanimously.

Yearly Meeting Dates, Board Calendar, Assignments

MOTION: Kelly Preece moved to approve the Yearly Meeting Dates, Board Calendar, and Assignments with the previously mentioned adjustments.
SECOND: Lars Birkeland
DISCUSSION: There was no further discussion.
APPROVAL: The motion passed unanimously.

MHS Trust Lands Plan Revision

MOTION: Lars Birkeland moved to approve the MHS Trust Lands Plan Revision.
SECOND: Gaylene Adams
DISCUSSION: There was no further discussion.
APPROVAL: The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Committee/School Visit Reports:

The Board members gave updates on their visits and committee assignments.

Adam Toone requested that the USBE Civics Instruction Guidelines be added to the next agenda as a discussion item.
Advanced Planning for Upcoming Events:

The next Board meeting will be Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

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Business Administrator, Scott McMillan