MINUTES

MORGAN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, March 9, 2021, at District Office at 5:00 p.m.

Present:

Board Members: President Ron Blunck, Vice President Gaylene Adams, Kelly Preece, Adam Toone, Lars Birkeland.

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. He reported that if there are no objections, the consent agenda is adopted.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

MOTION: Gaylene Adams moved to open the Public Hearing for school fees.
SECOND: Lars Birkeland
DISCUSSION: There was no further discussion.
APPROVAL: The motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing:

President Blunck asked if there were any comments regarding school fees, of which there were none. He then noted that all comments and/or questions should be emailed to Superintendent Jacobs.

MOTION: Gaylene Adams moved to close the Public Hearing for school fees and resume the regular Board meeting.
SECOND: Kelly Preece
DISCUSSION: There was no further discussion.
APPROVAL: The motion passed unanimously.
Superintendent’s Report:

Employee Spotlights – Transportation

1. Krissy Pentz – Bus Driver
2. Colleen Thomas – Bus Driver

COVID-19 Update

Superintendent Jacobs reported that MHS is still testing students who are participating in athletics and/or activities. There were 199 students tested yesterday with 0 testing positive. He stated that the mask mandate is in effect until July 1, 2021, per the state superintendent. All employees that desired to be vaccinated have been. If there are additional employees that request the vaccine, they are being referred to the county.

Legislative Update and COVID-19 Legislative Teacher Supplement

Superintendent Jacobs reported that he has emailed the legislative updates to the Board members. He stated that one of those bills included the Supplemental Educator COVID-19 Stipend.

Business Administrator Report:

Capital Improvements, Budget, CARES

Scott McMillan presented the Budget Report and the Capital Outlay Report for the month of February. He noted that there were 8 bids for the new Driver’s Ed. Building. The bids will be opened this week. He also reported that all of the CARES funds have been spent.

Discussion Items:

Supplemental Educator COVID-19 Stipend

President Blunck reported that the list of employees receiving the stipend was included in the consent agenda. Superintendent Jacobs added that there are 11 employees that were excluded according to the Legislature’s criteria. He noted that the Board would like to include those employees in thanking the entire staff for their service during the pandemic.

Lars Birkeland reported that he has had several individuals inquire when the district will be returning to the regular schedule. The teachers in attendance recommended that we keep the shortened schedule through the end of the school year. They noted that it has been nice to have the extra time to coordinate their classroom and online instruction. It was decided that this will be a discussion item on the agenda for the April Board meeting. Adam Toone recommended that administration provide a metric for the next meeting with statistical information on whether the shortened schedule has helped or hindered our students.

School Fees

Scott McMillan reported that the district is well below the state average for school fees with the exception of the percentage of students on fee waivers. He noted that the district will review
why this statistic is abnormal. Superintendent Jacobs added that the fees have gone down since the transportation fee is no longer being collected and the textbook fee will be dissolved within the next few years.

Policy AZB Electronic Devices

President Blunck reported that the Policy Committee reviewed this policy and recommended several changes. Superintendent Jacobs noted that the committee discussed the chrome books and whether the students should be charged for damages. He indicated that the district will be paying for all maintenance except when the chrome books have been vandalized. Students will then be charged for the damage. Adam Toone recommended that the district look into purchasing protective cases for the chrome books.

**MOTION:** Kelly Preece moved to go into closed session to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property.

**SECOND:** Gaylene Adams

**DISCUSSION:** There was no further discussion.

**APPROVAL:** Ron Blunck, Gaylene Adams, Kelly Preece, Adam Toone, and Lars Birkeland were all present and voted in favor or moving to closed session.

**MOTION:** President Blunck moved to come out of closed session and to resume the regular Board meeting.

**SECOND:** Gaylene Adams

**DISCUSSION:** There was no further discussion.

**APPROVAL:** Ron Blunck, Gaylene Adams, Kelly Preece, Adam Toone, and Lars Birkeland were all present and voted in favor of coming out of closed session and resuming the regular Board meeting.

**Action Items:**

**Home School Applications**

There were no home school applications this month.

**Supplemental Educator COVID-19 Stipend for Excluded Employees**

**MOTION:** Gaylene Adams moved approve the Supplemental Educator COVID-19 Stipend for Excluded Employees.

**SECOND:** Kelly Preece

**DISCUSSION:** Adam Toone expressed his hesitancy with this. President Blunck noted that he feels it is necessary to make it fair.

**APPROVAL:** President Blunck, Gaylene Adams, Kelly Preece, and Lars Birkeland voted in favor. Adam Toone voted against. The motion passed.

**School Fees**

**MOTION:** Kelly Preece moved to approve the School Fees as presented.

**SECOND:** Gaylene Adams
DISCUSSION: Adam Toone stated that he is pleased with the direction the school fees are heading.
APPROVAL: The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Committee/School Visit Reports:
The Board members gave updates on their visits and committee assignments.

Advanced Planning for Upcoming Events:
The USBA Spring Regional Meeting via Zoom on March 16, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.
The next Board meeting will be Tuesday, April 13, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.
The meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

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Business Administrator, Scott McMillan