

MINUTES

MORGAN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING & BUDGET HEARING

Tuesday, August 11, 2020, 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.

Other Staff and Patrons: Tyrel Mikesell, Renn Hoopes, Michelle Morrell, Ron Wolff, Terry Allen, Blaine Fackrell, Gwen Romero, Trina Wilkinson, Kera Birkeland, William Long, Crae Wilson, Diana Windley, Jenni Earl, Lisa Ryver, Jesse Chantry, Brady Warner, Akel May, Cassidy May, Jayden Nelson, Mary Redd, Rose Carrigan, Emily Carrigan, Maleah Swenson.

Welcome: President Ron Blunck opened the meeting.

Pledge/Prayer: Lars Birkeland

Consent Agenda:

President Blunck asked if there are 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.

Superintendent's Report:

Adult Education Graduates

Superintendent Jacobs welcomed State Legislator Kera Birkeland and State School Board Representative Jennie Earl.

Blaine Fackrell presented Adult Education diplomas to Jayden Nelson, Samuel Bowers, Jesse Chantry, and Emily Carrigan. He also presented Grant Cox and Mary Redd with their GED certificates. He noted that these individuals have put in a great deal of work to obtain these. The Board then congratulated them and wished them luck in their future endeavors. The Board members then thanked Blaine for his hard work and dedication to the district and they wished him luck in his retirement.

School Opening Updates

Superintendent Jacobs presented proposed changes to policies BBA and FBD due to the Coronavirus pandemic. He noted that these policies will be on the agenda next month as a discussion item. He reported that there have been 93 requests for online school; 21 at MES, 15 at MGES, 15 at MMS, 19 at MGMS, and 23 at MHS. He informed the Board that the principals will be meeting tomorrow to solidify their online plans.

Superintendent Jacobs reported that the district now has Facebook and Twitter accounts. He thanked the Public Information Officer, Gwen Romero, for her hard work in creating and managing these accounts.

Superintendent Jacobs stated that the Weber/Morgan Health Department has asked all districts to increase their tracing efforts as school and extra-curricular activities begin. He noted that other districts have decided to video tape lunches and ball games in an effort to be able to trace COVID-19 exposures. He indicated that the district will likely do something like this and at the same time being mindful of privacy rights. Superintendent then reported that the state requires all schools to have their first fire drill within the first 10 days of school. He noted that the principals are discussing doing these drills in shifts to meet the social distancing recommendations.

Superintendent Jacobs reported that it is time to review the Human Sexuality curriculum. He asked the Board members if he can proceed in the same way for the Human Sexuality Committee to review the curriculum. The Board felt that would be appropriate. This item will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Superintendent Jacobs reported that all students will be required to wear a mask on the bus. On busses for extra-curricular activities, we will attempt to have only 1 student per seat with masks where possible. He noted that we are working to make sure we have enough drivers for activities.

Business Administrator Report:

Capital Improvement Update

Scott McMillan discussed the capital projects that are currently underway. He noted that the MHS bleachers are nearing completion. He reported that it is a requirement to have a fire suppression system for the storage area under the bleachers; therefore, the storage area will be completed at a later time. He also reported that the MES Kitchen remodel will be completed next week.

Annual Financial Report

Scott McMillan presented the final budget for 2019-2020 (FY20) as well as the budget for 2020-2021 (FY 21). He discussed these in detail and answered questions from the Board members.

Discussion Items:

Employee Wage, Salary, and Benefit Settlement

Superintendent Jacobs presented the final Employee Wage, Salary, and Benefit Settlement for the 2020-21 year. He noted that the settlement is the same as what was discussed at the last meeting.

District Literacy Plan

Trina Wilkinson presented the district literacy plan and she stated that the goals remain the same for this year. She reported that from the beginning of the year to the middle of the year when the pandemic began, the district gained 12% in student proficiency. She noted that this is huge for our district. She reported that in regards to goal #2, our district only has 17 students in this category. When the pandemic hit, 4 of those students had been moved out of that category. Trina then answered the questions that were raised.

Stronger Together

Superintendent Jacobs reported that this will be an ongoing agenda item. He noted that the recommendations for the return to school seem to change daily. The current recommendations fit into our reopening plans.

Young Street Land Exchange

Scott McMillan presented the proposed land exchange with the city for the Young Street Bridge. He reported that the school district owns a very narrow portion of land that will be used in the Young Street Bridge project. Because it is a federally-funded project, it is necessary that we transfer this portion of land to the city so that they may be in compliance with the grant requirements. This item will be on the agenda for the next meeting as an approval item. Adam Toone inquired about a sidewalk along the Young Street Bridge. President Blunck noted that this would be a city project and he will discuss it with them at the next COG meeting.

Scott McMillan then reported that there is a home on 100 S. that has their driveway on district property. The homeowners are selling the home and are requesting an easement. He noted that the district attorney is currently drafting a contract and he asked the Board members for their approval to move ahead. President Blunck indicated that to grant an easement to the homeowners would actually reduce the district's liability. The Board members instructed Scott to move ahead with the contract.

Action Items:

District Literacy Plan

MOTION: Lars Birkeland moved to approve the District Literacy Plan.

SECOND: Gaylene Adams

DISCUSSION: There was no further discussion.

APPROVAL: The motion passed unanimously.

Employee Wage, Salary, and Benefit Settlement

MOTION: Gaylene Adams moved to approve the Employee Wage, Salary, and Benefit Settlement.

SECOND: Kelly Preece

DISCUSSION: There was no further discussion.

APPROVAL: The motion passed unanimously.

Annual Homeschool Application Approval

MOTION: President Blunck moved to approve the Annual Homeschool Application Approval.

SECOND: Lars Birkeland

DISCUSSION: There was no further discussion.

APPROVAL: The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Committee/School Visit Reports:

President Blunck reported that COG met this past month. He noted that these meetings have become very helpful; the city has been great to work with and it is good to have dialog with the county as well. Adam Toone inquired about whether the city discussed in COG why they are having a Truth in Taxation meeting. President Blunck noted that they did discuss this in COG and they indicated that with the Young Street Bridge grant, the city had to have a source of income to pay their portion.

Gaylene Adams reported that the Morgan Education Foundation Board met and they are currently working on revising their Bylaws.

Kelly Preece reported that the UHSAA is moving forward with football and other fall sports. He noted that the Recreation Board met; they hired a Recreation Director and that individual quit after one week. Therefore, they are currently in the process of hiring another director. The USBA finance meeting was held last month and will meet again on Friday. Kelly reported that the JLC will meet again at the end of the month.

Adam Toone reported that the DTC did not meet this summer; their next meeting is in September.

Lars Birkeland reported that none of his committees have met this summer.

Superintendent Jacobs informed the Board that the IT Director, Terry Allen, has been worked on the DTL grant. He noted that Terry just received word that the grant has been approved.

Advanced Planning for Upcoming Events:

Truth in Taxation meeting is tonight at 7:00 p.m. The next Board meeting will be Tuesday, September 8, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. with the Annual Human Sexuality Curriculum Hearing at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 6:23p.m.

Business Administrator, Scott McMillan