

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SD #58 YELLOWSTONE COUNTY
BILLINGS, MT 59106

April 20th , 2022

Board Chair Michael Chandler called a regular Board of Trustees meeting to order at 12:00 noon on April 20th 2022. The meeting was in the conference room.

PRESENT: Chris Myers, Lacey Jones and Michael Chandler. Absent: none. Superintendent Keith Tresch, Principal Cass Cole, and Roger Heimbigner were present. Dwight VonSchriltz was absent.

GUESTS: Lorelei Rosales

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

**HEARING OF
INDIVIDUALS/
CORRESPONDENCE**

None

APPROVE ADDITION

None

NEW BUSINESS

Items for Action

Approve Minutes for March 23rd , 2022

Chris Myers moved, seconded by Lacey Jones to approve the minutes of March 23rd , 2022. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve Bills for March/April 2022

A motion was made by Chris Myers, seconded by Lacey Jones to approve the bills for payment. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve Canceling of the May Election Due to Only One Candidate

Supt. Tresch asked the board to approve the canceling of the trustee election resolution as there is only one candidate to fill the one unfilled position. A motion was made by Chris Myers, seconded by Lacey Jones to approve the following resolution:

“WHEREAS, the number of candidates filing a Declaration of Intent and Oath of Candidacy for the open trustee position(s) for

School Board of Trustees is equal to or less than the number of positions to be elected, the trustee election is not necessary

THEREFORE, the necessary notice is hereby given that School Districts No. 58 of Yellowstone County, State of Montana, Trustee Elections is cancelled by acclamation.”

Motion passed unanimously.

Approve New Hires

Chris Myers moved, seconded by Lacey Jones to approve the hiring of Jason Thomas and Olivia Jenks as teachers and Kevin Warner as a paraprofessional. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve Hiring of Current Certified Staff

A motion was made by Chris Myers, seconded by Lacey Jones to approve the hiring of the following certified staff for the 2022-23 school year:

Tessa Beach, Brenna Beckett, Val Clause, Cass Cole, Janelle Cook, Jim Cottingham, David Eckroth, Richard Feeley, Ryan Frick, Melissa Garcia, Jennica Hammond, Jon Hicks, Michelle Jutila, James Klempel, Nicole Kostelecky, Jami-lynn Palchus, Tracy Preston, Lorelei Rosales, Robert Sipes Sr., Wayne Small, Lisa Thacker, Hallie Vervair, Sharon Voller, and Dwight Von Schritz.

Motion passed unanimously.

Approve Additional Year for Superintendent

A motion was made by Chris Myers, seconded by Lacey Jones to approve adding an additional year to Supt. Keith Tresch’s contract. Supt. Tresch stated he has a contract for 3 years and by approving the additional year this will give him another 3 year contract going forward. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve Resignations

None

Approve Non-Renewal of Non-Tenured Teacher

Board Chair Michael Chandler asked the board “Do we have a motion on the issue of issuing a contract to Kerri Ranta, a non-tenured teacher, for the 2022-2023 school year?”

Chris Myers moved, seconded by Lacey Jones “that the Board of Trustees of Yellowstone Academy School District not renew the employment contract of Kerri Ranta for 2022-2023 school year without cause in accordance with Section 20-4-206, MCA”. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve Next Board Meeting Time and Date

Chris Myers moved, seconded by Lacey Jones to approve setting the next board meeting for Wednesday, May 18th at noon. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve Felt Martin PC to Represent District in Pending Litigation

Chris Myers moved, seconded by Lacey Jones to approve Felt Martin PC as the District’s representative pertaining to pending litigation.

Executive Session

Chairman Michael Chandler stated “I have determined that the next matter to come before the board for consideration involves litigation. Further, the demands of individual privacy in this matter clearly exceeds the merits of public disclosure. Therefore, I am declaring this portion of the meeting closed in accordance with Section 2-3-203(4b) MCA”.

Open Session

No action was taken

Superintendent Report

Supt. Tresch reported on the following:

- 1) Supt. Tresch stated he would like to consider giving the Academy employees a bonus each year if funds are available to

do so. He will bring a recommendation to the board for an October bonus which rewards those employees for being employed another year;

- 2) The staff retreat is scheduled for June 14-15th at the Lions Camp near Red Lodge. Erica Shuppe will be a presenter on June 14th and Karen Gross on June 15th. The purpose of the retreat is for Team Building. Estimated costs will be around \$7,000;
- 3) Supt. Tresch reported that summer staffing looks good for this summer. Art and Music options are still being explored;
- 4) Supt. Tresch stated they are looking to adding another elective for the 2022-23 school year in the field of science.

Adjournment:

Michael Chandler moved, seconded by Lacey Jones to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Adjournment was at 12:28 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for May 18th, 2022 at 12:00 p.m.

Michael Chandler, Board Chair

Roger Heimbigner, Clerk