

MINUTES

Regular Board of Education Meeting
October 15, 2020
Early Childhood Center
Open Session – 5:30 p.m.
Closed Session – immediately following

Tim Mullen, President
Scott Perkins, Vice-President
Sylvia Payne, Treasurer

Tana Booker, Member
Jason Evans, Member
Kim Grayson, Member
Justin Strong, Member

- I. Call to order and roll call at 5:30 p.m. at the Early Childhood Center, Tim Mullen, President, presiding. All members present.
- II. Motion made by Sylvia, and second by Tana to approve the October 15, 2020 agenda as presented. All members present voted yes on said motion.
- III. All said the Pledge of Allegiance.
- IV. Public Comment – High School Teacher, Deborah Schuey, spoke to the Board. She expressed to the Board how passionate she is about teaching. One of her jobs is to teach students how to debate and argue and how to sort through those thoughts. Deborah currently holds her class in the Library. She is in an office in the Library and teaches the students virtually while they sit at the computers in the Library. She said this works very well, so that she can fully social distance. She addressed with the Board that it was brought to her attention that a Board Member was complaining about her speaking to students regarding wearing masks. She was told to stop talking about masks. She said it is hard for her to do that when she is worried about their safety. She said she has stopped a little, but will not stop fully. She feels it is important to stress wearing masks when the students are standing close. Tim Mullen, Board President thanked Deborah for speaking to the Board. Mr. Whittaker said per Board Policy he will talk with the Board and then he will sit down with Deborah to talk about what the Board recommends.
- V. Consent Agenda Items:
Motion made by Jason, and second by Kim to approve the consent agenda items. All members present voted yes on said motion.
- VI. Reports:
 - A. Steelville Organization of Staff – No report given.
 - B. MSBA report – MSBA representative, Jason Evans told the Board that most of his MSBA emails have been about COVID-19 related matters and virtual learning.
 - C. Principals report –No report given.
 - D. Director of Learning – Matt Hammonds reported to the Board that the State has said the COVID-19 curriculum standards have been difficult for teaching at

home. The State is re-evaluating their standards. The biggest question being asked is; what do we really want teachers and students to know? This should be finalized by the end of October and Mr. Hammonds said we will begin comparing our standards with the State standards.

As the A+ Coordinator, Mr. Hammonds is evaluating more closely the qualifications of A+ due to COVID-19. Right now, with policies in place for attendance and how that can affect A+, Mr. Hammonds thinks students will still have to go through the appeals process for missing too many days even if it was due to COVID-19.

- E. Superintendent report - Mr. Whittaker spoke about Parent Teacher Conferences and the changes we have put in place due to COVID-19. He has decided it is not worth the risk of holding parent teacher conferences face-to-face. Teachers are already calling and talking to parents that have kids with D's or F's. Mr. Whittaker was pleased that teachers have already been reaching out. Friday, October 23rd the School will be sponsoring an event called "Spookyville." Mr. Whittaker believes this event will be a safe alternative to Pumpkin Village, which is an event not being held this year due to COVID-19. This will allow school personnel, local businesses, and churches to set up an area and hand out candy to children who are driving by with their parents. The route will be one way, starting near the Meramec Music Theatre and ending at the new entrance by the middle school.

VII. Previous Business:

1. Jack Mentink from Integrity Engineering was present and let the Board know that the new elementary gym is coming along. The floor covering that were just put down had some defects, so new flooring was ordered and will be put down next week. Overall, the project is almost finished. There are some items that still need to be finished before the gym can open. The traffic and parking project is finished and the only flaw with the project was with the landscaping. The Landscaper will have to come in and redo a lot of the landscaping. The LP gas tank is fully finished, but the gauge on the tank has stopped working, so a wireless gauge will be installed to read the percentage. A chain link fence will also be installed and that should go up next week.
2. MSBA Policy Update 2020A – Mr. Whittaker told the Board this is the 2nd reading and to please review. Action will be taken at the next Board Meeting.
3. COVID-19 Information – Mr. Whittaker reported that certain times there may be more restrictions put on sports. For example; State Cross Country this year will be spread out over 3 days. Middle School girls and boys basketball members were each given 5 tickets to hand out to family members/friends to be able to attend home games. Mr. Whittaker reported that today there were 24 students quarantined. He also said there were two teachers, one paraprofessional, and one bus driver quarantined. Mr. Whittaker said we communicate very closely with the Health Department. He is very happy with the support and help the Health Department has given us. The School District is trying to keep data on the students that have been quarantined on who actually gets COVID-19.

VIII. New Business:

1. Motion made by Tana, second by Jason to set the 2020-2021 tuition rate at \$7,550. All members present voted yes on said motion.
2. Motion made by Jason, second by Sylvia to approve the new Custodial Position. All members present voted yes on said motion.

3. Motion made by Sylvia, second by Jason to set the Next Regular Board Meeting for Thursday, November 19, 2020, 5:30 p.m. for closed session and 6:30 p.m. for open session. All members present voted yes on said motion.
- IX. Motion made by Sylvia, and second by Tana to adjourn Open Session to go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 610.021.3 (Personnel Matters). Tim-yea, Scott-yea, Sylvia-yea, Tana-yea, Jason-yea, Kim-yea, and Justin-yea. Meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.
- X. Motion made by Sylvia, and second by Jason to adjourn the meeting. Tim-yea, Scott-yea, Sylvia-yea, Tana-yea, Jason-yea, Kim-yea, and Justin-yea. Meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Board President

Date

Board Secretary

Date