

April 12, 2016
REGULAR MEETING

The Board of Trustees of School District #4 and Forsyth High School District held a Regular Meeting on April 12, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 9 of the Middle School Building with the following in attendance:

Layton Salsbery, Chairman, School District #4 & Forsyth High School District
Dennis Kopitzke, Vice-Chair “ “
Gerald Killen, Trustee “ “
Ginger Roll, Trustee “ “

Absent:
Jerry Hagadone, Trustee “ “
Donald John Cameron “ “

Also Present:
Dinny Bennett, Superintendent
Robert J. Martelle, District Clerk/Business Manager
Dixie Seleg, K – 6 Principal
Shelly Weight, 7 – 12 Principal
Ryan Gatch, Activities Director

Guests: Dana Icopini, Steffani Grogan, Erica Bidwell

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Chairman led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Participation:

Steffani Grogan requested permission for Deani Goyette and herself to travel to the National Technology Conference in Denver, CO in June. The item will be placed on the May Agenda.

Revise/Review Agenda

The Agenda was approved as presented.

Consent Agenda

Dennis Kopitzke moved, seconded by Ginger Roll, to approve the consent agenda consisting of the following:

- April bills in the amount of \$113,683.28 including warrants #44073 through 44130
- Minutes for the March 8, 2016 regular meeting.
- Warrant lists from 03/01/16 through 03/31/16 including the following:
 - Claims 44008 – 44072 \$ 315,989.12*
 - Payroll 310809– 310844 \$ 36,024.73
 - [*Includes direct deposit check 44068 \$ 98,414.95]
- Activity Cash Report

-Resignations

- a. Terri Hein – HS Head Girls’ Basketball Coach
- b. Steve Pulver – HS Asst. Football Coach
- c. Susan Quinlan – MS Head Girls’ Basketball Coach

Upon call for a vote, all trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Personnel

New Business

Volunteer Appointments

Ryan Gatch, the Activities Director, discussed the need to appoint volunteer coaches to assist with the High School Track Program. He recommended that Nathan Satran and Rob Johnstone be appointed as volunteer coaches.

Gerald Killen moved, seconded by Dennis Kopitzke, to appoint the volunteers as recommended. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Business Manager/Clerk Evaluation

The Chairman reminded the trustees to complete and return the annual evaluation of the Business Manager/Clerk to him.

District

Old Business

Elections Update

The Business Manager reported that only one candidate has applied for the two vacant trustee positions. The dates for submitting applications and filing as a write-in candidate have passed. The Trustee Election will be cancelled. According to statute, the trustees will appoint an individual to fill the vacant position.

There were no changes to the Budget Data Sheets, therefore, the HS General Fund Levy Election will proceed with a levy in the amount of \$12,722.57 and there will be no Elementary General Fund Levy Election.

Audit Contract

The Business Manager reported that it was necessary to ask for help from Kim Smith, of the Montana Department of Administration, Local Government Services Bureau, to obtain release from the audit contract from Olness and Associates. That firm would not reply to the District’s request to terminate the contract.

Letters were sent to 12 Montana audit firms requesting that they provide proposals for audit services. Three responses were received. The proposals will be reviewed by the Superintendent and Business Manager and a recommendation will be made at the May meeting.

School Calendar

The Superintendent presented and discussed the proposed calendars. Discussion ensued about the differences among the calendars. Option B received the most votes from the staff. Mr. Bennett recommended that Option B be adopted as the calendar for the 2016 –

2017 school year. Dennis Kopitzke moved, seconded by Ginger Roll, to accept the staff recommendation and adopt Option B. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Cross Country Coop with Custer County District HS (Miles City)

The Activities Director discussed the proposed Cross Country Cooperative Agreement between Forsyth and Miles City. Various discussion (pro and con) ensued regarding the number of students, staffing and other opportunities for students. More information will be obtained and the topic will be on the May agenda.

Purchase of Pre-Calculus Texts

The 7 – 12 Principal discussed the need to purchase pre-calculus textbooks to coincide with the Math Curriculum. She presented a quote for the texts in the amount of \$2,926.00 and requested that it be approved. Dennis Kopitzke moved, seconded by Ginger Roll, to approve the purchase as requested. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

New Business

Attendance Agreements – Non Forsyth Students

The Business Manager presented the following attendance for students who do not reside in the Forsyth District but wish to attend school here. He recommended that the attendance agreements be approved.

Student	Parent	Grade	District of Residence
Petty, Emmee	Shaw, Mary & Donovan	3	Rosebud
Petty, Hagen	Shaw, Mary & Donovan	7	Rosebud

Ginger Roll moved, seconded by Gerald Killen, to approve the attendance agreements as presented. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Transportation Agreement – Colstrip

The Business Manager presented a request from the Colstrip Schools to allow that district to enter the Forsyth District to pick up students to attend school in Colstrip. He recommended that the request be denied. Gerald Killen moved, seconded by Ginger Roll, to deny the request presented by the Colstrip Schools. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

MHSA Reclassification Update

The Superintendent reported that he is working with a committee for the Montana High School Association. The goal is to look at a new method for classification of schools. The committee is looking at lowering the minimum enrollment for the various classes. It is also looking at options for football in schools with small enrollment.

MSGIA Safety Incentive Program

The Business Manager presented a request from the Montana Schools Group Insurance Authority (the District’s Workers’ Compensation provider). If the District agrees to a three-year membership commitment in the MSGIA Safety program, the program will provide safety equipment that will help prevent workplace injuries. It was recommended

that the District agree to the request. Ginger Roll moved, seconded by Dennis Kopitzke, to approve the three-year commitment to the MSGIA Safety Program. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

K – 6 Student-Parent Handbook

The K – 6 Principal presented the 2016 – 2017 Student-Parent Handbook for first reading. Mrs. Seleg discussed the various changes, some of which will have to wait until after staffing is settled. Discussion followed regarding some changes. Dennis Kopitzke moved, seconded by Gerald Killen, to approve the handbook on first reading. The second reading will be at the May meeting. All trustees present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Administrative Team Reports

K – 6 Principal

Dixie Seleg presented the K – 6 Principal’s report. The MBI Team is applying for silver recognition of its program. They will attend the conference in June. The Art Mobile was on site in April with assistance from the PTSA. Smarter Balanced testing begins this week. Twenty students came for the Kindergarten screening. There are various spring activities ongoing such as music concerts and field trips. Samsung tablets are being purchased for use in classrooms on a checkout basis. Staff attended training the new Math series on April 22. Mrs. Seleg would like more parent involvement in activities. Thirteen students have moved since the last meeting.

7 – 12 Principal

Shelly Weight presented the 7 – 12 Principal’s report. IEPs are being updated. A rubric has been developed to assist with scoring writing assignments. Enrollment is constantly changing. Various committees meet throughout the month including the Behavior Committee, Technology Committee, Connections and more. Taylor Ramsey will be a student teacher in Math and Technology next year. Testing is ongoing. Mrs. Weight will serve on the accreditation team for the Colstrip Schools. The requirements to become part of the team are time consuming. Students will be participating in community cleanup for Earth Day.

Activities Director

Ryan Gatch presented the Activity Director’s report. He discussed Spring activities including participation numbers in Track, Tennis and Golf. Seventeen students qualified to attend the National FCCLA conference. Mr. Gatch was awarded grants from the Community Foundation in the amount of \$2,800. The funds will be used to update equipment in the weight room.

District Clerk/Business Manager

Robert Martelle reported that he was in high school when the first Earth Day was celebrated. The health insurance renewal has been received. The major medical program will increase 9.3%. The other components will remain the same. The City of Forsyth has a sidewalk program that will be partially paid with grant dollars. The District will be able to get accessible corners on the north end of the HS block at low cost. The MAEFAIRS compensation component of the TEAMS/TOE has been completed.

Superintendent

Dinny Bennett reported that work is being done to re-vamp the teacher evaluation tool. This is required by changes in state law. It is hoped that it will be in place by fall. Mr. Bennet is working on obtaining sheds for storage of football and track equipment in Riverside Park. He will be attending a MQEC meeting in Helena on April 18.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting will be held Tuesday, May 10, 2016. The meeting will be held in Room 9 of the Middle School Building at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Martelle
District Clerk/Business Manager

Layton Salsbery
Chairman of the Board