

## Regular Meeting

Cascade School District 3B

Board of Trustees

October 17, 2023 - 6:00 pm

### Board Members Present

#### High School Board

John Rumney - Chair

Iain McGregor

Ruth Mortag (via zoom)

Chris Wilson (via zoom)

Rick Cummings (via phone)

Mark McKamey (via zoom at 7:02 pm)

#### Elementary Board

John Rumney - Chair

Iain McGregor

Ruth Mortag (via zoom)

Chris Wilson (via zoom)

Rick Cummings (via phone)

Others Present: Levi Collins, Karsen Floerchinger, Michael Wilson, Jason Raether, Lawni Raether, Susie Nelsen, Dave Nelsen, Ray Castellanos, Jen Ward, Kendra Lane

John Rumney - Board Chair, called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 6:03 pm. The Board said the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Rumney asked for public comment on non-agenda items. There was no public comment.

### Public Comment

- A. Jen Ward gave an update on the FFA program - Greenhouse, Helping Hands grant (\$2500), Ag Expo.

### Informational

- A. Resignation, Tim Lange (Activities Director)
- B. Resignation, Michelle Fuller (Paraprofessional)
- C. Letter of Resignation, Alexandria Guriglia (Paraprofessional)

### Staff Reports

- D. Michael Wilson, K1-12 Principal
  - a. Will present SAT data next meeting when all board members are present.
  - b. Holocaust speaker - assembly during school and for the community.
  - c. Fall Band concert
  - d. MEA Teachers Convention
  - e. MAPs testing
- E. Levi Collins, Superintendent
  - a. Football Scoreboard
  - b. Lobby construction update

- c. MCEL Conference
- d. Cleaning up school grounds - rented roll off container for scrap
- e. Privacy fences for outdoor storage areas
- F. Karsen Floerchinger, Business Manager
  - a. General fund budgets are 22% expended at the end of September 2023 compared to the 15% 4-year average.
  - b. Workers Compensation audit

## **Board Report**

- A. Facility Committee Report
  - a. Iain McGregor presented the minutes of the Facility Committee Meeting.
- B. Board Training Hours

## **New Business**

- A. Consideration of Memorandum of Understanding, Interim AD  
Iain McGregor moved, seconded by Rick Cummings to approve the Memorandum of Understanding, as written.  
An MOU was presented in order to compensate Mrs. Mazira for taking on AD duties in the interim while finding a permanent replacement for the position. The MOU is in the amount of \$1,500 and is a one-time payment.  
Passed unanimously.
- B. Consideration of Recommendation for Activities Director, Jason Raether  
Iain McGregor moved, seconded by Rick Cummings to approve the recommendation to hire Jason Raether as Activities Director for SY2023-2024.  
Mr. Raether was one of two applicants. The second applicant withdrew their application in support of Mr. Raether.  
Passed unanimously.
- C. Consideration of SY2023-2024 Activities Director Contract  
Iain McGregor moved, seconded by Rick Cummings to approve the SY2023-2024 Activities Director Contract.  
The compensation amount was explained to the board. Currently, the Activities Director stipend is set at \$10,000/year, as listed in the Coaches Handbook. In past positions, the AD has also been employed as a teacher in the District, where they worked a modified schedule, giving them 2 periods during their regular day to conduct AD business. Because of this, a portion of their contracted teaching salary was allocated to the AD duties. Since our new AD is not a teacher or contracted employee of the District, the administration proposed to increase the stipend for SY2023-2024 to adequately compensate the AD for their hours. The proposed stipend is \$24,000, which will be prorated at 9/12 for the remainder of the school year, totaling \$18,000.  
Kendra Lane made public comment inquiring about the starting salary for teachers.

Passed unanimously.

D. Consideration of Recommendation for Assistant Activities Director, Lawni Raether

Iain McGregor moved, seconded by Ruth Mortag to approve the recommendation to hire Lawni Raether as Assistant Activities Director for SY2023-2024.

Mr. Collins explained that this position was added due to the special circumstances of the vacancy to help with the work load, as the AD is starting in the middle of the year, add legitimacy, and adhere to FERPA guidelines.

Chris Wilson asked about volunteer assistants. Karsen Floerchinger explained that volunteer assistant coaches are only hired after the paid coaching positions have been filled if the individual still wants to be involved in the program. Chris Wilson stated that he believed the position should have been advertised and interviewed for. Mr. Collins explained that although he does agree that it was created without board approval, it was a special circumstance and there are other instances where positions need to be created to fill the needs of the district. Ian McGregor commented that we do not advertise or interview for any assistant coaching positions and the head coach gets to choose their assistants, so this should be no different. Ruth Mortag expressed her support for both the AD & Assistant AD recommendations but noted she was hesitant because of the way it came about and was not advertised.

Kendra Lane made public comment inquiring about the evaluation process. Mr. Collins informed that only Mr. Raether would be conducting evaluations.

Passed unanimously.

E. Consideration of SY2023-2024 Activities Director Contract

Iain McGregor moved, seconded by Rick Cummings to approve the SY2023-2024 Assistant Activities Director Contract.

Mr. Collins explained that the original intent was to offer the AD a signing bonus of \$6,000. After discussing with Mr. Raether, he expressed his desire to have Mrs. Rather as a contracted assistant, as opposed to receiving a sign-on bonus. The sign-on bonus was reassigned as an assistant AD's stipend.

Kendra Lane made public comment about the compensation.

Passed unanimously.

F. Consideration of Resolution for Stockmens Bank Signature Updates

Iain McGregor moved, seconded by Chris Wilson to approve the signature updates for the Stockemens Bank accounts.

The update is to remove the previous AD and add Mr. Raether.

Passed unanimously.

G. Consideration of Recommendation for Winter Coaches

Iain McGregor moved, seconded by Rick Cummings to approve the recommendation to hire the winter coaches, as listed, for SY2023-2024.

Coaches recommended for hire include Nick Ethridge - JH Boys Basketball Assistant, Levi Jacobs,

JH Girls Basketball Assistant, and Angie Hastings - JH Girls Basketball Volunteer Assistant.  
Passed unanimously.

- H. Consideration of Recommendation for MTSS Advisor, Amanda Brown  
Iain McGregor moved, seconded by Chris Wilson to approve the recommendation to hire Amanda Brown as the MTSS Advisor for SY2023-2024.  
The District applied for and received the MTSS grant for SY23-24. Ms. Brown was the advisor last year and has agreed to continue the role.  
Passed unanimously.
- I. Consideration of Recommendation for Paraprofessional, Fred Miller  
Chris Wilson moved, seconded by Ruth Mortag to approve the recommendation to hire Fred Miller as paraprofessional for SY2023-2024.  
Passed unanimously.
- J. Consideration of Recommendation for Bus Driver, Fred Miller  
Chris Wilson moved, seconded by Ruth Mortag to approve the recommendation to hire Fred Miller as bus driver for SY2023-2024.  
Passed unanimously.
- K. Consideration of Recommendation for Part-Time Custodian, Mert Antonich  
Rick Cummings moved, seconded by Iain McGregor to approve the recommendation to hire Mert Antonich as part-time custodian for SY2023-2024.  
Passed unanimously.
- L. Consideration of Recommendation for Football Scoreboard Purchase  
Iain McGregor moved, seconded by Rick Cummings to approve the football scoreboard purchase.  
The Board agreed to approve the purchase of a football scoreboard, but would like some more quotes and options before choosing which one.  
Ruth Mortag inquired about the Strandell name remaining on the new board - Mr. Collins said we would need to have conversations with the family.  
Passed unanimously.
- M. Consideration of Policy Updates - 2nd Reading  
Chris Wilson moved, seconded by Iain McGregor to approve and adopt the 2nd reading of policy 4211 revisions.  
Passed unanimously.
- N. Consent Agenda (Appendix D)
  - a. Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, September 19, 2023
  - b. Business Claims
  - c. Student Activity Account

- d. Student Attendance Agreements
- e. Sub List
- f. Individual Transportation Contracts
- g. Student Attendance Agreements

Rick Cummings moved, seconded by Iain McGregor to approve the consent agenda.  
Passed unanimously.

### **Board Meeting Evaluation (I)**

- A. Complete evaluation and turn into Mr. Collins.

### **Announcements (I)**

- A. Regular School Board Meeting, November 21, 2023
- B. Upcoming Trainings

### **Adjournment (A)**

At 7:15 pm Iain McGregor moved, seconded by Rick Cummings to adjourn. Passed unanimously.

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John Rumney, Board Chair

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ATTEST: Karsen Floerchinger, District Clerk

Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

*For additional details on items presented in the minutes of the meeting, please see the coinciding board agenda found on Cascade Public Schools' webpage: [www.cascade.k12.mt.us/District/1141-Board-Agendas-and-Packet.html](http://www.cascade.k12.mt.us/District/1141-Board-Agendas-and-Packet.html)*