

Regular Meeting

Cascade School District 3B
Board of Trustees
December 20, 2022 - 6:00 pm

Board Members Present

High School Board

John Rumney - Chair
Iain McGregor - Vice Chair
Ruth Mortag
Rick Cummings
Chris Wilson
Mark McKamey

Elementary Board

John Rumney - Chair
Iain McGregor - Vice Chair
Ruth Mortag
Rick Cummings
Chris Wilson

Others Present: Levi Collins, Karsen Floerchinger, Sonja Mazaira, Mike Moore, Sue & Dave Nelsen, Lawni Raether, Jeff Mortag, Farrah McGregor, Josh Pepos, Hannah Mazaira, Fred Miller

John Rumney - Board Chair, called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 6:02 pm. The Board said the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Rumney asked for public comment on non-agenda items. There was no public comment.

Informational

- A. Letter of Resignation - Pam Weigand (Paraprofessional)
- B. Letter of Resignation - Amy Castellanos (XCELL! Aide)

Staff Reports

- A. Jen Ward, FFA Advisor
 - a. LDE days
 - b. Jan 17th hosting KMON - need judges
 - c. State in GF on March 21-25th
- B. Sonja Mazaira
 - a. BPA Regionals in January
 - b. BPA redoing/reviving media room
 - c. Winter game cancellations due to extreme weather conditions
 - d. Successful Tip Off & Badger Invite - 217 wrestlers
 - e. Cascade FB will not move back to Northern division - will stay in South Central division for original 2 year commitment
 - f. Annual MHSA Meeting January 15th
- C. Levi Collins, Superintendent
 - a. Security Conference

- b. Virtual Nurse
 - c. Ford Excursion purchased for Type E bus out of Billings
 - d. Staff tech replacements almost fully integrated
 - e. Meeting with a maintenance company to provide training to custodians - will be coming to do a free consultation. Understaffed in the custodial department.
 - f. ESports - met with STEMForged to discuss
 - g. Nelson Academy
- D. Karsen Floerchinger, Business Manager
- a. General Funds are at 31% expended, compared to the 4-year average of 31% for the month of November
 - b. Fall Student counts - EL/JH and HS counts all up from last year.
 - c. Election updates - calendar & declarations of intent open

Board Report

- A. Board Evaluation
- B. Board Training Hours
- C. Facilities Committee Report
 - a. Met prior to meeting to discuss HVAC system project.

New Business

- A. Consideration of Recommendation of Coach, Brenden Hensley
Rick Cummings moved, seconded by Iain McGregor to hire the coaches as listed for SY2022-2023.
Passed unanimously.
- B. Consideration of Recommendation for Concessions Advisor, Armando Romero
Iain McGregor moved, seconded by Ruth Mortag to approve the recommendation to hire the advisors as listed for SY2022-2023.
Passed unanimously.
- C. Consideration of Recommendation for Paraprofessional, Michelle Fuller
Chris Wilson moved, seconded by Mark McKamey to approve the recommendation to hire Michelle Fuller as paraprofessional for SY2022-2023.
Passed unanimously.
- D. Consideration of Recommendation for Purchase of Type E Bus
Rick Cummings moved, seconded by Iain McGregor to approve the purchase of a Type E Bus, pending cost analysis.
The district sees a need for an additional Type E bus to place on a route.
Passed unanimously.

- E. Consideration of Recommendation to Renew Multidistrict Agreement, District 3 (Elementary)
Ruth Mortag moved, seconded by Chris Wilson to approve the recommendation to renew the Multidistrict Agreement with Cascade District B for a 3-year term.
Karsen Floerchinger presented District data related to the prior Multidistrict Agreements.
Passed unanimously.
- F. Consideration of Recommendation to Renew Multidistrict Agreement, District B (High School)
Chris Wilson moved, seconded by Ruth Mortag to approve the recommendation to renew the Multidistrict Agreement with Cascade District 3 for a 3-year term.
Passed unanimously.
- G. Consideration of Handbook Revisions, Coaches, Sponsors, Advisors, Activities/Athletics & Student Activities/Athletic Handbook - 8th Grade Participation Policy
Mark McKamey moved, seconded by Chris Wilson to review the current 8th Grade Participation Policy.
Current language reads: Students who are enrolled in the 8th grade may be eligible to participate in high school sports (excluding football) if and only if the varsity team cannot be successfully filled with the number of high school students participating in the sport.

Board Discussion: McGregor proposed to change “varsity” to “high school”, to reduce the limitations on bringing 8th graders up to participate in Winter sports. Cummings agreed and proposed the policy committee review the policy further, as well as the MHSA policy.
McKamey commented that the policy will vary from sport to sport.

Iain McGregor moved to amend the motion to change the verbiage in the policy from “varsity” to “high School.” Mark McKamey seconded the motion.
Passed unanimously.

Board Discussion: Mortag expressed her want for the AD & superintendent to still be involved in the process i.e. coach to petition for 8th grade participants & administrative approval to follow. McKamey expressed that student’s best interest should be put in mind - should not be used to bring up kids to make a “dream team,” but rather to make sure teams are filled. 8th graders should be able to practice and not compete, but should not be allowed to compete in jh and hs seasons at same time. Wilson commented that he would like the policy to not be so restricting; need numbers to practice also. McKamey stated some leeway to the policy would be preferable, but the AD/Superintendent should be approving. He also noted situations have come up since setting the policy that weren’t thought through. He expressed that he doesn’t want to see any wrestling weight classes empty by not bringing up 8th graders but does have concern about students getting hurt i.e. 8th graders vs. seniors for example. Rumney stated that the committee meant to make the policy to give the most opportunity to the kids, which meant fielding JV teams. He stated it’s the coaches responsibility to ensure the safety of the students. McKamey expressed that if 8th graders are practicing but not competing, they should not be traveling with

the team for away competitions. Mortag commented that if the school is only fielding a varsity team, younger students miss out on game experience, which is detrimental to building the team and program. McKamey stated that he does not believe that 8th graders should be filling the varsity teams and taking a varsity spot of an upperclassman, but rather filling the JV teams. Rumney proposed a policy committee meeting to further discuss details of the policy.

Public Comment:

Mike Moore requested for the policy to be read as amended. The policy, as amended, would read: "Students who are enrolled in the 8th grade may be eligible to participate in high school sports (excluding football) if and only if the high school team cannot be successfully filled with the number of high school students participating in the sport. Coaches must file a petition with the Activities Director in order for their request to bring 8th grade students up to fill the team. The Activities Director will approve or deny the request. Upon approval, the request will be sent to the Superintendent for final approval."

Sonja Mazaira made public comment.

Mike Moore made public comment in favor of the motion.

Josh Pepos made public comment in favor of the motion.

Jeff Mortag made public comment in favor of the motion.

Board Comment:

McGregor stated that as the amended policy reads, he believes that we will be in compliance for the remainder of the year. Mortag quoted the MHSA policy. McKamey stated the policy committee will need to review the policy and commented that 8th graders should not replace an upperclassman. Wilson made a comment in regards to foreign exchange students' participation.

Passed unanimously.

H. Consent Agenda (Appendix D)

- a. Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, November 18, 2022
- b. Business Claims
- c. Student Activity Account
- d. Sub List

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

Passed unanimously.

Recess 7:33pm-7:38pm

Executive Sessions (I)

A. Student Issue

Chairman Rumney closed the meeting to the public at 7:39 pm to discuss a confidential student issue. The meeting was reopened to the public at 7:56 pm.

B. Superintendent Quarterly Evaluation

Chairman Rumney closed the meeting to the public at 7:57 pm to conduct the quarterly evaluation of Superintendent Collins. The meeting was reopened to the public at 8:21 pm.

Board Meeting Evaluation (I)

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

Announcements (I)

- A. Regular School Board Meeting, January 17, 2023
B. Upcoming Trainings
a. Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities Training - January 10, 17, 27th

Adjournment (A)

At 8:22 pm Iain McGregor moved, seconded by Mark McKamey to adjourn. Passed unanimously.

John Rumney, Board Chair

ATTEST: Karsen Floerchinger, District Clerk

Date Signed _____

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