



DeSmet School District #20
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
6:00 pm, February 22, 2022
In the School Library

Regular Meeting

The Board of Trustees for DeSmet School District #20 met for a Regular Board Meeting in the school library.

Board Trustees present: Aaron Foster, Board Chairman, Emmett Anderson, Heather Burgad, and Synthia Wendell, attending electronically.

Board Trustees Absent: Emily Villegas

Others Present: Matthew Driessen, (Superintendent) Freyja Hughes, (District Clerk) school counselor Caitie Bloom, teacher Maggie Marmon, and community member Daniel Zumfe.

I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance - Aaron Foster called the meeting to order at 6:02pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. Introduction/Comments of Guests on Items not on the Agenda - Community member Daniel Zumfe voiced an interest in DeSmet's kindergarten teacher leaving. Mr. Driessen relayed that the teacher had resigned, and that there were no concerns regarding the safety of any students. He relayed that the district is currently looking for a replacement, and that the kindergarten students are currently being taught, with help from teacher Carly Aho, who has 12 years of experience.

III. Recognition of Students and Staff - Mr. Driessen relayed that the students have raised approximately \$1,000 from extra-curricular activities through the means of entry tickets and concessions. Additionally, four students were accepted into the Big Sky Health and Human Science Academy, and Beth Vibbert and Anne Brown both received scholarships from the Teacher at a Time Award.

IV. Board Correspondence

V. Review of Minutes - The board reviewed the minutes from the Regular Scheduled Board Meeting on January 18, 2022, and the Special Board Meeting on January 31, 2022. A motion was made by Heather Burgad to approve the minutes, and seconded by Emmett Anderson. Voting in favor of the motion were: Emmett Anderson, Heather Burgad, Synthia Wendell, and Aaron Foster. Voting against the motion were none.

VI. Review of Warrants - A motion was made by Emmett Anderson to approve the warrants from January 31, 2022. The motion was seconded by Heather Burgad. Voting in favor of the motion were: Emmett Anderson, Heather Burgad, Synthia Wendell, and Aaron Foster. Voting against the motion were none.

VII. Review of Budget Reports/Revenues - Freyja Hughes reviewed budget reports with trustee attendance.

VIII. Review of Petty Cash & Students Activity Account - Freyja Hughes indicates that as of January 31st, 2021, the Petty Cash balance is \$820.00, and the Special Projects/Student Activities Account balance is \$12,199.90.

IX. Business Manager's Report - Nothing new to add at this time.

X. Principal Report (public comment is allowed before and after Board action) -

A. Approve/Disapprove -

a. Creation of Fund Account for 6th Grade Activities - A motion was made by Heather Burgad to approve the creation of a fund account for 6th Grade Activities. The motion was seconded by Emmett Anderson. Voting in favor of the motion were: Heather Burgad, Emmett Anderson, Synthia Wendell, and Aaron Foster. Voting against the motion were none.

b. Creation of Fund Account for 7th Grade Activities - A motion was made by Heather Burgad to approve the creation of a fund account for 7th Grade Activities. The motion was seconded by Emmett Anderson. Voting in favor of the motion were: Heather Burgad, Emmett Anderson, Synthia Wendell, and Aaron Foster. Voting against the motion were none.

c. Creation of Fund Account for 8th Grade Graduation - A motion was made by Heather Burgad to approve the creation of a fund account for 8th Grade Graduation. The motion was seconded by Emmett Anderson. Voting in favor of the motion were: Heather Burgad, Emmett Anderson, Synthia Wendell, and Aaron Foster. Voting against the motion were none.

B. Approve/Disapprove - Board Policy 2060 - A motion was made by Emmett Anderson to approve the adoption of Board Policy 2060. The motion was seconded by Heather Burgad. Voting in favor of the motion were: Heather Burgad, Emmett Anderson, Synthia Wendell, and Aaron Foster. Voting against the motion were none.

C. Approve/Disapprove - Teacherage Policy - MCA-20-9-471 - A motion was made by Emmett Anderson to approve the proposal of Teacherage Policy MCA-20-9-471 to MTSBA. The motion was seconded by Heather Burgad. Voting in favor of the motion

were: Heather Burgad, Emmett Anderson, Synthia Wendell, and Aaron Foster. Voting against the motion were none.

- D. Approve/Disapprove - Mail Ballot Resolution** - A motion was made by Heather Burgad to approve a mail ballot resolution. The motion was seconded by Emmett Anderson. Voting in favor of the motion were: Heather Burgad, Emmett Anderson, Synthia Wendell, and Aaron Foster. Voting against the motion were none.
- E. Discuss - Land Lease** - Mr. Driessen discussed leasing nearby land to put in a track and school farm to table/ community garden, in order to further grow and develop a signature community around DeSmet School's projected population growth and enrich the lives of students, staff, and community members alike.
- F. Discuss - Daycare** - School Counselor Caitie Bloom is managing this discussion and discovery of offering a daycare on the premises to help with the burdens of staff and their families, as well as to encourage and facilitate staff retention.
- G. Discuss - Constitutional Initiative 121** - Mr. Driessen led the discussion on Constitutional Initiative 121 and covered potential areas of concern in regards to school funding, should it pass in the fall.

XI. Personnel Report -

A. Approve/Disapprove - Sublist - Kat Brown (AA+5) as an Aide - A motion was made by Emmett Anderson to approve Kat Brown to be added to the sublist as an aide at the wages of AA+5 on the matrix. The motion was seconded by Heather Burgad. Voting in favor of the motion were: Heather Burgad, Emmett Anderson, Synthia Wendell, and Aaron Foster. Voting against the motion were none.

B. Approve/Disapprove - Sublist - Christina Wekkin (BA+7) as a Sub - A motion was made by Emmett Anderson to approve Christina Wekkin to be added to the sublist as a sub. The motion was seconded by Heather Burgad. Voting in favor of the motion were: Heather Burgad, Emmett Anderson, Synthia Wendell, and Aaron Foster. Voting against the motion were none.

XII. Committee Updates

- a. Redevelopment Committee** - Mr. Driessen informed the board that the construction of a maintenance building/two-car garage is scheduled to begin March 7th, 2022.
- b. Strategic Plan Committee** - Nothing new to add at this time.
- c. Negotiations Committee** - Interest-Based Bargaining is scheduled for March 15, 2022, to meet with the Department of Labor.

XIII. Upcoming Meetings - The regular scheduled board meeting has been rescheduled to Monday, March 14, 2022, to account for the start of Spring Break on March 21, 2022.

XIV. Comments of Guest & School Board Members on Items Not on the Agenda - Mr. Zumfe and Mr. Driessen discussed the potential proposal of a bus stop on the premises.

XV. Adjourn - There being no further business, Heather Burgad made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Emmett Anderson. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:33pm.