

Mohawk Valley School District #17

Minutes

WORK SESSION April 13, 2021
REGULAR MEETING April 13, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Tristan Wright, President
Mr. Julian Rinehart, Vice-President
Mr. Howie Jorajuria, Clerk
Mrs. Ann Taylor, Member
Mrs. Gina Richmond, Member

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Mrs. Shanna Johnson
Mrs. Delia Salcido
Ms. Sarah Bell

- 1. Work Session – Responses to Questions that arose from the Energy Savings Presentation by Midstate**
Mrs. Johnson stated that each product has been broken down as presented by Midstate. She also stated that thoughts and information from Mr. Burns and herself are included. She stated that there is time to make decision on all of these projects.

Mrs. Johnson stated the following:

- **LED Lighting**
 - This is very important and necessary
 - Mr. Burns highly recommends all new and standardized lighting as suggested by Midstate
 - This is a yes project
- **HVAC Upgrades**
 - There are twelve HVACs that are down. There are six that are down in the main building and six in the gym
 - HVACs are taking care of themselves, meaning SFB will fund most as they go down
 - Seven have been submitted to SFB, the project has been rejected several times, we are learning how to navigate the system
 - The bottom line is that when so many are done at once SFB requires a mechanical and structural assessment, then each unit has to be assessed, these units will eventually be funded
 - Received a quote back from Midstate on some of the HVACs which came back quite a bit higher than Polar Cooling – the cost per unit is \$14,893 with a total of \$89,359
 - Other units that are old will either die soon and can be funded by SFB and the other units can be replaced with ESSER Funds as we see fit as we replace roofing
 - This is now a design project
- **Solar Service Program**
 - Solar is one that needs to be discussed by the board
 - This is one of the cheapest projects on the list
 - Not sure what the \$13,000 entails
 - With this project we can wait to see where the money ends in the end
 - Board members are on the fence about this project
 - This is a low priority project
- **Orchestrate**
 - The orchestrate system is very costly - \$75,000
 - Mrs. Johnson and Mr. Burns are not interested in the EMS
 - Keep it very simple.
- **Needlepoint BiPolar Ionization**
 - Another company has come by selling the same product
 - If we decided we want something like this, it would be properly procured

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- If we were to put it in every area, it would take up a large amount of the ESSER money
- This is a low priority item

Moving forward:

- DLR will do the design when the assessments are completed
- Include the lighting and go to Midstate for that
- Be consistent with the HVACs and getting good units
- Not opposed to looking back and using ESSER funds if we need to fund HVACs
- Things are starting to come clear and how things are coming together

Board Work Session ended at 5:30 pm.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- ❖ Mr. Tristan Wright called the Board Meeting to order at 5:30 pm

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- ❖ The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Tristan Wright

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

- ❖ Mr. Tristan Wright asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Mr. Howie Jorajuria made the motion to adopt. Mrs. Ann Taylor seconded.

There was no discussion, motion carries.

IV. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

- ❖ No comments.

V. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Matters about which the Board may engage in discussion but will take no action.

1. Administrator Reports

a) Enrollment Report

➤ Mrs. Johnson stated the following:

- ❖ We are planning for 130 students for FY22
- ❖ Mrs. Johnson has spoken to the 3 homeschooled families. At this point, two are still on the fence but one is definitely coming back
- ❖ We have some high needs students coming to Kinder and 1st grade next year
- ❖ A non-verbal autistic child has enrolled in Kinder. He has never been in school or serviced
- ❖ We will need to hire at least one aide to meet the needs of these high needs children next year

b) Budget Report

➤ Mrs. Johnson stated the following:

- ❖ Presented to the board a spreadsheet with COVID Relief Funds and the acronyms:
 - CARES Act (ESSER Fund) – Received \$50,000 which was used to offset some custodial costs from the summer, cafeteria salaries and to help us balance our budget. This needed to be used by September 2021
 - ESG – Received \$60,000 which was used to offset some salaries, some curriculum, zoom licenses. This needed to be spend by December 2021 or we lose it
 - ESSER II – We will receive \$200,000. We have not applied for these funds. This was done by Trump
 - ESSER III – This was done by Biden - \$460,000
- ❖ The whole idea of the last two is to transform education, 20 % has to be for learning loss, so we have to do summer school and 80% is up to our discretion, such as computers, salaries, interventionist, hire extra staff, HVACs
- ❖ Mrs. Jorajuria stated he would be curious to see if it could be used for bonuses

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- ❖ Mrs. Johnson stated that we have \$27,000 in Result Based Funding which she would like to use to give teachers bonuses. This money was given to MVS because we have done well. Also give it to all staff
- ❖ We would like to take the \$660,000, maximize the money. It has to be spend by 2024. Let's be wise and stretch it, move money out of M&O and have carryover
- ❖ Use these funds for technology
- ❖ Mr. Wright asked how carryover works. Mrs. Johnson stated that now we can carryover as much as we want, it used to be a 4% carryover in the past
- ❖ In Capital we need to have carryover and build it up for emergencies
- ❖ This is a golden opportunity to transform education. This money only went to Title I schools. Large wealthy schools did not receive the money
- ❖ Contracts were not brought. Traditionally they have been brought without a raise and then amend them, but for us we do not have teachers leaving
- ❖ We have a neighboring school district that make 9% to 12% more than our classified staff
- ❖ Mr. Burns is no longer in housing, he has moved to Wellton. We will rent the house out and play with figures, whatever the rent comes out to, we will put it into a pay raise for him
- ❖ Waiting for Legislature to see if they will make up for the students that are gone to equalize since we are now in current year funding
- ❖ We are applying for an Early Literacy Grant. It is \$160,000 a year for five years. We are the only school in East County eligible to apply. The grant can be used for a Reading Specialist, strong PD and curriculum. The trick is going to be to find the right person
- ❖ Mr. Jorajuria asked if some of these grants can be used for pay increase, one time grants, but not for one time bonuses? Mrs. Johnson stated that it can be used for bonuses
- ❖ Mr. Jorajuria stated he read some of the comments in the surveys and how staff is wanting board support. A bonus would be a nice way to show support
- ❖ Another fund is called Performance Pay. It is also called Classroom Site Fund or Proposition 301. Traditionally it is the 6% sales tax that was put in several years ago and was supposed to go straight to teachers. That was one of the solutions when it went into effect
- ❖ This Legislation they did away with bucket 011, 012, 013. The three areas we could spend the money was:
 - Automatic percentage that went only to certified teachers. It was given twice a year in December and June
 - The second bucket was Performance Pay. They would receive a pay out in December and in June. Teachers would have to do certain things. This was tied to test scores, professional development
 - The third part of it was we could spend it however we needed it. We pay an aide out of this and teacher raises
- ❖ These buckets are gone. This fund has doubled this year due to increased sales tax. It is now \$750 per student. We can now use it however we want for instructional support. We can pay raises, bonuses and insurance out of this fund, pay support staff

c) Academic Report

➤ Mrs. Johnson stated the following:

- ❖ We are in the process of reviewing new Social Studies and Science Curriculum. It will be on display for everyone. Policy says it must be on display for 60 days
- ❖ K-5 Pearson Math Curriculum is expiring
- ❖ K-5 Journeys Reading Program is also expiring
- ❖ We are starting AzMerit Testing in coming weeks. We are putting minimal focus on it
- ❖ Lots of activities coming in April and May. We have games the next three Fridays. We will be having a pep assembly
- ❖ There are some field trips coming up
- ❖ Nice to be back to a regular school day

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d) Bond Report

➤ Mrs. Johnson stated the following:

- ❖ There is a lot behind the scenes, trying to get all of our assessments. We are still in the assessment phase
- ❖ There are weekly meetings on Monday with all the entities involved
- ❖ Mrs. Johnson stated that we are not there yet with the water plant. She stated that Mr. Burns and herself are doing more which is why she pushed Arcadis back and told them they need to do more
- ❖ Bathrooms and Fire Alarm are now being added
- ❖ Arcadis is helping with the uploading to SFB
- ❖ The water plant is moving along. Hoping to have ground breaking in June

e) Water Plant Report

➤ Mrs. Johnson stated the following:

- ❖ Mr. Wright asked if a project manager has been approved. Mrs. Johnson stated that SFB was requiring signatures. The required documents have been signed and uploaded to SFB but have not heard back from them. It ended being a change order
- ❖ With the water plant we did put in for a project manager which will take some of the contingency money

f) Maintenance Report

➤ Mrs. Johnson informed the board of the following:

- ❖ No report was given on Maintenance

g) Return-to-School Report

➤ Mrs. Johnson informed the board of the following:

- ❖ Two distant learners decided to play softball and two more are coming back to school
- ❖ Back to normal for the most part

h) General Items

➤ Mrs. Johnson informed the board of the following:

- ❖ Mr. Jorajuria has asked himself how to show his support besides sending his kids to this school. He stated that the easiest thing to do is to through money at the problem. He also stated that pay increases are hard to sustain but with a bonus teacher will be re-energized. Ms. Bell stated that she would prefer instead of a bonus to get another teacher, however that would be back to permanent. Mrs. Johnson stated that a bonus is a pat on the back. To what Mr. Jorajuria stated that there needs to be a gesture from the board to the staff that shows board support. It has been a tough year. The conversation continued on survey comments and how the board would like to reward their hard work.
- ❖ Mrs. Richmond stated that there is not much board participation on school campus and that is needed for staff to see
- ❖ Mr. Jorajuria stated that there is a combination of things that can be done as a board
- ❖ This has been a tough year
- ❖ Mrs. Johnson stated that we will need to look into policy to make sure it is done correctly, but in the end one important thing is if there is a bonus or luncheon, it is important for staff to know that the board insisted there be some kind of bonus
- ❖ We will look into ways so that the board can appropriately show their appreciation for the staff because in the end we all came together

2. Governing Board Member Comments

- ❖ No Comments

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VI. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

These items are adoption of a routine nature and those that normally do not require deliberations on the part of the Governing Board. A board member may pull items, which will then be discussed and voted on separately.

1. **Minutes**

- a) Notes of Work Session and Minutes of March 9, 2021 – Regular Board Meeting

2. **Expense Vouchers**

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| b) Expense #25 | \$127,361.17 |
| c) Expense #26 | \$ 27,205.34 |
| d) Expense #27 | \$ 14,594.16 |

3. **Payroll Vouchers**

- | | |
|---------|-------------|
| e) P-19 | \$47,099.89 |
| f) P-20 | \$46,851.02 |

4. **Student Activity Reports**

- g) March 2021
h) Year-to-Date – 3/31/2021

5. **Bank Account Reconciliations**

- i) Student Activities/Revolving Fund/Cafeteria Fund – March 2021

6. **Other**

- j) Tax Credit in the amount of \$1,000

Motion: Mr. Tristan Wright asked for a motion to accept the consent agenda. Mr. Howie Jorajuria made the motion to accept the consent agenda. Mr. Julian Rinehart seconded. Motion carries.

VII. ACTION ITEMS

1. **Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Coaching Contracts for Baseball and Softball (Nydia Salcido, Robbie Hohlbein, Kristina Ellis)**

Motion: Mr. Tristan Wright asked for a motion to approve coaching contracts for Baseball and Softball (Nydia Salcido, Robbie Hohlbein, Kristina Ellis). Mr. Howie Jorajuria made the motion to approve. Mrs. Ann Taylor seconded.

Mrs. Johnson stated it is nice to see the kids out playing.

There was no further discussion. Motion carries.

2. **Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Shanna Johnson's Appointment to the Yuma County Education Foundation as the East Yuma County Representative and Vice-President**

Motion: Mr. Tristan Wright asked for a motion to approve Shanna Johnson's appointment to the Yuma County Education Foundation as the East Yuma County Representative and Vice-President. Mr. Julian Rinehart made the motion to approve. Mrs. Ann Taylor seconded.

Mrs. Johnson stated that she has been on it for a couple of years.

There was no further discussion. Motion carries.

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3. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Annual Audit Report for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020

Mrs. Johnson stated that we always have a good audit. We had 15 items which is not bad. The first two was new to the district. Mrs. Johnson explained each finding to the board.

Motion: Mr. Tristan Wright asked for a motion to approve the Annual Audit Report for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020. Mrs. Ann Taylor made the motion to approve. Mr. Howie Jorajuria seconded.

There was no further discussion. Motion carries.

4. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve ASBA Insurance Trust Health Plan for 2021-2022

Mrs. Johnson stated that we have good news. We usually have a 12% to 25% increase but this year we only have a 2% increase. Mrs. Johnson gave the following information:

- We have always used ASBAIT
- It is a pool of insurance that district around the states are in. We have used it for many years
- We have tried to go to other entities but we cannot touch anybody because of the increases
- There is another vendor, KAROS, and this year they quoted us pretty decent
- If we stick with ASBAIT, with a 2% increase, with a total increase of about \$3,800, we have to decide if the district covers the \$3,800 or do we charge the employees a little bit more to cover the increase. There is no increase for dental and vision, employee already pays for this and the children plan increases by \$21 more per month which is pretty good
- KAROS offers \$20 copays, but in the end, the doctors our employees use are not on their plan
- Last year, the high deductible plan, we pay. We have eight staff members on this plan. Employees who are not on the high deductible pay \$40 out of pocket
- Mrs. Johnson's recommends keeping the same insurance. What the board needs to decide is if we want to pass the cost on and have the employee pay \$50 or does the district pay the \$3,800
- Mrs. Johnson recommended keeping the same plan with no increase to the employee as a nice gesture
- This year we are not doing the Teledoc
- All board members agree that with the district paying the \$3,800 increase it is a great way to show appreciation to the employees

Motion: Mr. Tristan Wright asked for a motion to approve ASBA Insurance Trust Health Plan for 2021-2022. Mr. Julian Rinehart made the motion to approve the ASBA Insurance Trust Health Plan with the district absorbing the \$3,800 increase. Mr. Howie Jorajuria seconded.

There was no further discussion. Motion carries.

VIII. FUTURE ITEMS

- May 11, 2021 – Regular Board Meeting

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Mr. Tristan Wright asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Julian Rinehart made the motion to adjourn. Mrs. Ann Taylor seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

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A copy of the agenda background material provided to the Governing Board members (with the exception of material relating to possible executive sessions) is available for public inspection at the District Office, 5151 South Avenue 39E, Roll, Arizona.

Dated this 16th day of April, 2021
Delia Salcido, Governing Board Secretary

Designated Board Member

Date

Delia Salcido, Board Secretary

Date