**LIBERAL R-II SCHOOL BOARD MINTUES**

**September 23, 2020**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Liberal R-II School District was held on Wednesday, September 23, 2020 in the Board of Education Office. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board President Brian King.

**Members Present:** Brian King (2021), President

Christie Ulrich (2023), Vice-President

Bryce Barton (2022)

Chris Morrow (2023)

John Simpson (2021)

Tonya Suschnick (2022)

Brian Williams (2023)

**Others Present:** William Harvey, Superintendent

Nicole Ruddick, HS / MS Principal

Leticia Fry, Elementary Principal

Matt McKee

Wendy Rose, Board Secretary

**PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

**Motion** by Simpson, seconded by Barton to approve the presented agenda for the regular September 23, 2020 meeting. Motion carried 7-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Motion** by Suschnick, seconded by Ulrich to approve the open session minutes from the regular meeting held on August 20, 2020. Motion carried 6-0-1, King abstained.

**B. Motion** by Morrow, seconded by Simpson to pay September 2020 bills as presented. Motion carried 6-0-1; Williams abstained from ck #86288 and ck #86394.

**C. Motion** by Morrow, seconded by Williams to approve the monthly bank statement from August 2020. Motion carried 7-0.

**D. Motion** by Williams, seconded by Barton to transfer $200,000 from MoSIP General Fund Account to the NOW account. Motion carried 7-0.

**Motion** by Williams, seconded by Simpson to transfer $168,000 from MoSIP Bond Account to the NOW account. Motion carried 7-0.

**PROGRAM REVIEW**

**A.** The Board reviewed the following MSBA Board Policies:

**Motion** by Morrow, seconded by Williams to adopt MSBA Board Policy ACA and name Leticia Fry as the Title IX Coordinator for the Liberal R-2 School district. Motion carried 7-0.

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**Motion** by Ulrich, seconded by Simpson to take action on the following presented MSBA Board Policies:

BBFA Revised (adopt with a $100 gift limit) DC adopt

DFI (Version 1) adopt GBAD adopt

GBCBA adopt GBEBB adopt

GCBA adopt IC adopt

IHB adopt IKF adopt

JCC adopt JECA adopt

JFG adopt JFGA adopt

JG adopt JHCB adopt

DJF declined GBCA declined

GCBA R1 rescind

Motion carried 7-0.

**B. Motion** by Williams, seconded by Morrow to adopt the presented Special Education Compliance Plan for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion carried 7-0.

**BUILDING PRINCIPAL REPORTS**

**Elementary**

Mrs. Fry reported enrollment for the elementary at 116 for in class students and 11 for distant learners. Overall, the students and staff at the elementary seem to be adjusting well to all the changes this year. The elementary school hosted a virtual bookfair this year through Scholastic. Parents deposit money into an online account through Scholastic and kids make their purchases online. Books are shipped directly to the student’s home.

Miles for Smiles, a traveling dentist office from Ozark Health in Springfield, was at the elementary school this past week. The performed 21 dental visits with students and were able to donate $5,170 worth of free dental work to those students.

Jay Johnson and Candace Dyer were awarded a $20,000 Donors Choose grant last spring. They have been able to purchase some really great technology equipment for students in all of the schools using that money; some of the equipment included google expedition kits that can show them everything from destinations all over the world to dissections / medical surgeries they have studied about.

**Middle School / High School**

Mrs. Ruddick reported enrollment for the middle school at 90 for in class students and 9 distant learners. The high school has an enrollment of 111 in class students and 12 distant learners. The high school staff and students have had a few ups and downs since starting, but are all working together to try to learn new and more efficient ways to teach and participate in online learning. FFA recently held the Greenhand Bonfire and Movie night. Next week will be homecoming week with spirit days and a modified parade and no pep rally. There will be a dance following the football game.

**Athletic Director**

Mr. Walton was unable to attend but submitted written reports on current records. Mr. Harvey reported that volleyball districts had been assigned and would be held at Golden City.

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Some of the conference school have started some shut downs due to Covid outbreaks. MSHSAA will monitor the upcoming district tournaments and make changes as needed. Unfortunately, if teamshave several infected players at playoff time, they will still be required to play with the players that are healthy or forfeit. No special allowances or make ups will be made that late in the season.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Mr. Harvey reported that Covid is an issue that he has dealt with every day since school started, but with that being said, things really are going much smoother than was anticipated. He has been working closely with the Barton County Health Department in identifying “close contacts” (within 6 feet or less for longer than 15 minutes). Seating charts are kept for classrooms, lunch tables, bus routes and anywhere students are in one place longer than 15 minutes. Keeping students in small groups also allows less students to have to be quarantined and more students to stay in school. There have been 5 positive cases in the district with another five students in quarantine. With the contact tracing so far, it appears there hasn’t been any spread within the school. So far, all student cases have originated outside of the school. The district will continue to work with the Health Department to monitor the situation.

Mr. Harvey reported on that the district’s finances are currently up from last year at this time by approximately $117,874. The proration factor that DESE applies to the state revenues will play a big part in how much the district will receive in the next couple months. The district will continue use federal CARES money to pay two salaries this year as well as using county CARES money to purchase of extra cleaning supplies for the buses and school buildings.

The high school building project is getting very close to completion with contingencies for that project ending higher than expected. The original budget showed $139,000 in contingencies and currently there is $144,000 in those same areas. The final work on the gym floor should be completed next week. The gym floor will need another three weeks before it is used or bleachers are placed on it. Paragon and Branco are planning a walk-through next week to examine for any areas that still need some work.

The elementary project is moving along. The pre-engineered elementary gym is being constructed offsite and should be here by the middle of October. Footings are being poured and stem walls are being built that will be the footing for the new gym. The blocks for the storm shelter will also be going up soon. The FEMA part of the project still has a February 14, 2021 deadline for completion.

Mr. Harvey presented a copy of the Missouri State Highway Patrol bus inspection report from last year. We had 6 out of 10 buses pass inspection last February. None of the four that didn’t pass inspection had serious enough issues to be put out of service and have since been repaired. This was Eddie’s first time of going through this report as the bus mechanic and he learned a lot about the process.

Mr. Harvey discussed rebuilding the bus barn lost to fire last fall. At this time there have been no bids and Branco’s projected pricing on the project comes in at a higher cost due to prevailing wages. The money provided by the insurance would allow for a pole barn with gravel and an open front. If the board waits to see what funds are leftover after the elementary project, the district could look at options to build back an enclosed barn that would have a concrete floor

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which would work much better for storage. There will be a better idea of contingencies on the elementary project by next spring.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A.** **Motion** by Simpson, seconded by Williams to appoint the following federal program coordinators for the 2019-2020 school year:

Federal Programs Coordinator Linda Krueth

ELL Coordinator Nicole Ruddick

Homeless Coordinator Shanda Shaw

Migrant Coordinator Nicole Ruddick

Motion carried 7-0.

**B.** **Motion** by Simpson, seconded by Morrow to approve the presented bus routes for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion carried 7-0.

**C.** **Motion** by Suschnick, seconded by Barton to hold the next regular board meeting on Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

**Motion** by Suschnick, seconded by Williams to go into closed session for exception #3 (hiring, firing, disciplining and promotion of personnel). Roll Call Vote: Barton-yes, King-yes, Morrow-yes, Simpson-yes, Suschnick-yes, Ulrich-yes and Williams-yes. Motion carried 7-0. **(8:35 p.m.)**

**Motion** by Simpson, seconded by Williams to adjourn. Motion carried 7-0.

**CLOSING TIME: 9:05 p.m.**