

BLAIR-TAYLOR SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26th – 5:30 P.M.

President Troy Tenneson called the Board of Education meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Board members present: Troy Tenneson, Perry Kujak, Michele Steien, Jeff Stalheim, David Thompson, Sarah Staff, Blaine Koxlien. Also present: Jeff Eide, Dana Eide, Lynn Halverson, Katie Belitz, Gwen Kidd, Lisa Perry, Linda Nereng, Katie Bentz.

The Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Mission Statement: "To educate all learners to reach their potential as productive citizens" read aloud.

Motion by J. Stalheim, with a second by D. Thompson to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

There was no public comment tonight.

Motion by M. Steien, with a second by S. Staff to approve minutes of the September 2020 regular, closed, and special meetings. Motion carried.

Motion by D. Thompson, with a second by J. Stalheim to approve bills for the month of September. Motion carried by roll call vote. 7-0.

Motion by P. Kujak, with a second by D. Thompson to approve a financial statement for the month of September. Motion carried by roll call vote. 7-0.

Reports:

Superintendent Report - Jeff Eide recapped timeline for the referendum presentations. All town hall meetings have been completed. Also met with City halls of Blair & Taylor. Referendum fact sheets have been posted in the school newsletter, school Facebook page, and handouts have been available.

The consortium met to discuss curriculum and what is determined to be the superintendents and principals rolls and responsibilities.

Elementary Principal-Lynn Halverson- The Elementary continues to find new ways to still have our in person classes. We are having a virtual book fair, & parent-teacher conferences on November 5th and November 10th. This will be held either by video conference or telephone. Mr. Nelson will be having a virtual reading night.

MS/HS Principal-Dana Eide- Student of the month was held virtually. We opted to have parent-teacher conferences once per trimester. Which will be held virtually. Remote learning instructions were shared with students and parents if the district will need to go remote. Dana met with the consortium to look at moving math classes. (Algebra, Geometry, ect.) We would like classes to be all three trimesters instead of two semesters currently. She is working with the school counselors on anti-racial education. We want to make sure all understand why we are having this right now.

Special Education Director-Katie Belitz - Through the mental health coordinators is working on a video due out in November regarding top questions for school nurses & mental health coordinators. Our student services team continues to work toward supporting our families during Christmas. We have expanded our need to support through the high school level.

Discussion Items:

Wednesday School Day Proposal - Mr. Eide discussed a proposal to the board describing a three step plan to adjust for remote learning and teaching needs.

1st Step: This is what we are currently doing to support face-to-face learning and remote learning. The students begin classes at 8:15 a.m and end at 3:05 p.m on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday. Wednesday students begin class at 8:15 a.m. and end at 2:35 p.m.

2nd Step: If the district has less than 25% of students not in person for either being remote, illness or quarantined, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday will remain the same as step 1. On Wednesdays the middle & high school students will use their remote learning schedule until noon. Also, staff will meet remotely with students who need support for about an hour in the afternoon. This step will give our teachers and students practice if we would need to go all remote. Elementary students will be bussed into school for face to face instruction until noon. Teachers will use the afternoon for instruction planning.

3rd Step: If the district is around 25% of students not in person for either being remote, illness or quarantined, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday will remain the same as step 1. On Wednesdays no instruction will be given. Staff would meet with remote learners as needed. Otherwise staff will prepare for in person instruction and remote learning.

If the district has a greater number of students not in person we would need to go fully remote due to safety concerns or do not have enough staff to efficiently or safely be in person.

Lynn, Dana & Katie were asked if this plan was discussed with their staff, and what their thoughts were about possibly starting this proposal on November 11th.

Action Items:

Motion by D. Thompson, with a second by S. Staff to approve the second reading of the personal protective equipment during pandemic/epidemic. Motion carried.

Motion by S. Staff, with a second by M. Steien to approve Support Staff Resignation Kristen Arends. Motion carried.

Motion by S. Staff, with a second by J. Stalheim to approve Head Wrestling Coach contract to Greg Bratina. Motion carried by roll call vote. 7-0.

Motion by J. Stalheim, with a second by D. Thompson to approve the Middle School Basketball contract to Kevin Jensen. Motion carried by roll call vote. 7-0.

Motion by M. Steien, with a second by J. Stalheim to approve the Wednesday school day adjustment for virtual needs. Motion carried.

Motion by D. Thompson, with a second by M. Steien to move to closed session in accordance with State Statute 19.85(1)(c) support staff and teacher handbook, support staff contracts. Motion carried. adjourn regular School Board meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by D. Thompson, with a second by S. Staff, to move to open session. Motion carried.

Motion by M. Steien, second by D. Thompson, to approve the support staff and teacher handbooks as presented. Motion carried by roll call vote. 7-0.

Motion by S. Staff, with a second by B. Koxlien, to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



David Thompson, Clerk