

MINUTES OF THE COMBINED BUSSINESS SESSION OF THE MARSHALL BOARD OF EDUCATION HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 24, 2020 AT 7:00 PM, @ https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCo_Dw2K8ptX5eFKauouPJZQ/

PRESENT: DESMET, NICHOLSON, MIDDLETON, WILLIAMS, GAMBLE, LANKERD, LINDSEY, DAVIS, JONES

ABSENT: NONE

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President DeSmet.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Vice President Nicholson.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Lindsey, supported by Middleton, that the agenda be approved with adjustments to the Consent Agenda and a Discussion Item added.

PUBLIC COMMENT

President DeSmet called for any members of the audience to address the Board on agenda items only. There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA MINUTES AND PERSONNEL

Items included on the consent agenda were minutes of the August 10, 2020 Combined Work/Business Session and the employments of Megan Moco – teacher at Walters Elementary and Danielle Siebert – School Nurse.

Moved by Lindsey, supported Lankerd, that the Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda – Minutes and Personnel as presented. A roll-call vote carried the motion unanimously.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SPECIAL RECOGNITION:

- ***HIRES*** - Superintendent Davis provided educational background information for each of the new hires.
- ***RETIREMENTS*** - Superintendent Davis recognized the retirements of the following staff members: Julie Gibson - physical education teacher at the middle school, Heidi Klein-Line - elementary art teacher and Cynthia Wieas - bus driver.

DISCUSSION

PREPARATION FOR FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL - Superintendent Davis indicated there were lots of positive comments from teachers on both the content and delivery of the professional development opportunities offered last week. Staff is excited to be back and is looking forward to working with students.

Director of Curriculum and Assessment Chad Holt reported that 163 of 175 teachers participated in the trainings earning 18 hours of SCECH's.

Technology Director Terron Erwin reported that 1259 of the 1750 Chromebooks have arrived and distribution started last week. There were mixed reviews from parents on the distribution process and lots of adjustments were made to the process; additional pickup times have been added. The technology department is in the process of developing a help desk for parents.

Facilities Director Brad Shedd reported that there was a donation made for portable air conditioning units at Hughes and that both MPS staff and electrical contractors are working on the installation. The PPE has arrived and is being prepared for distribution.

Trustee Gamble asked about the possibility of portable AC units at Harrington and the Middle School.

Superintendent Davis reported that Harrington has asked facilities to hold off on adding AC at this time. The 2nd and 3rd floor of the MS have also been considered for AC but at this time none is planned, due to financial and electrical restrictions.

Trustee Lankerd asked about the \$500,000 donation made last year towards AC for Harrington, Hughes and Middle School. Superintendent Davis reported that the donor has only approved the donation for a permanent solution; not temporary, portable units.

Trustee Lankerd asked if all the classrooms are ready for in person instruction to which Superintendent Davis respond that they are very close to being ready; pending final review from teachers and building administrators.

Trustee Lindsey asked if any of the foundations had been approached to support portable air conditioning.

VIRTUAL CLASSROOMS K-5: Superintendent Davis announced the Virtual Teaching staff as follows: K-Rachel Barnes, 1st- Aimee Orlee, 2nd-Kelly Karns, 3rd-McKenna Jerant, 4th-Suzanne Gibbs, 5th-Emily Douglass, Special Education, Jen Birt and Cheryl Quinn. The staff is a combination of experienced and newly hired teachers and Gail Rodgers will be the Site Coordinator.

Gordon Elementary School Principal Kelly Fitzpatrick shared the Google Slides and information that has been developed for Virtual Only families.

Vice President Nicholson asked how the openings were being covered by the teachers accepting the virtual positions. Superintendent Davis reported that there was a reassignment of teachers based on needs in the classrooms and that the intention is to have virtual teachers return to their buildings after virtual-only. At this time, there are almost 410 students participating in virtual only learning.

Secretary Middleton was pleased with the links that were developed for virtual learning and the first day of school and appreciated the time and energy spent on development.

Trustee Lankerd appreciated the communication that has been taking place. She also asked about the wireless hotspots.

Mr. Erwin said they are working in coordination with transportation and food service to offer the mobile hot spots at food distribution sites and community needs.

PRACTICAL HEALTH GUIDANCE: Superintendent Davis reported information on health screenings, frequently asked questions for both families and staff, and that a parental screening tool are being sent out. Documentation will be adjusted with input from the Calhoun County Health Department. We are working on a Mask Up Marshall campaign.

Vice President Nicholson asked if the CCHD will get updates from other districts across the state and will also share if there is an outbreak non COVID infections to which Superintendent Davis responded he would speak with the health department regarding these questions during their next weekly meeting.

PENDING STATE LEGISLATION: Superintendent Davis reported that there have been several changes to pupil accounting including:

- Changes to the per pupil funding as a combination of last year and this year count,
- The 180-day, 1098-hour restrictions have been waived but learning goals must be met.
- We are still expecting a per pupil foundation cut, but the amount hasn't been announced
- Other legislation changes are occurring.
- There is an extended COVID Learning Plan being requested with more details and learning standards that the Board of Education will need to approve monthly.
- There is a selection of standardized tests to choose from and they need to be completed twice a year. Once within the first nine weeks of school starting and the other in the spring.
- Educational goals must be determined and approved by the Board by September 15 and submitted to the Calhoun Intermediate School District by October 1.

PUBLIC COMMENT

President DeSmet opened the meeting for the public comment. There was no public comment.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS FOR WHICH NO ACTION MAY BE TAKEN AT THIS MEETING

Trustee Lankerd asked if the COVID Preparedness plan was posted on the website and how Marshall High School's registration process can be better.

Mr. Erwin confirmed the COVID Preparedness plan is posted on the website.

Trustee Lindsey asked when the Board will be able to meet in person.

President DeSmet expressed his appreciation to the Technology Department for their work on the Chromebook distribution and to Ms. Fitzpatrick and the communication team for all their work.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

LISA MIDDLETON, SECRETARY

LESLIE PARSHALL, RECORDING SECRETARY