

BELFRY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 3

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

8 December, 2020 –7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The Regular School Board Meeting of the Belfry School District was called to order at 7:00 PM by Board Chair Mary Lee Krenning.

Board members present were Linda Gasser, Jolene Nose, Willis Herden, and Duane Hergenrider. Superintendent Jason Olson and District Clerk Beth Pulse were present. Rebecca Nash, Whitney Herden, Tura Gruel, Ben and Lori LeBrun, Christina Hawman, John and Jami Apostol, Toby and Amanda Thompson, Chris and Jenny Ewing, Kasey McClane, Mary Herden, Laura Herden, Cheryl Brown, Jerry Webb, Teri Herden, and Sandi Campbell were present in the public section.

Approval of November 10th Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

The Belfry Board of Trustees move to approve the minutes of the November 10th Regular Board Meeting.

MOTION: Linda Gasser

SECOND: Jolene Nose

VOTE: 5-0

Approval of November Claims/Warrants

There was discussion about the Montana beef and trout that Tura purchased and the flag and case for Veterans' Day.

The Belfry Board of Trustees move to approve warrant 30412 through warrant 30448 for a total of \$33,742.33 for December, 2020.

MOTION: Willis Herden

SECOND: Jolene Nose

VOTE: 5-0

Review Expenditure Actual to Budget Report

This was reviewed.

Correspondence

Ada Weatherford sent a card thanking the school for the Veterans Day ceremony and meal.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

None.

Delegates to Address Board

None.

Administrative Report

Mr. Olson commended Tura for implementing the Farm to Table program and cooking so much from scratch and still meeting USDA requirements. We've been lucky with Covid so far and no one has caught it from the school. There is a new rapid Covid test that can be done at school. The individual tested has to sign a release and the test has to be registered with the state but it gives a result in fifteen minutes. We have some possible big purchases coming up to think about. We need to consider replacing curriculum. Replacement and additional books are hard

to come by because they are no longer published. There are two options for Language and Math that the staff is looking at. We will have a better idea in January if the cross curricular trip will be able to take place. There are a lot of requirements to consider such as masks and pre-trip tests to avoid possible 14-day quarantines.

Custodial/Maintenance Report

Jerry said the kitchen windows will be in after Christmas break. Strapping the coal bin won't work. He said he would just buy coal in smaller amounts from Ed and keep it filled just part way, for now. He will fix it, for good, this summer.

OLD BUSINESS

Hire High School Girls Basketball Coach/Driver

And

Hire High School Boys Basketball Coach/Driver

There have been no applicants. Mr. Olson said that MHSAA frowns upon students driving themselves. Possible options would be parents driving, rotating, the school could pay mileage. There was discussion that we have five girls and two boys playing. Kasey said she wouldn't mind one trip but there would be a total of three trips, daily: one to take girls there, one to take the boys and pick up the girls, and one to pick up the boys. Duane commented that the cross curricular trip was supposed to take the place of sports, financially. There was discussion about the risks of the students driving themselves. Jason said it would not be a good idea to have the kids drive and that the best way would be to have a schedule for the parents to drive. There was discussion about paying mileage or paying hourly. There was discussion about having parents use the school car and paying them hourly.

The Belfry Board of Trustees move to pay parents \$10.00 / hour to drive the school vehicle and transport basketball players between Belfry and Fromberg.

MOTION: Duane Hergenrider

SECOND: Willis Herden

VOTE: 5-0

NEW BUSINESS

Request for Assistant Speech and Debate Coach

There was discussion about how all meets are virtual this year. In previous years, Sandi would drive the bus for the team, as well as help out as an "unofficial" assistant coach. This year she isn't driving, but because of the way they are doing the meets, the days are very long. For the meet this last Saturday, she and Mrs. Miles were her from 6 AM until 10 PM.

The Belfry Board of Trustees move to approve hiring Mrs. Campbell as an assistant coach for Speech and Drama for 2021.

MOTION: Jolene Nose

SECOND: Linda Gasser

VOTE: 5-0

Request for Football Co-Op with Fromberg

Lori LeBrun gave the board a letter from Teri Harris about the current co-op with Fromberg and the possibility of including football in that co-op. There was discussion about the fact that we still have one more year with Red Lodge. There was discussion about the benefits of playing in both programs. There was discussion about why were in the co-op with Fromberg for basketball. Teri Herden stated that our high school football players did not get much playing time in Red Lodge last year. There was discussion about why our previous co-op with Fromberg fell apart. Willis explained that our current co-op with Fromberg is run differently than our previous one; it is being managed like our Red Lodge co-op. Jenny Ewing stated that the parents drove the kids to Red Lodge for football

voluntarily. They were neither paid nor reimbursed for time or mileage. Laura Herden expressed concern about having to go to two different schools for her children's sports. Christina Hawman stated that she would prefer Red Lodge since she works there. There was discussion about how many boys want to play in Fromberg and how many want to play in Red Lodge and how many are high school and how many are junior high. Chris Ewing stated that one of the reasons we started in Red Lodge was because of our previous experience with Fromberg. He said the Red Lodge coaches were excellent and the kids had good experiences. There was discussion that the board had previously voted to ask Red Lodge if we could get out of the Football co-op. Mr. Olson explained that John Fitzgerald told us "no" at that point and to ask again in November if we still wanted out. Duane stated that he felt we should stay with Red Lodge and that there's a chance Fromberg may not even have enough students to have a team in a year or two. Tura Gruel stated that we have a year left in our agreement with Red Lodge and that she feels we should address this again after we have finished our commitment to Red Lodge. Duane Hergenrider agreed and stated that it was clear the board wasn't going to be able to please all the parents.

The Belfry Board of Trustees move to stay with the football co-op with Red Lodge for one more year.

***MOTION: Jolene Nose
Willis Herden opposing.***

SECOND: Duane Hergenrider

VOTE: 4-1 with

The next regular meeting will be held on January 12, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

MOTION: Jolene Nose

SECOND: Linda Gasser

VOTE: 5-0

Beth Pulse, District Clerk

Mary Lee Krenning, Board Chair