

BOARD MEETING

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

The Board of Trustees of West Glacier Elementary District No. 8, West Glacier, MT, met on February 23rd, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the school.

1) Call to order

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call

Chair John Bolles, Vice Chair Liza Butler-Aveson, County Superintendent Jack Eggensperger, Lead Teachers: Krista Booher, Mrs. Wieringa, Kristen Hebert, Kati Knutson, District Clerk Rachelle Aldrich, Teacher Ms. Kempke, Para Lisa Burrell, Custodian Sunshine Lewis, and Parents

- Approval of Agenda

Vice Chair Butler-Aveson moved and Chair Bolles seconded to approve the agenda MOTION PASSED

2) Action/Discussion.

Board

Revisiting West Glacier Elementary Mask Policy 1905

Chair Bolles reviewed West Glacier Elementary's current COVID-19 Emergency Measures 1905. Vice Chair Butler-Aveson stated that when we set our current 1905 masking policy, we were dealing with the Delta variant and that vaccines were not

yet available to children of elementary school age. Evidence suggests that the current Omicron variant appears to be milder, and families have had time to vaccinate their children should they choose to. The new COVID-19 Isolation and Quarantine guidelines set forth by the CDC now recommend a five-day quarantine for positive tests and allow for masking rather than quarantine after exposure. These guidelines greatly reduce the likelihood of a school closure following positive cases. Lead Teacher Ms. Knutson presented a summary of opinions gathered from parent letters, with the majority in favor of making masking optional. Public comments followed, with most favoring optional masking. One attendee expressed concern about the possibility of rising cases in the future and asked would the board consider returning to a mask mandate. Chair Bolles and Vice Chair Butler-Aveson agreed that we all need to continue to revisit these policies as the developing situation demands. Chair Bolles moved to Adopt a mask optional policy and Vice Chair Butler-Aveson seconded. MOTION PASSED

3) General Public Participation

4) Correspondence

Next Board Meeting will be on March 16th, 2022

5) Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 6:15

Rachelle Aldrich, District Clerk

Bolles, Chair

_____ John

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