

MERTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Education
Monday, May 24, 2021
6:00 p.m.
Merton Intermediate School Little Theater

President Dobbertin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance followed. Dobbertin announced the meeting was properly posted. Board members in attendance were Dobbertin, Lehman, Kent, Spindler and Welnetz. District Administrator Russ was in attendance. There were no reporters and approximately 25 citizens in person.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Welnetz, second by Spindler to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Delegations to be Heard

Approximately 12 citizens spoke to the board regarding the mask mandate for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year and making masks optional and/or allowing it to be "parent choice". The citizens raised concerns regarding requiring masks and their desires for the mask mandate to end.

New Business

- A. Discussion and Possible Action of Staff and Student Masking Policy and COVID Mitigations including but not limited to quarantines due to possible COVID exposure. (Possible Action)

Motioned but Lehman, seconded by Kent to approve the removal eliminate the district mask mandate effective immediately, eliminate school based quarantine and allow volunteers back into schools. Motion carried 4 to 1 with Spindler saying NO.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Spindler, second by Kent to approve the board meeting minutes of Monday, April 26, 2021 @ 5:30 p.m. Closed Session, Monday, April 26, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m. Open Session and Monday, May 10, 2021 @ 5:00 p.m. Closed Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Financial and Bill Listing

Motion by Lehman, second by Kent to approve Payroll Checks #553796 in the amount of \$153.91, Direct Deposit #900054263-900054371 in the amount of \$146,946.51, Wire Transfers #20200280-20200300 in the amount of \$228,560.80, Accounts Payable Checks #54697-54713 in the amount of \$90,031.40, AP Wire Transfer #20200282-20200292 in the amount of \$2,497.14, Credit Card Transaction #042021 in the amount \$22,283.50 and ACH/Direct Deposit #202100066-202100072 in the amount of \$504.69. Motion carried unanimously.

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Administrator's Report

A. Action

1. Acceptance of Donations (Action)

Motion by Spindler, second by Welnetz to approve the donation made by the PTO to fulfill a teacher's Grant of \$166.88 for classroom supplies. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Personal Actions (Action)

Motion by Spindler, second by Welnetz to approve the individual teachers contracts for Joy Buntrock, Erin Sanger, Kelly McCourt and Alexis Fait as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Spindler, second by Lehman to approve the letter of resignation for Patrick Middleton after 6 years of service. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Information

1. Intermediate School Elective Update

Dr. Russ started off by thanking Mary Iwanski and her team for all of her hard work creating exciting new elective classes for students beginning with the 2021-2022 school year. Dr. Russ also updated the board on the Intermediate School remodel and how everything is on track.

2. End of the Year Update

Dr. Russ updated the Board on upcoming events that are happening before the end of the year which include Celebration Day, End of the year Assessments and field trips. He also thanked staff for all their continued hard work.

Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee

Business Manager, April Farley, updated the board on the May 13th Finance Committee meeting where they discussed the upcoming preliminary Budget and Revenue numbers.

B. Policy Committee

Dr. Russ updated the Board on the May 18th meeting where they discussed changes to the Employee Handbook.

New Business

A. 2021-2022 Preliminary/Proposed Budget Presentation (Discussion)

Business Manager, April Farley, presented the preliminary Budget and Revenue numbers.

B. Adoption of the 2021-22 Proposed Budget (Action)

Motion by Spindler, second by Welnetz to approve the 2021-2022 Proposed Budget as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Final Reading of the new 6th-8th Science Curriculum (Action)

Motion by Spindler, second by Welnetz to approve the 6th-8th grade Science Curriculum as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

D. 2021-22 Employee Handbook Revisions-Draft 1 (Discussion)

Dr. Russ presented to the Board the changes that are up for discussion including personal leave day restrictions, new healthcare benefits, Worker's Compensation and Insurance options.

E. Approval 2021-2022 Letters of Appointments (Action)

Motion by Welnetz, second by Spindler to approve 2021-22 Letters of Appointments as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Approve 2021-2022 Administrative Salaries (Action)

Motion by Spindler, second by Kent to approve 2021-22 Administrative Salaries as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Re-Approve 66.03 with Arrowhead Union High School for Math Teacher (Action)

Motion by Welnetz, second by Spindler to approve a 66.03 agreement with Arrowhead Union High School to contract math teacher James Hessler to work for Merton in the 2021-2022 School Year. Motion carried unanimously.

H. Open Enrollment Student Approvals and Waitlists (Action)

Motion by Spindler, second by Kent to approve all Open Enrollment Applications into the district without an expulsion order or IEP which was not just speech only. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Spindler, second by Kent to approve all Open Enrollment Applications out of the district. Motion carried unanimously.

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Future Meeting and Agenda Items

A. June 21, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m. (Open Session)

1. Monthly Meeting

B. July 19, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.

2. Monthly Meeting

Motion by Welnetz, second by Kent to adjourn at 7:24p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Kent

District Clerk