

BOARD MINUTES

October 20, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for Shepherd School District #37 was held Wednesday, October 20, 2021 in the Board Room of the Administration Building. Chairman Carl Openshaw called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

Members present: Shane Flowers, Julie Hinkle, Carl Openshaw, Carl Parker, and Shayne Vandivort.

Members present by phone: Jeff Branson

Members excused: Shane Rekdal.

Superintendent – Drea O’Donnell, Clerk – Janice Ripley, Clerk in Training – Macey Ferguson, Elem. Principal – Autumn Arlian, MS Principal – Rich Hash, High School Principal – KJ Poepping, AD - Tina Downing, and Transportation Supervisor – Robert Trotter were present for the entire meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

An Elementary motion was made by Shane Flowers, seconded by Julie Hinkle, to approve the Elementary business claims and accounts, to include September claims 130950 – 131034.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shayne Vandivort, seconded by Julie Hinkle, to approve the High School business claims and accounts, to include September claims 130950 – 131034 and the approval of the September regular meeting minutes.

Both motions passed unanimously.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

A member of the community, David Herman, spoke to the Board. He wanted the Board to know that parents from other communities and home school parents have approached him, wondering how Shepherd School has been handling the issues that are boiling up at other Board meetings across the country. He wanted to let the Board know, he thinks they are doing a great job and is happy that his child is going to Shepherd Elementary.

New teachers, Taylor Cunningham, Katlyn Cumber, and Olivia Hintz introduced themselves.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

INFORMATIONAL

- 1) Building use requests: As posted in the agenda.
- 2) Water Report
- 3) Nurse's Report
- 4) Donation Letter
- 5) Resignations:
 - Heather Davis – Assistant Softball Coach
 - Rose Cook - Custodian
- 6) Missing Children

No Action

OLD BUSINESS

COVID Update

Mrs. O'Donnell advised the Board that she monitors the COVID information Riverstone publishes. All areas are in red and with that, schools are supposed to have strategies in place to follow. Shepherd School does have those strategies in place.

Building Project Update

Langlas advised the Board of the work that is ongoing at this time, some items mentioned:

- Intercom
- Fire alarm
- Heating for the new building and original buildings
- Heat pumps in the Elementary
- Glycol
- Irrigation sprinkler check and blow out

NEW BUSINESS

Human Resources

Donna Olmstead – Substitute Kitchen Helper (pending fingerprint results)
Monty Harrison – Assistant Speech, Drama and Debate Coach
Donald Jenkins – Head HS Wrestling Coach (pending fingerprint results)
Rawley Butler – Adult Ed. Instructor
Lucas Logan – Adult Ed. Instructor
Todd Rose – Assistant Golf Coach

A High School/Joint motion was made by Julie Hinkle, seconded by Carl Parker, to approve hiring the employees as listed.

Motion passed unanimously.

Out-of-District Students

It was recommended to approve the Out-of-District students for the 2021-2022 school year.

- MS – 1
- HS - 1

An Elementary motion was made by Shane Flowers, seconded by Julie Hinkle, to approve the Out-of-District student for the 2021-2022 school year.

A High School motion was made by Carl Parker, seconded by Shayne Vandivort, to approve the Out-of-District student for the 2021-2022 school year.

Both motions passed unanimously.

Surplus Items

Through the renovation and building project, some surplus items have been identified.

- Smartboards
- Chromebooks that are outdated
- Old floor cleaners
- Window air conditioners
- Lawn mower that doesn't work

It was recommended to donate the Chromebooks to students that are in need. Updating these Chromebook systems is no longer possible, but they would work for homework purposes. The Smartboards are no longer used and checking with other schools it was determined that they are no longer using them. Therefore, they need to be disposed of.

The Board asked that we check with local churches to see if they are interested in any of the Smartboards before they are disposed of.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shane Flowers, seconded by Julie Hinkle, to approve distributing the old Chromebooks to students in need, and disposing of the old Smartboards, floor cleaners, air conditioners, and lawn mower.

Motion passed unanimously.

Co-op Office Space

The Eastern Yellowstone Co-op is looking for different office space. Currently, they are working out of the Huntley Project School. Huntley Project has asked that they find other accommodations at the end of the 2021-2022 school year. The Co-op has inquired with Mrs. O'Donnell about renting the three upstairs offices in the old Administration Building.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shayne Vandivort, seconded by Julie Hinkle, to approve the rental of the three upstairs offices in the old Administration Building to Eastern Yellowstone SPED Co-op for the amount of \$1,000.00 per month.

Motion passed unanimously.

Final Reading 4330F

It was recommended to approve the updated version of Building Use Request Form 4330F.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Julie Hinkle, seconded by Shane Flowers, to approve the updates to the Building Use Request Form

Motion passed unanimously.

Transportation Agreement with Custer

Custer School would like to enter into an agreement with Shepherd to allow a student of theirs to ride the Shepherd bus to YBGR. We will charge them a daily rate.

A High School motion was made by Shane Flowers, seconded by Julie Hinkle, to approve entering into a transportation contract with Custer to allow a student of theirs to ride the Shepherd bus to YBGR for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion passed unanimously.

Exterior Painting of Gym

It was recommended to approve painting the exterior of the HS gym to tie it into the rest of the construction project.

The Board asked Mrs. O'Donnell to obtain a second bid for this job

The item was tabled to the next meeting.

Board Meeting Location

Mrs. O'Donnell asked the Board if, going forward, they would like to continue meeting in the old Administration Building or if they would like to meet in the new building? The media room that is located between the new Administration Offices and the Library would be the room available. The media room is located on the second floor in the new building. There is an elevator available, if needed, for community members. Mrs. O'Donnell said she could arrange various student groups that need community service, to be at the door to help the community navigate to the new space.

The Board members discussed it and decided they would like to start meeting in the new space.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Facilities Committee – The design team and facilities committee are no longer meeting on a weekly basis.
- Policy Committee – The policy committee will continue to meet and bring policies to the Board that need review. A policy committee meeting needs to be set for November a week or two prior to the Board meeting.
- Negotiations Committee – The negotiation committee is not currently meeting this month.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

The Administrators recapped their reports.

The Superintendent would like to schedule a Community Day Tour in November. Many of the community members do not have children or grandchildren in school so they have not attended the open houses or parent teacher conferences. It would be nice for them to see the new spaces that have been added and the updates throughout the original facilities. The Board asked Mrs. O'Donnell to pick a date and schedule it.

The Principals discussed data from testing and how they use it to help students in need, as well as discipline issues they see in their buildings.

The AD stated things are moving along, the sport seasons have changed in the Middle School. Also, the Mittlestadt family advised her that the Rotary Club would like to donate a bench in honor of Dillon. Ms. Downing will be looking for a place near the football field to have the bench placed.

The Transportation Supervisor went over the spending for the month September. He also advised the Board that there are now 12 students from Shepherd and 1 student from Custer riding the bus to YBGR daily. He has two aides on the bus to handle discipline issues so the driver can concentrate on driving and not discipline.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

OPEN SESSION TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Time of adjournment: 7:57pm.