

BOARD MINUTES

February 21, 2024

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for Shepherd School District #37 was held Wednesday, February 21, 2024 in the Board Room of the New Addition. Vice Chair, Julie Hinkle, called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

Members present: Jeff Branson, Shane Flowers, Julie Hinkle, Justin Peterson, Shane Rekdal, and Shayne Vandivort.

Members excused: Carl Openshaw.

Superintendent – Drea O’Donnell, Clerk – Kinsey Szillat, Elementary Principal – Autumn Arlian, Middle School Principal – Rich Hash, High School Principal – KJ Poepping, AD – Tina Downing, and Transportation Director – Bobby Trotter were present for the entire meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

An Elementary motion was made by Shane Flowers, seconded by Jeff Branson, to approve the Elementary business claims and accounts, to include January claims 132946 – 133023.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shayne Vandivort, seconded by Shane Rekdal, to approve the High School business claims and accounts, to include January claims 132946 – 133023, and the approval of the January regular meeting minutes.

Both motions passed unanimously.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

INFORMATIONAL

- 1) Building use requests: As posted in the agenda.
- 2) Water Report
- 3) Nurse’s Report
- 4) Resignations:
Effective February 2024

Barbara Hochhalter – Kitchen Helper
Rawley Butler – Head HS Boys Basketball Coach
Mitch Arlian – Assistant HS Boys Basketball Coach
Sven Jeuschede – Assistant HS Boys Basketball Coach

Effective June 2024

Salome Antonio – Custodian
Dawn Willis – 2nd Grade Teacher

- 5) Missing Children
- 6) Spring ANB Count
- 7) Fire and Safety Inspections
- 8) Milligan School Data

No Action

OLD BUSINESS

Graduate Profile

Superintendent Drea O’Donnell presented Shepherd Schools Graduate Profile. The Graduate Profile is a set of attributes each student should have upon graduating from Shepherd Public Schools. The profile was put together with various committee work throughout the 23-24 school year and includes 5-7 attributes that each student should have once they graduate and enter their adult world.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Justin Peterson, seconded by Shane Flowers, to approve the graduate profile progress to submit to OPI.

The motion passed unanimously.

Final Reading of Policies 3141, 1240, 1400, 1420, 1511, 1610, 1650, 2158, 2320, 2500, 3210, 3310, 3410F, 3600F2, 5121, 5223, 5231, 5330, 6140, 7320, 8110, 8125, and 8132

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shane Rekdal, seconded by Justin Peterson, to approve Policies 3141, 1240, 1400, 1420, 1511, 1610, 1650, 2158, 2320, 2500, 3210, 3310, 3410F, 3600F2, 5121, 5223, 5231, 5330, 6140, 7320, 8110, 8125, and 8132 for the final reading.

The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Human Resources

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shane Flowers, seconded by Shane Rekdal, to approve hiring the employees and substitutes as presented.

The motion passed unanimously.

Out of District Students

None.

Pole Vaulting – Track Proposal

John Sprenger, potential pole vault coach, approached the Board to discuss adding pole vaulting to the High School track program. Mr. Sprenger estimates the initial start up costs to be \$24,205.00 if a new pit is purchased. He has approached the Shepherd Lions Club to help with cost but did not have a definitive number that they are able to provide at this time. There is also the possibility of purchasing a used pit or renting a pit for the upcoming season. The school currently has an abundance of poles that can be used and Mr. Sprenger estimates the annual maintenance costs of the program to be around \$150.00. He has offered to volunteer as the pole vault coach should the program be added. There are students who have expressed interest in the sport and Mr. Sprenger has been working with a handful of those students.

A High School motion was made by Jeff Branson, seconded by Shane Rekdal, to approve the addition of pole vaulting for High School Track.

The motion passed unanimously.

6th Grade Football

Lucas Logan, the head High School football coach, approached the Board to discuss adding 6th Grade football in the Middle School. Mr. Logan would like to add 6th graders to the Middle School football program beginning with either the 24-25 season or the 25-26 season. Currently, 6th graders in Shepherd have to go to Billings to play football. Mr. Logan estimates the additional cost would be approximately \$4,225.00 which includes jerseys for an anticipated 10 players. There would be no need for additional coaches or buses/transportation as they would fall in with the current Middle School program. There are a number of schools in our area that have expressed interest in adding 6th graders to their Middle School football programs. The Board has asked Mr. Logan to get an estimated number of kids who would be interested in participating and to present that at the next Board meeting in March.

The proposal to add 6th Grade Football in the Middle School was tabled until further information can be provided to the Board.

Shepherd Professional Development Plan

Mrs. O'Donnell presented the Professional Development Plan to the Board.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shane Flowers, seconded by Shane Rekdal, to approve Shepherd School's Professional Development Plan.

The motion passed unanimously.

Shepherd Family Engagement Plan

Mrs. O'Donnell presented the Family Engagement Plan to the Board.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Justin Peterson, seconded by Jeff Branson, to approve Shepherd School's Family Engagement Plan.

The motion passed unanimously.

Policy 3141F Final Reading

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shane Flowers, seconded by Justin Peterson, to approve policy 3141F for the final reading.

The motion passed unanimously.

Principal Rehires and Administration Salaries

An Elementary motion was made by Shane Flowers, seconded by Shane Rekdal, to rehire Mr. Richard Hash as the Middle School Principal and Mrs. Autumn Arlian as the Elementary Principal for the 2024-2025 school year, as well as provide the same % salary increase to the Middle School and Elementary Principals that the District provides to the certified teaching staff.

The motion passed unanimously.

A High School/Joint motion was made by Shayne Vandivort, seconded by Jeff Branson, to rehire Mr. KJ Poepping as the High School Principal for the 2024-2025 school year, as well as provide the same % salary increase to the High School Principal that the District provides to the certified teaching staff.

The motion passed unanimously.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Safety Committee – The committee did not meet this month.
- Policy Committee –The committee will continue to meet and bring policies to the board that need to be reviewed.
- Negotiations Committee – The negotiation committee is not currently meeting with the SEA but will start meeting in the spring. The committee will need to meet once a preliminary budget is received from the state.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

The Administrators recapped their reports.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Time of adjournment: 7:45pm.