

**Minutes  
The Board of Education  
Molalla River School District**

**March 12, 2020**

**I. REGULAR MEETING**

**CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Neal Lucht called the regular business meeting to order at 7:02 pm and proceeded with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present members include: Chair Linda Eskridge (by phone), Vice Chair Neal Lucht, Ralph Gierke (arriving at 7:04pm), Craig Loughridge, Jennifer Satter, and Calvin Nunn (arriving at 7:27 pm). Absent member/s: None

MRSD Administrators present: Tony Mann/Superintendent, Rick Gill/Business Manager, Michael Salitore/Director of Supported Education, Kathleen French/Director of Teaching and Learning, and Missy Wesley/Executive Assistant.

**A. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was public to be heard.

**B. REVIEW/CHANGES TO AGENDA**

Mr. Mark Lucht moved to amend the agenda by adding a discussion item around the Coronavirus as item #6a before facilities report. Ms. Satter seconded the motion. The motion passed with five ayes and zero nays.

There were no further changes to the agenda.

**C. STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

There was no report as Ms. Brinkman was not in attendance.

**D. ACTION ITEMS**

**1. Minutes from February 13, 2020 and February 27, 2020 Meeting**

Mr. Loughridge moved to approve both the minutes of February 13<sup>th</sup> and February 27<sup>th</sup> minutes as presented. Mr. Gierke seconded the motion. Mr. Mark Lucht stated that he would abstain from voting; as he was not present at the meeting. There was no discussion and the motion passed with five ayes (Chair Eskridge by phone and one abstention (Mr. Mark Lucht).

**2. Personnel Report**

Mr. Mark Lucht asked about the personnel report. Mr. Mann explained that each year, prior to March 15<sup>th</sup>, statutorily we need to notify employees of their status going in to the next year. He explained of one correction, where the teacher was formally identified as a high school teacher but is actually a middle school teacher. He said the correction has been made and is shown in the presented report. Ms. Satter asked about a specific staff member that was identified as being on temporary assignment. Mr. Mann indicated this was an error and that this individual retired; that this page is informational only and can confirm all other assignments have been vetted.

Mr. Loughridge moved to adopt the personnel report recommending the renewal of licensed, administrative and supervisor renewals as recommended. Mr. Mark Lucht seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously with six ayes (Chair Eskridge by phone) and zero nays.

3. *Surplus List*

Mr. Gierke moved to approve the surplus list as presented. Mr. Mark Lucht seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with six ayes (Chair Eskridge by phone) and zero nays.

4. *FBLA Middle School Chapter Field Trip*

Mr. Dalton reported that this was the first year the middle school would be joining the high school FBLA Chapter; unfortunately, it has been canceled due to the Coronavirus. Mr. Berzinski confirmed of the cancellation and said they hope to reschedule the event so kids can compete.

5. *MRMS Course Proposal 2020-21*

Mr. Gierke moved to approve the 2020-21 middle school proposed courses as presented. Mr. Mark Lucht seconded the motion. He commented that he is in support of these courses but encouraged the district to look at additional technology offerings, as it is ever-changing. The motion passed by hand vote with six ayes (Chair Eskridge by phone) and zero nays.

6. *2020-21 School Calendar*

Mr. Mann reminded the group that this proposed calendar was presented at the last meeting and said it was developed in conjunction with union leadership and all employees. Mr. Mark Lucht moved to adopt the 2020-21 staff calendar as presented. Mr. Gierke seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed by hand vote with six ayes (Chair Eskridge by phone) and zero nays.

7. *2020-21 Budget Committee Organizational Meeting*

Mr. Mark Lucht moved to adopt April 30<sup>th</sup> as the first organizational budget committee meeting. Ms. Satter seconded the motion. Mr. Loughridge asked about the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. Gill explained the meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> is an informational meeting for the budget, whereas the meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> will be the first time the committee will be organized formally for a budget meeting. There was no discussion and the motion passed by hand vote with six ayes (Chair Eskridge by phone) and zero nays

E. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

1. *COVID – 19 Discussion*

Mr. Mann reported on the COVID -19 situation. He explained that the district has a pandemic plan written by Dr. Jan Olson which provides a clear pathway for decision making. He said that this is evolving daily and at this point, the Governor's proclamation is to operate school as it stands. He said that administration is working on independent learning at home; with a focus on seniors. He stated that the IT department is working on having hot spots available for students who do not have internet at home. He explained that discussion related to this are underway and further planning is happening. Dr. Olson added that we are aligned with public health and government officials. Mr. Mann reported that there are several districts in the county that are having the discussion to close school or not; and this is an independent decision.

Discussion ensued amongst board members around nutritional services, technology access/deployment, specific events, materials sent home in home languages and staff expectations. Mr. Mann explained that food service will continue much like the summer

feeding program and we are working to determine which students have access to devices or internet services. He said that the high school has enough Chromebooks to fill the potential need and it is likely that we could deploy these items in five days if needed; with the high school being first. He clarified that there is more work to be done in this area and that this may be a tight timeline. Mr. Mann said that the health and well-being of staff are important and the district will work with each individual on their own situation.

Ms. Satter asked if schools were to close tomorrow what is the plan for learning. Mr. Mann replied at the elementary levels they are working to create Go Bags to be picked up by families for work at home. At the secondary level, he is working with the association to determine what a clear pathway of instruction may look like. Board members ask specific questions about Go Bag and what the instruction entails. Mr. Mark Lucht asked about sanitation of facilities. Mr. Mann said that they have authorized overtime for our custodians to sanitize building surfaces.

Vice Chair Neal Lucht reminded the group that Washington did not do a statewide closure at this point and clarified that the board does not have to take action to close the district; Mr. Mann can make the call. Mr. Mann confirmed that was the case; but said he would continually be communicating with the board.

2. *Facilities – Deferred Maintenance Report*

Mr. Tiano reported that all buildings have hand sanitation stations in entry ways and custodians are working overtime to sanitize desktops. He acknowledged teachers for the work they are doing with students. He commended Mr. Mann and the leadership team for the daily checks in at each building and doing all we can do in this event. He said it is hard to put the unknown on one person to have all the answers.

He reported on the HVAC system at the high school and the reimbursable dollars the district is getting back from Energy Trust. He announced that the varsity baseball net has been installed before the season begins and due to this being a recommendation from PACE they will be reimbursing the district \$2,000.00. He commented on the lead testing taking place at all schools. Mr. Tiano reported of a water leak at Clarkes that they will be repairing during Spring Break. He stated that he has also met with staff from Clarkes and working for preparation for seismic construction this summer. Board members asked questions about the water leak. Mr. Tiano replied it is underground and they will have more specific information when he meets with contractor tomorrow.

3. *Passmore Road Safety Improvement Planning*

Ms. Elise Hall, Mulino Elementary Principal, presented to the board the safety improvements that will be taking place on Passmore Road. She reported that the district, county, and Mulino community have come together to identify and plan for safety improvements on this road, between the north and south side of the campus. She walked the group through a map showing the identified improvements, which include: trimming of trees, creating a medium in the road, hard stop lines and printed language on the road. She said the staff are excited; felt heard and supported for the safety of students. She indicated that she would be sharing this same information with her extended community.

Mr. Mark Lucht asked when the work was going to be completed. Ms. Hall replied that it should be done in the next few months. Ms. Satter suggested sharing this information on social media so the community is aware. Mr. Loughridge asked for a copy of the map showing the improvements. Ms. Hall said she would be happy to share this big improvement.

4. *2020-21 MHS Course Proposal*

Mr. Berzinski presented an Exploring Computer Science course proposal they would like add to the 2020-21 school year. He explained the course and said it is for informational purposes only tonight, but will be asking for action at the next meeting. Mr. Loughridge confirmed he would like action at the work session, rather than the next business meeting. Mr. Berzinski replied that due to the short timeline, they would like action at the next work session.

Board members took a break at 8:12 pm. Vice Chair Neal Lucht reconvened the meeting at 8:17 pm.

5. *Teaching and Learning Reports*

a. *Student Success Act (SSA) Report*

Ms. French reported on the Student Success Act Application and provided the group with a look at the document. She said that she is proud of the work that was done around this and the outcomes they will achieve. She encouraged board members to take the time to review the document and send any questions they may have so she can answer them by next Thursday.

Mr. Mark Lucht asked about accountability and outcomes of this work. He said he would be interested in knowing what the definition of success would look like and the results. Ms. French replied that the strategies are aligned with the outcomes and she will be coming back to the board in May to review longitudinal targets for growth. She reminded the group that ODE wants to start with the strategic growth goals and then year by year measureable goals.

The group discussed in great length staffing, direct services, contract services and charter school allocations. Ms. French said this process will be more a renewal moving forward and they can re-evaluate the plan and adjust as needed. Mr. Mark Lucht asked if the district has the administrative capacity to handle with work. Mr. Mann explained that districts are encouraged to allocate 3-5% for these indirect costs and any additional dollars remaining become district costs of doing business. Mr. Gill stated that this is similar to the High School Success Act and the reality is that the administration capacity is stretched to the max and will be difficult to bring on a brand-new program with everything else. Mr. Mann explained that budget items related to SSA dollars will be discussed further during budget committee meetings.

Mr. Mann reported an online feedback tool will be launched to provide another chance for community engagement. Ms. French indicated the survey tool is on the district website and will be advertised in newsletters, reader boards, social media and with School Messenger.

*b. Supported Education*

Mr. Salitore stated that as things evolve around COVID-19, they are thinking about how students receive services. He encouraged the group to think that all SPED student are general education students first and if there is a school closure the district does not have to provide services; but ensure equal access for all students. He reported that Dr. Olson is working with families and their physician for those students whom have compromising situations.

Board members asked questions around nursing services, the homeless liaison position, outside placement for students, and therapists. Mr. Salitore shared with the group that the district has hired a second nurse and the homeless liaison position has been moved to a six-hour position with more of a structured schedule to support all buildings. He said that Trillium has diligently been trying to hire a second therapist since Mid-November. Mr. Mark Lucht asked how many students are not able to get services because of this. Mr. Salitore replied that he does not have this data in front of him; but believes counselors are holding off referring students. Mr. Mark Lucht said he would like to know this data point and asked if the board could support this effort in any way. Mr. Salitore said that the district has brought in a Behavioral Specialist in to try and intervene in the meantime; but they do not have access to the full service of networks like a therapist.

Further discussion took place regarding mental health needs for students and how SSA plan helps address some of this need. Ms. Satter asked about the legislative changes related to suicide prevention. Mr. Salitore replied that they have a plan for this fall; but currently have a process in place for this. He talked about the district's partnership with other districts for crisis response.

*6. Financial Review*

Mr. Gill asked if there were any questions regarding his written report. Mr. Mark Lucht asked questions related to total expenditures. Mr. Gill replied that this is for the general fund. Mr. Mark Lucht said he would save his specific questions for the budget process.

*a. Budget Supplemental Appropriation Preview*

Mr. Gill explained the resolution is for informational purposes tonight, and will seek action at the next meeting. He said this item is related to the increase in funding related to the High School Success Act. The group discussed the additional funding and how the dollars would be allocated.

**F. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Mr. Mann had nothing more to report.

**G. BOARD COMMENTS**

Ms. Satter asked board leadership about a recognition for Mr. Campbell's service to the district. Vice Chair Neal Lucht explained that this was on their radar today and they are working with administration to make an appropriate recognition.

Mr. Nunn asked if there would be a follow up email regarding cancellation of specific activities. Mr. Gierke confirmed that was discussed earlier in the meeting. Mr. Mann confirmed this was the case and

that he currently is gathering up specific activities that will be canceled then announced in the next communication.

Mr. Mark Lucht asked for the topic of staff morale as an agenda item for discussion and to make sure this item is posted publically.

**H. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Jimmy Lanahan, parent, acknowledged Ms. French and her good work around SSA. He asked the group how the district is doing with hand sanitizer. He asked about hiring staff with SSA dollars and what the plan is to fill vacancies. Vice Chair Neal Lucht responded that the district will post the positions based on the given projections.

Mr. Ron Gray, parent, commented about past strategies used for measuring success and asked members why they have not worked for the last 8-10 years. He commented that he has been coming to board meetings for the last nine years and would like to know why these have failed and a better way to measure success.

**I. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

Vice Chair Neal Lucht reviewed the upcoming meeting schedule. The group decided to have the March 19<sup>th</sup> work session at Rural Dell Elementary and have the April 23<sup>rd</sup> work session at Molalla Elementary School.

**J. ADJOURN**

Mr. Gierke moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Mark Lucht seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously to adjourn at 9:09 pm.

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*Chair*

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*Superintendent*

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*Board Secretary*