

**Mendon Community Schools
Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2024**

I. General Business

A. Call to Order

Board President, Regina Schinker called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm in the Middle/High School library.

B. Roll Call

- Members Present: Jesse King, Sonya Moyle, Regina Schinker, Bob Stuart, and Norma Switalski.
- Members Absent: Roger Cupp and DyAnn Steinberger
- Administrative Staff Present: Angie Crotser, Glen Samson, Bobby Kretschman, Leasa Griffith-Mathews, and Lisa VanZoest
- Others Present: Kandace Jackson

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Approval of Minutes, Bills, Receipts and Financial Report

Motion was made by Moyle and supported by Switalski to approve the Board Minutes for November 18, 2024, as well as the Bills, Receipts, and Financial Report as presented.

Motion Carried: 5 ayes; 0 nays, 2 absent

II. Communication

A. Oral

Kandace Jackson came in during Board Communication. She was asked if she wanted to address the Board. She indicated that she homeschools her children, and she was interested in discussing ways they could be involved in Mendon Schools' extracurricular activities. Griffith-Mathews indicated that she would speak with Jackson regarding her questions.

B. Written

C. Board Communication

Griffith-Mathews thanked Board member, Bob Stuart, for his service to the Board for the past four years. He indicated that he would still be around and at events.

I. Consent Agenda

Approval of

A. Girls Basketball

- a. Zachary Higgins, 8th grade girls head coach
- b. Spencer Howe, 7th grade girls head coach (pending final fingerprinting/background check)

B. Boys Basketball

- a. Volunteer for JV Boys Basketball

Motion was made by Stuart to approve the consent agenda Moyle to approve the items on the Consent Agenda.

Motion Carried: 5 ayes; 0 nays; 2 absent

II. Board Reports

A. Athletic Report

Samson reported on the Fall achievements.

- a. Football
 - i. All-State
 1. Team Academic All-State
 2. Players
 - a. Owen Gorham, RB
 - b. Nick Stiver, DB
 - c. Talan Buchanan, OL
 - d. Grant Crotser, LB
- b. Volleyball
 - i. All-State
 1. Team Academic All-State
 2. Individual Academic All-State
 - a. Lila Schinker
 - b. Brianna Heitkamp
 - c. Kayla Wenzel
 3. Prep Dig D-4 All-State
 - a. 1st Team Libero, Jadya Samson
 - b. 2nd Team Setter, Kayla Wenzel
 - c. 3rd Team Outside Hitter, Cienna Nightingale

Samson went on to inform the Board that winter sports are in full swing. The middle school boys' basketball team finishes their season this week with girls beginning after break.

B. Elementary Report

Crotser reported that the student count for December has decreased one student since November. Crotser went on to say that the book fair went extremely well. 190 people attended Grateful for Grandparents/Grandfriends Day. In addition, the Light the Night event sponsored by the PTO and the GSRP Family Event both went very well. Crotser informed the Board that the 17th is the K-5 Holiday Program and Santa's Workshop is running this week.

C. Middle/High School Report

Kretschman reported that the student count at the MS/HS has remained the same as November. He thanked Taylor and Jenna Griffith as well as the food service staff for the wonderful Senior Citizens Luncheon. We had 47 people attend the event and the band played after lunches were eaten. He gave a shout-out to Mr. Adkins for the MS/HS Holiday concert. Kretschman thanked the "Secret Santas" who donated money for some fun activities last week and this week for students including prizes at the assembly, gift card giveaways and pizza for everyone. Kretschman also reported that exams are beginning on Wednesday and NWEA testing in January.

D. Superintendent Report

a. Legislative Update

Griffith-Mathews discussed the bills in the House that would cleanup old MPSERS reforms. This would also allow employees who are not in the better retirement system to opt-in. The thought is that more people would stay in education if the retirement incentives were better.

b. Bond Update

Griffith-Mathews informed the Board that we go out to bid on Thursday, December 19th. The Bid Walkthroughs will take place with Brad on Monday, December 23rd. She reminded the Board that locker-room renovations would begin in March after all winter sports are completed and that work at the elementary would begin right after school is out.

V. Discussion Items

A. Closing of Bank Accounts

- a. General Fund 2 (2605) - this account has not been used for many years.
- b. Capital Projects III (4993) - this account was created for the 2020 bond and has a zero-dollar balance.
- c. 2014 Bond Account (4472) - this account had a few thousand dollars which was used on tech monitors, etc. It has since been drained.

VI. Action Items

A. Approval to Close Bank Accounts as Discussed

Motion was made by King and supported by Stuart to approve the closure of the bank accounts as discussed.

Motion Carried: 5 ayes; 0 nays; 2 absent

B. Approval to Open New Bank Account for the 2024 Building and Site Bond

Motion was made by Moyle and supported by King to approve the opening of a new bank account for the 2024 Building and Site Bond.

Motion Carried: 5 ayes; 0 nays; 2 absent

C. Approval to Authorize the Board President, Board Treasurer, Superintendent and Business Manager as Authorized Signers on the New 2024 Building and Site Account

Motion was made by Stuart and supported by Switalski to approve Board President Schinker, Board Treasurer Steinberger, Superintendent Griffith-Mathews and Business Manager VanZoest as authorized signers on the new 2024 Building and Site Bond account.

Motion Carried: 5 ayes; 0 nays; 2 absent

D. Approval to Pay Triangle App fee #1 - 8/31/2024 for the amount of \$19,000.

Motion was made by Stuart and supported by King to approve Triangle App fee #1 in the amount of \$19,000.

Motion Carried: 5 ayes; 0 nays; 2 absent

E. Approval to Pay Triangle App fee #2 - 9/30/2024 for the amount of \$19,000.

Motion was made by Moyle and supported by Switalski to approve Triangle App fee #2 in the amount of \$19,000.

Motion Carried: 5 ayes; 0 nays; 2 absent

F. Approval to Pay Triangle App fee #3 - 10/31/2024 for the amount of \$19,000.
Motion was made by Stuart and supported by Moyle to approve Triangle App fee #3 in the amount of \$19,000.

Motion Carried: 5 ayes; 0 nays; 2 absent

G. Approval of Linewize (Chromebook) Baseline Policy for 2024-2025

Open discussion took place regarding the policy and what it entails. There was some concern about certain categories that are allowed for staff including gambling and dating sites. Kretschman, Crotser, and Griffith-Mathews discussed that Linewize emails and/or calls administrators when students type something concerning which could include threats, self-harm, and other items. They feel that Linewize has been a good addition. Stuart indicated that he would not approve the policy for the reasons stated concerning staff.

Motion was made by Switalski and supported by King to approve the Linewize Baseline Policy for 2024-2025.

Motion Carried: 4 ayes; 1 nay (Stuart); 2 absent

H. Approval to Table the Approval of Baseline Palo Alto Filtering Policy for 2024-2025

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the staff categories that are allowed. Stuart stated that staff should not be using school technology to gamble or get on a dating site for instance. Members agreed that more information should be gathered. Griffith-Mathews stated that she would contact the ISD Tech department for more information or to determine whether a representative could attend the next meeting. Kretschman indicated that he will contact Tera Yesh for guidance/information. After several attempts to determine if we had a motion to approve the policy, President Schinker called for a motion to table the item until the next meeting.

Motion was made by Stuart and supported by King to table the approval of the Palo Alto Filtering Policy for 2024-2025 until the January meeting.

Motion Carried: 5 ayes; 0 nays; 2 absent

VII. Good of the Order

Griffith-Mathews reminded the Board that the Elementary Holiday Program is tomorrow, Tuesday, December 17th at 6 pm in the high school gymnasium.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 pm by Switalski and supported by Stuart.

Motion Carried: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent

Respectfully Submitted by,

Regina Schinker
Board President

Leasa Griffith-Mathews
Superintendent