

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ROBERTS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
FEBRUARY 21, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Roberts School District No. 5, was called to order by Sarah DeVries at 6:02 p.m. on February 21, 2017, in the library at the Roberts School.

ATTENDANCE

Sarah DeVries, Chair
Joel Bertolino, Vice Chair
James Binando
Deborah Hill
Sanford Langager

Alex Ator, Superintendent
JaLayne Obert, Business Manager/Clerk

GUESTS: Crystal Wright, Jackie Ronning, Courtney Halvorsen, Adam Ruhnke

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Motion was made by Deborah Hill, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2017 meeting as presented. (YES— DeVries, Bertolino, Binando, Hill, Langager. NO—none).

CLAIMS, SEQUENCE, AND VOIDED CHECKS

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by James Binando and carried unanimously to approve the claims, sequence, and voided checks for February, 2017 as presented. (YES— DeVries, Bertolino, Binando, Hill, Langager. NO—none).

TEACHER REPORTS

Adam Ruhnke gave the teacher report for February.

Mr. Ruhnke distributed copies of MAPS information and stated the students are doing an amazing job and he is really proud of their growth.

Mr. Ruhnke stated in math, the common core concentrates on not only math concepts, but also communication skills. He added the students are really working hard and making good progress.

Mr. Ator stated Mr. Ruhnke does a very good job of taking data and utilizing it to improve his teaching. He stated there is no one in the district who takes constructive criticism better than Mr. Ruhnke.

NEW BUSINESS

LIABILITY CLAIM -- Mr. Ator stated early in January we had a few days of warm weather that resulted in snow coming off the roof of the old gym and shattering the windshield and hood of a staff member's car. He stated the windshield had to be replaced and as it happened on our grounds, it is our responsibility and we paid the bill.

Mr. Binando asked how we can keep this from happening in the future.

Mr. Ator stated we will have to look at the parking area and come up with a way to accommodate the cars without parking by the building.

YWCCSS – Mr. Ator stated each year the district passes a motion on providing state required special education services for eligible 3-5 year olds in the district.

Motion was made by Sanford Langager, seconded by James Binando and carried unanimously to approve the following motion: “For the 2017-2018 school year, the Roberts Schools will provide special education services to its eligible 3-5 year olds through its existing special education program. In making this decision the district recognizes that participation in the Cooperative center-based special needs program is decided each February through board motion of each district.” (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Binando, Hill, Langager. NO—none).

SCHOOL CULTURE SURVEYS – Mr. Ator stated the school culture survey was taken by students in grade 3-5, 6-12, and staff. He stated the MBI group met today to review the results of the staff survey and chose two areas, recognition and meaningful professional development, for a focus group to look at first.

Mr. Ator stated the student surveys will be looked at more in character education class, study hall, and on a PIR day.

Mrs. Hill stated it is interesting to look at the difference in results of the student survey by gender as it appears males aren't as happy at school as females.

CALL FOR ELECTIONS – Mr. Ator stated in order to hold the annual school election on May 2, 2017, trustee must pass a resolution calling for the election which outlines the time, date, location, purpose and election judges.

Motion was made by James Binando, seconded by Deborah Hill and carried unanimously to approve the Trustee Resolution Calling for an Election as included in the packet. (YES—Devries, Bertolino, Binando, Hill, Langager. NO—none).

LEVY DISCUSSION – Mr. Ator stated even though there will be an inflationary increase in state funding, our student count is down so he feels our budget should stay about the same.

Mr. Ator estimated there will be \$80,000 to \$100,000 left at the end of the year to spend down. He added he is pretty comfortable where we're at but will probably be recommending we run a levy for about \$30,000.

Mr. Langager asked if \$30,000 is enough. Mr. Ator stated he thinks it will be just about right.

Mr. Binando stated we need to look at the Strategic Plan and put some dollar amounts on the projects included in the plan to see how much we need to ask for.

Ms. DeVries stated we need to look at the projects listed in the facilities plan and prioritize them.

Mr. Ator stated for him the upstairs of the high school should be the first priority.

CLERK EVALUATION – Mr. Ator stated the evaluation form for the Business Manager/District Clerk was included in the packet.

Ms. DeVries stated the evaluation will be done in April.

OUT OF DISTRICT STUDENT ATTENDNACE – Mr. Ator asked that this item be tabled for this month.

OLD BUSINESS

POLICY UPDATES AND REVIEW – Mr. Ator and the Board reviewed the following policies:

- Policy 2000 – Goals
- Policy 2100 – School Year Calendar and Day
- Policy 2105 – Grade Organization
- Policy 2120 – Curriculum Development and Assessment
- Policy 2132 – Student and Family Privacy Rights.

Ms. DeVries stated Policy 2000 – Goals should be amended to reflect the goals established in the Strategic Plan.

Mr. Ator stated the district's Strategic Plan can be added as a reference in the policy. He stated he will bring that amendment to the Board next month for approval.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

BUILDING REPORT – Mr. Ator reported we recently had our annual inspection by the fire marshal and she was very happy with the condition of the building. He stated there were five points to be addressed, four which have already been taken care of and one concerning additional lighting in locker rooms, bathrooms or other areas without a window that can be addressed when funding is available.

Mr. Ator stated the Department of Labor also conducted a safety inspection which resulted in five items to be addressed immediately and nine others which are optional but recommended. He added the listing is included in the board packet.

Mr. Ator stated we haven't fixed the stairs to the crows nest as was recommended by the insurance company.

Mr. Ator stated we've had a continuing problem with the elementary bathrooms and have had to rent a rotary snake a number of times this year. He stated the last time it happened he called Cotter's Sewers to snake the line and then run a camera through it to see what was causing the problem. He stated the problem is an uneven pipe that needs to be leveled. The problem will be addressed when the weather is better.

ACADEMIC REPORT – Mr. Ator stated the next big testing event is giving the CRT tests in March.

Mr. Ator stated we have been doing some adjusting in grades four, five, and six to make it a more traditional 5/6 combo with the fourth be itself.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR REPORT – Mr. Ator stated the state BPA convention will be held in Billings March 12-14 and the advisor, Brian Frank, would like permission for the group to stay overnight in Billings on Monday, March 13.

Motion was made by Sanford Langager, seconded by Deborah Hill and carried unanimously to authorize the BPA Club to stay in Billings on the night of March 13, 2017. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Binando, Hill, Langager. NO—none).

SUPERINTENDENT SCHEDULE – Mr. Ator stated he will be attending the superintendents' meeting tomorrow and the agenda will probably concentrate on legislative information.

MISCELLANEOUS – Mr. Ator reported approximately a year ago Crystal Wright started work on an application through the Department of Public Health and Human Services for a special education/Title grant through Vocational Rehabilitation for transitional services. He stated

Mr. Cole completed the application and it is now ready to be submitted. He thanked Mrs. Wright and Mr. Cole for their work on the application.

Mr. Ator stated the grant money will be used to provide assistance to students with the transition from school to work.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. DeVries called for an executive session at 7:47 p.m. to discuss superintendent negotiations. She returned the meeting to regular session at 8:20 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. DeVries returned the meeting to regular session and called for adjournment at 8:20 p.m.

Board Chair

District Clerk