

MINUTES

Jefferson High School Dist. 1
Regular Meeting

May 15, 2011
JHS Library

Board members present:

Stan Senechal
Pat Lewis

Sabrina Stekete
Lynne Bryant

Kathy Jackson, attended by phone

Administrators present:

James Whealon, Superintendent Lorie Carey, Business Manager

Visitors: Victoria Foster, Rex Sonsteng, Jan Anderson, Garry Pace, Clint Forrette,

CALL BOARD TO ORDER Mr. Senechal called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The pledge was said.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND
PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

STUDENT REPORT

Clint reported that the student council is holding elections for next year. Lewis and Clark Outdoor Classroom is planning their open house next Wednesday. The end of school barbeque will be held the second to the last week of school on Monday, the 21st.

REORGANIZATION OF
BOARD

Canvass Ms. Stekete moved to accept the results of the election – the levy passed 728/662. Ms. Bryant seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Chair & Vice Chair. Ms. Bryant nominated Mr. Senechal. Ms. Jackson nominated Ms. Stekete. Ms. Lewis, Ms. Jackson, and Ms. Stekete voted for Ms. Stekete. Ms. Stekete nominated Ms. Lewis for vice-chair. No other nominations were made. Ms. Lewis vice-chair by acclamation.

Appointment of Clerk. Ms. Stekete moved to appoint Ms. Carey as clerk. Mr. Senechal seconded. Motion passed unanimously by 5.

Meeting Procedure/Agenda Format/Meeting Time/Meeting Location and committee appointments were tabled until the June meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Vacancy Announcement. Ms. Stekete moved to advertise the board vacancies. Ms. Bryant seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Policies 1310P. The committee presented the draft of this policy. Ms. Anderson presented information concerning public documents. Referred back to committee.

3226. Bullying and harassment. The language “required” on page 2 line 8 was not adopted. Mr. Senechal moved to accept the proposed changes on the 1st reading. Ms. Bryant seconded the motion which passed unanimously by 5.

3225F Added “optional” on lines 46 and 48. Also added lines 50-52 to address when there form should be submitted. Ms. Lewis moved, Ms. Bryant seconded the motion which passed unanimously by 5.

8225. Added “electronic cigarettes (containing nicotine or not)” to lines 8 and 9. Mr. Senechal moved Ms. Lewis seconded to approve the 1st reading. Motion passed unanimously by 5.

CSCT Agreement. Mr. Senechal moved Ms. Jackson seconded the motion which passed unanimously by 5.

Prickly Pear Interlocal Agreement Ratification. Mr. Senechal moved to ratify the agreement. Ms. Lewis seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MQEC Membership. Ms. Lewis moved to approve MQEC membership. Mr. Senechal seconded the motion which passed unanimously by 5.

Substitute Applications – Brandon Herrera Ms. Jackson moved to accept the application for custodial sub. Mr. Senechal seconded the motion which passed unanimously by 5.

Staff Vacancies. (The following italics indicate that this was taken verbatim from the cd at the request of the chair at the following meeting.) *Ms. Stekete – Our next item is staff vacancies consideration of art, special education and all non-renewed positions. Jim, do you have a recommendation? Mr. Whealon - I do. One I think the board needs to look at what you’re going to do. Are you going to advertise for these positions? As certainly I think you’re going to need some of these positions like the art position. I think you need to get an advertisement out there. Special ed, after the employment committee meeting you had, maybe you want to hold off for that. All your non-renewed positions, I have a recommendation for that and possibly if you want to keep your flexibility open maybe you’d better not close the art position, the guidance counselor position.....those positions*

Ms. Jackson – Jim, could you give us your recommendation?

Mr. Whealon – Yes I can. I would recommend that.well... but what happened though at the board meeting, the committee meeting just before this, was talking about how you’re going to fill those positions and if you’re going to look at, we’re talking about a principal position

here. If you're going to look for somebody who could fill a position on your staff now that's currently vacant to be able to fund that or not, it leaves it a little open. But, yeah, I could make a recommendation. One, I think, rather than have everybody apply for the positions, which is an option the board would have and that does happen at times, it's usually not perceived very well, and so I would recommend that you not do that. But instead, call your people back and I think you're going to have to keep some of those open I think. So, there's some I think I would recommend at this time that you keep open and I'd be glad to share that. I think that's what you're asking for, Kathy, right? Kathy – That's totally what I'm asking. Stan – I think we should address our staffing now. It's not fair to not know what we're doing. I don't want to postpone it. (Kathy and Lynne talking can't tell either conversation) Lynne - But can we? Stan – Well, art's retiring, we don't have a choice there. Kathy – I'm not talking about art; I'm talking about non-tenured people. Stan – We're going to go after a principal. That's a done deal. What they have in their bag of extras we don't know yet. Sabrina – So, Jim, what was your recommendation? Mr. Whealon – Well you have nobody in your principal pool that's art so...and art's going to be a hard position to fill. I would recommend that you advertise for that art position. Stan – Jim, do recommend that the position be full-time art? Mr. Whealon – It would be a full-time art position, because I think there's a general sense in the community that that's what was discussed and also your schedule, your current draft schedule anticipates full-time art. Stan – Are we going to act on these one at a time so are you going to entertain a motion? Sabrina – I was just wanting to hear his full recommendation. Mr. Whealon – Do want me to run through them first? Kathy – Please. Mr. Whealon – Okay, and then I'd recommend that you bring back your counselor/librarian, going to be an extremely difficult position to do. I would recommend that you bring back your science position because it's physical science and, although you have multiple science-endorsed teachers, you can't meet your accreditation standards. I would recommend you bring back your construction and woods, a half-time position. That's going to be a really difficult.... I think you have a standing kind of unofficial agreement with your journalism teacher that you would look at 3 years that's 1/7 and I would recommend that, you've have trouble with your math, I would say that at least you'd have Ms. Collins back at this time. You've got a couple other positions but I think you need to be able to keep a couple of those open so that would be my recommendations at this time. Ms. Jackson moved to accept Mr. Whealon's recommendation. Mr. Senechal seconded the motion. Ms. Steketee – It's been moved and seconded to accept Jim's recommendations on staffing. Is there any discussion. Rex Sonsteng- I'd like to know why you're recommending one math teacher and not the other one. Mr. Whealon – Well, I have to make a recommendation, and, so that's the one I made. Ms. Steketee – Did you have a you know, not a special ed recommendation. Mr. Whealon – Uh, I didn't make special ed at this time either. Ms. Steketee – Right. So you did not make a recommendation on special ed or the 2nd math position. Mr. Whealon – or the AD position or the digital academy. Ms. Steketee – so your recommendation is to bring back.....or to begin advertising for a full-time art position, to bring back the librarian/counselor, physical science, construction/woods, 1/7 journalism, one math position, and no action at this time on special ed, 2nd math position, AD, or digital academy position, correct? Did you get all that, Lorie? Is there any discussion? Clerk – Just help me with the motion.. Ms. Steketee – Yes, there was a motion to accept Jim's staffing recommendation. Clerk – Okay, thank you. Ms. Steketee – And I just reiterated what that motion was. Ms. Lewis – So explain a little further what no recommendation means. That was... it's ended.... Mr. Whealon – At this time, there is no recommendation to bring those positions back. Ms. Steketee – Yes, Mr. Sonsteng. Rex Sonsteng- Are you anticipating that you are going to need a 2nd math teacher next year? Mr. Whealon – Maybe, maybe not. If, for instance, in their deliberations on a principal, if they hired a half-time principal, with a math endorsement as an example. If it worked out in the schedule it would be a 2nd math position. Rex Sonsteng – In the schedule right now, what's currently expected for a math position? That was the rationale for recommending the art position right? Mr. Whealon – Well, there's... you couldn't run the current draft schedule with one math teacher, that would not work. Rex Sonsteng – Well what I'd like to do is get through all the e-mail stuff that's going on and if you have a problem with the second math teacher, let us hear what the problem is. (silence) And if you don't have a problem with the second math teacher, then I think you should offer him the same contract that you're offering the other teacher. Ms. Steketee – I. my understanding is that we have a motion to accept the superintendent's recommendation. Ms. Jackson (on phone still) – Call for the question. Ms. Steketee – Is there any further discussion? All those in favor of accepting the superintendent's recommendation, raise your hand or say "aye".

Ms. Jackson voted “aye” and all other members present raised their hands in favor. The motion passed unanimously.
(At this point, Ms. Jackson left the meeting by phone.)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Coaching Vacancies. Mr. Senechal moved the recommendation of Cetaira Stagg as cheer coach. Ms. Bryant seconded the motion which passed unanimously by 4.

Cost of public information requests. 1401 referred to policy committee.

COMMUNICATIONS
(LETTERS)

Spay and Neuter Clinic Board. A thank you note for use of the gym was received. **Tony Koenig.** This was a response to Ms. Steketee’s question about Mr. Senechal’s handling of a question by the clerk. Ms. Anderson asked when it was added to the agenda. Clerk responded that it was added Sunday morning only as a letter, not an action item.

Staff Presentation. Ms. Foster reported on the trip that students took to Costa Rica. Students were very pleased with it as was Mrs. Foster. She felt that the students benefitted greatly from the experience.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Negotiations/Personnel - The high school committee met Friday with Mr. Whealon. Mr. Whealon was amenable to staying for another year. The entire committee was supposed to meet Wednesday May 16, 2012.

Policy Handbook. Items addressed above.

Budget/Insurance/Investments – Reschedule meeting. Meeting previously held

Buildings/Grounds/Transportation Didn’t meet.

Teaching/Learning Didn’t meet.

COMMENDATIONS

Commendations & Recognitions – Ms. Steketee - Ms. Foster and students for Spanish Trip. Ms. Lewis – Art Show. Mr. Senechal – Drama Club’s Hello Dolly, Mr. Senechal – voting public who supported the mill levy. Thank you note will be placed in the paper.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda Ms. Lewis moved to approve the minutes and claims. Mr. Senechal seconded the motion which passed unanimously by 4.

CLERK REPORT

Clerk Report. Reported on changes in elections. She commented that the results of the election showed that generally absentee voters returned a majority of “no” votes. The voters who voted at the polls generally returned a majority of “yes” votes. Also changes were made in the counting of ballots so that the absentee ballots were counted by a separate board of judges to take the pressure off the judges at each polling place.

SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT and AD REPORT

Superintendent Report. Friday notes submitted.

AD Report A mistake in the accounting for the track placings resulted in JHS receiving a second place rather than first.

Hiring committee gave an update on the process. Since Mr. Whealon is considering staying for another year, the process has moved toward the principal position. The committee will be working with Mr. Whealon to identify persons with needed skills.

TOPICS FOR FUTURE
AGENDAS

Staff Vacancies – Art, Special Education, Principal, Superintendent, Math, AD

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Chair, Jefferson High School Board

Clerk, Jefferson High School Board

Negotiations/Personnel: P. Lewis, S. Senechal, T. Lloyd

Policy/Handbook: P. Lewis, S. Steketee, L. Bryant

Budget/Insurance/Investments: S. Senechal, K. Jackson, K. Eckman

Building/Grounds/Transportation: K. Jackson, K. Eckman, T. Lloyd

Teaching/Learning: S. Steketee, L. Bryan