

**OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ROBERTS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5  
MARCH 24, 2015**

The special meeting of the Board of Trustees, Roberts School District No. 5, was called to order by Chair Sarah DeVries at 6:30 p.m. on March 24, 2015, in the gymnasium at the Roberts School.

**ATTENDANCE**

Sarah DeVries, Chair  
Rusty Niemi, Vice Chair  
Joel Bertolino  
Tami Hoines  
Luke Holdbrook

Alex Ator, Superintendent  
JaLayne Obert, Business Manager/District Clerk

GUESTS: Chris DeVries, Lynette Burgan, Roxie Melton, Ward Braten, Courtney Halvorsen, Mariah Holdbrook, Rylee Perkins, Charlotte DeVries, Randy DeVries, Joanne Stark, James Binando, Erika Binando, Misty Pitts, Jason Pitts, Bob Carter, Stacie Nardinger, Nancy Langager, Sanford Langager, Ron Prinkki, Bobbie Jo Martinez, Hunter Bell, Joyce Kober

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4-DAY VS 5-DAY SCHOOL WEEK DISCUSSION AND FINAL DECISION**

Mr. Ator stated the calendar developed for a four-day week next fall would begin on August 24, 2015, for students. He stated he tried to keep consistency in the calendar but if there is a holiday on Monday, school will be held on Friday.

Mr. Ator presented the elementary, high school, and Friday program schedules for a four-day week. He added the high school schedule doesn't change much and with each teacher responsible for six Friday programs, the contractual hours for the teachers remain about the same.

Selena Miller asked what effect this will have on activities such as BPA and FFA. Mr. Ator stated having Friday off would give students time to work on projects and fundraisers and sports activities will be played on Friday and Saturday.

Joanne Stark asked about the number of days a student can miss in a semester.

Mr. Ator stated this is a board decision but he would probably recommend fewer days and perhaps the opportunity to make up absences on Fridays.

Mariah Holdbrook asked how the Friday program for high school would differ from the elementary.

Mr. Ator stated at the high school level, Friday will be used for students on the "D" and "F" list to catch up on homework and improve their grades.

Hunter Bell asked if the students with D's and F's are also the students who are missing the most days.

Mr. Ator stated sometimes yes, sometimes no.

Roxie Melton expressed support for the four-day week and stated she wished it had been in place when her son was in school.

Tami Hoines stated she hasn't changed her mind and is still in favor of a five-day week. She stated employers expect employees to work five days a week and it sends the wrong message if we only have school four days a week. She added she'll make her decision on what she feels is best for the children.

Motion was made by Luke Holdbrook and seconded by Rusty Niemi to approve a four-day school week for next year.

Mariah Holdbrook stated the information that was most helpful for her came from the teachers from Gardiner who are also parents. She stated she has also visited with students who graduated from schools who operate a four-day week.

Joel Bertolino stated at the last meeting he needed more time to make his decision and he has talked to quite a number of people. He stated we can't continue to do the same thing we've always done and get the same results and we need to look to the future. He stated he is now in favor of trying a four-day week on a probationary basis.

Hunter Bell stated many employees in the present day have gone to alternative work schedules and probably most the people in attendance tonight work a varied schedule.

Mariah Holdbrook asked if the district is still talking about some kind of snack program.

Mr. Ator stated that is still being considered as we understand how important it is.

Courtney Halvorsen stated Mr. Ator has put in a great deal of time scheduling specials at the end of the day. She stated the teachers are excited about the Friday program as it is an opportunity to teach some of the things there isn't time to cover during regular school hours.

Ron Prinkki stated his daughter is excited about the four-day week and the opportunity to have time on Friday for extra projects. He stated he hopes the extra time in class periods will result in less homework.

Mr. Ator stated Gardiner really stressed the need to limit homework.

Luke Holdbrook amended his motion to approve a four-day school week for a two-year probationary period. The amendment was seconded by Rusty Niemi.

Rusty Niemi stated this has been a tough decision for the Board and the smaller children are the biggest concern. But he added we have to do something to make a change and Mr. Ator has experience with a four-day week which will help get us through.

The motion as amended and seconded was voted on and carried. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Holdbrook. NO—Hoines.)

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Rusty Niemi and carried unanimously to approve the 2015-2016 four-day school week calendar and schedule as presented. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

## **SET LEVY AMOUNTS**

GENERAL FUND – Mr. Ator stated the latest budget figures from the Office of Public Instruction show the district will receive an increase in funding in the general fund next year due to inflationary increases and a small increase in ANB. He added he doesn't feel it will be necessary to run a mill levy for the general fund.

TECHNOLOGY FUND – Mr. Ator recommended running a technology levy of \$17,500 per year for ten years for the Technology Acquisition and Depreciation Fund.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Luke Holdbrook and carried unanimously to approve running a Technology Acquisition and Depreciation Fund levy in the amount of \$17,500 per year for 10 years on the ballot on May 5, 2015. (DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

Mr. Ator recommended running a Building Reserve levy in the amount of \$17,500 per year for five years.

Motion was made by Rusty Niemi, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to approve running a Building Reserve levy in the amount of \$17,500 per year for five years on the ballot on May 5, 2015. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

**PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT POLICIES SECOND READING**

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Tami Hoines and carried unanimously to approve Policy 3130, Students, on second reading. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoines, Holdbrook. NO—none).

Motion was made by Luke Holdbrook, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to approve Policy 3600F1, Notification to Parents and Students of Rights Concerning a Student’s School Records, on second reading. (YES—DeVries, Niemi, Bertolino, Hoiness, Holdbrook. NO—none).

**ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. DeVries adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

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Board Chair

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District Clerk