

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
ROBERTS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5  
OCTOBER 24, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Roberts School District No. 5, was called to order by Sarah DeVries at 6:00 p.m. on October 24, 2017, in the library at the Roberts School.

**ATTENDANCE**

Sarah DeVries, Chair  
Joel Bertolino, Vice Chair  
James Binando (arrived at 6:20 p.m.)  
Sanford Langager

Absent: Tyler Allen

Alex Ator, Superintendent  
JaLayne Obert, Business Manager/Clerk

GUESTS: Sheila Roberts, Courtney Halvorsen, Andy VanOrnum, Alex Dickhausen, JoEllen Brennan, Myrna Lastusky

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES**

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Sanford Langager and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2017 meeting as presented. (YES— DeVries, Bertolino, Langager. NO—none).

**CLAIMS, SEQUENCE, AND VOIDED CHECKS**

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

**TEACHER REPORTS**

Sheila Roberts and Myrna Lastusky gave teacher reports for the month.

Mrs. Roberts reported she is teaching first grade with fifteen students in the morning and first and second grade with 22 students in the afternoon.

Mrs. Roberts stated science class just completed a unit on the solar system and started a unit on matter that includes lots of hands-on activities. She stated in social studies they are exploring ancient civilizations and are working on Egypt.

Mrs. Roberts added the volunteers from the Kaleva group are once again coming to read with the students.

Mrs. Lastusky pointed out the new shelves in the library built by the VoAg class. She stated 2,217 new books have been added to the library in the last three years

Mrs. Lastusky stated a grant from the Stillwater Mine made it possible to buy three new computers for the library and some STEM materials. She added she has tons of sponsors for the Book Fair and will be able to do some raffles.

Mrs. Lastusky thanked Joellen Brennan for her help in getting students back on track in math during the Title study hall.

### **STAFFING**

ROUTE BUS DRIVER – Mr. Ator stated there is no progress with the bus driver applicant and we may have to readvertise the position.

CLASSROOM SUBSTITUTES – Mr. Ator recommended adding Candy Harvison and Michelle Swansborough to the substitute teacher list. He added Ashley McCoy stepped up to help with concessions and he would like to give her the \$512.50 stipend for the fall.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Sanford Langager and carried unanimously to add Candy Harvison and Michelle Swansborough to the substitute teacher list and pay Ashley McCoy the fall portion of the Concessions Advisor stipend (\$512.50). (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Langager. NO—none).

(Mr. Binando arrived at the meeting.)

Mr. Ator reported Dan Kosel submitted a letter of resignation for the varsity head boys' basketball coaching position.

Motion was made by Sanford Langager, seconded by James Binando and carried to accept the letter of resignation from Dan Kosel for the varsity boys' basketball head coaching position. (YES—DeVries, Binando, Langager. NO—none. ABSTAINED – Bertolino (conflict of interest)).

Mr. Ator recommended hiring John Payovich as the head varsity boys' basketball coach.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Sanford Langager and carried unanimously to hire John Payovich as head varsity boys' basketball coach. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Binando, Langager. NO—none).

Mr. Ator recommended hiring Crystal Wright for the junior high girls' assistant basketball coach.

Motion was made by Sanford Langager, seconded by James Binando and carried unanimously to hire Crystal Wright as assistant junior high girls' basketball coach. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Binando, Langager. NO—none).

### **NEW BUSINESS**

SENIOR TRIP – Andy VanOrnum and Alex Dickhausen, two members of the senior class, presented their proposal for a senior trip.

Mr. VanOrnum reported he and Mr. Dickhausen are the only two out of seven members of the class who are interested in taking a senior trip so the trip is designed around their interest in physical fitness and skiing. He stated the proposal is a ski trip to Park City, Utah, on February 6 through February 11, 2018. He added the class has \$7000 set aside for the trip and Mr. Sigl has agreed to chaperone.

Mr. Langager asked why only two members of the class are going.

Mrs. Halvorsen, senior class advisor, stated it was discussed in a class meeting and the other members of the class really aren't interested in a senior trip.

Mr. Ator stated as the senior trip is supposed to be an educational experience, he would recommend the trip include two days of skiing instead of four to leave time for educational tours. He added working out the details for the trip is an educational experience in itself.

Mr. Binando stated he would even be in favor of allowing them to ski for three days.

Motion was made by James Binando, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to allow the senior class access to their funding for a senior trip to Park City, Utah, including three days of skiing. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Binando, Langager. NO—none).

### **OLD BUSINESS**

REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PLAN – Mr. Ator stated Courtney Halvorsen and Joellen Brennan helped him work on the concerns with the goals of the Strategic Plan. He stated areas addressed include getting away from small subgroups, comparing apples to apples, ensure we are testing students on content, not just reading ability, and getting away from new students making such a big impact on the data.

Mr. Ator stated last year was the first year there was data available to show student growth. He added this year we would like to get all five categories to 65% and 70% next year. He stated the final goal is to have all students meet 75% of growth goals in all areas.

Mr. Ator stated this year we are going to turn on the read aloud function for all students for all tests except reading. He stated the teachers feel this will help ensure we are testing the students on content rather than on reading.

Mr. Binando stated his opposition to using the read aloud function.

Mr. Ator recommended the Strategic Plan goals be amended as presented.

Motion was made by Sanford Langager, seconded by Joel Bertolino and carried unanimously to amend the goals for the Strategic Plan as recommended. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Langager. NO—Binando).

E-RATE RESOLUTION – Mr. Ator stated there is grant money available to update internet services for schools if the district is willing to follow the grant process and apply. He stated the grant would probably include a matching amount that would be the district's responsibility but our E-Rate advisor has been encouraging us to at least put the grant together and see if it gets funded. He added the district would have the ability to withdraw from the process at any time if it was felt the match couldn't be met.

Mr. Ator recommended submitting Exhibit B and Exhibit F of the grant application to Nicole Jones, our E-Rate advisor, so we can begin the process.

Motion was made by Joel Bertolino, seconded by Sanford Langager and carried unanimously to approve submitting Exhibit B and Exhibit F to begin the grant process for updating the internet. (YES—DeVries, Bertolino, Binando, Langager. NO—none).

CARPET BIDS – Mr. Ator stated he, Mr. Langager and Mr. Allen went to Billings to look at flooring and agreed on a luxury vinyl plank by Armstrong called Diamond 10. He stated if we order it in pallets, it is \$1.88 per square foot, not including installation. He stated his recommendation is to put the same product throughout the building and if the Board feels the same, he will get some finalized numbers.

Consensus of the Board was to get some finalized numbers.

### **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

SPECIAL EDUCATION LAW – Mr. Ator stated he included a publication with information on special education law and discipline for the School Board in the packet.

NEGOTIATIONS – Mr. Ator stated the negotiators for the teachers are Courtney Halvorsen and Jon Milligan and the teachers have had a couple negotiation meetings. He added Ms. DeVries and Mr. Langager will be negotiating for the Board.

COACHES REPORTS – Mr. Ator reported the following:

Crystal Wright reports there are 19 girls out for junior high girls' basketball.

Jackie Ronning reports there were 25 girls out for junior high volleyball and she and Lindy Allen had a great time coaching them. She stated if the numbers stay up, we may have to rethink how to best involve fourth graders.

Jené Reinhart reported the cross country team took third at state this year with the first four runners all in the top 25.

Melissa Bertolino stated the high school volleyball team has had a good year and she is excited to see how they do in the tournament.

NEXT MEETING – Mr. Ator stated the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 15, 2017.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. DeVries called for adjournment at 7:43 p.m.

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Board Chair

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District Clerk