

Anderson School District #41
Regular School Board Meeting
August 19, 2021

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Anderson School District #41 was held via google meet, August 19, 2021, for considering business to come before the Board of Trustees.
Board Chair Warren Bauder called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Trustees Present Warren Bauder, Jaime June, Brandon Atkins and Kerri Norick

Trustees Absent Mary Burrows

Staff Present Kristi Jacobs: Superintendent; Tanya Roberts: Business Manager; Karen Hedglin: Owner's Representative

Visitors Present Google meet attendees

Correspondence The Board acknowledged the correspondence that was included in the board packet and thanked people for submitting letters.

Public Participation on

Non-Agenda Items **Trustee Warren Bauder reminded those in attendance that to avoid violations of individual rights of privacy, a member of the public wishing to address the Board during this time will not be allowed to make comments about any student, staff member, or member of the general public during his/her designated time to speak. In addition, the Board will not hear comments on contested cases or other adjudicative proceedings.**
There was none.

Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Calendar

August 18 MTSS Work Session

August 18 AASA SEL Cohort 1:30-3:00

August 23 Walk Thru Building with new cleaners (Butler)

August 24th Training on building systems

August 30th-September 3rd PIR Week with teachers

September 3rd Popsicle Pop In for students and parents 9:30-11:00

September 7th First Day of School

September 10th First Day of Kindergarten and 9-10 Kindergarten meet and greet

Committee Meetings

The MTSS team will meet on August 18th from 9-12 to have a work meeting to look at what is needed for the new building in regards to our PBIS rewards, traffic patterns, behavior matrices, and T Charts.

Grants

We have successfully applied for both our ESSR III grant and the annual ESEA (Title 1) grant through OPI. These annual funds contribute to our overall operating budget.

Social Emotional Learning Focus

This coming school year we will have a focus on social emotional learning focusing on the whole child. I will be working with the staff to support students' social and emotional well-being, sense of connection to school, and full engagement in learning. Our goal is to have all students have a positive perception of school and self. My work with the AASA Social Emotional Cohort is helping determine some needs for Anderson school. We are looking at our measurement tools for students and staff in these areas as well. Staff will choose at least one area of focus this year: welcome activity, class meeting, or optimistic closing. The

research is very clear that students who do not have a positive perception of school and self are not as successful with their attainment of academic knowledge.

PIR Schedule

Teachers will have a week of PIR beginning August 30th. Besides unpacking their classrooms in preparation for the school year, teachers will do a building orientation with Karen, a tech orientation with Nick and Elliott, engage in math professional development and we will have our opening staff meeting.

Tech to School Presentation

Elliott and Nick will be conducting an in person #TechtoSchool presentation for parents on Wednesday, September 8th at 7pm. We are taking advantage of Elliott and Nick being in town to put on this presentation. This will cover information about our technology policies and accesses for Anderson students. Plus other technology related information for parents. I encourage all parents to attend to learn more about technology implementation at Anderson School and how to keep their children safe when accessing technology.

Hyalite Creek Subdivision

Warren, Brandon, and I met with Sean Moran, one of the developers of the new Hyalite Creek Subdivision. He explained the outlook of the subdivision, where they are in the process, and wanting to partner with the district. As the developers are submitting their preliminary plots we are investigating an option where the district would receive “cash in lieu” for the .8 acres of greenspace they are being required to have as part of their development. The amount of money received by the district will depend on the current appraisal value of the land. There will be an opportunity for public comment on the development of the subdivision within the next few months.

Old Business

Annual Agenda

September Agenda:

Review Accreditation Standards

Fall facility/playground walk through report to the Board

Policy Review

Superintendent Goals

New Business

Discussion/Report

Construction/Bond

Project Monthly Report Owner’s Representative, Karen Hedglin reported on the construction project:

- Mergenthaler will be back to move library, STEM and Spanish into place 8/25
- Inspections are scheduled for 8/26

Safe return to school and continuity of Services plan

The Board reviewed updates to the “Safe Return to School and Continuity of Services Plan” which is posted on the website.

Action

Revision of Covid 19

Emergency policies

1905-Student, Staff, and

Community Health &

Safety

Superintendent Jacobs stated throughout this discussion on plans regarding COVID for the 2021-2022 school year my goal is to keep students in school and healthy. I feel that with our cohorts, and other mitigation plans in place we are set up to do this successfully. Our in person learning will feel more traditional with the crossover of students outside at recesses, and before and after school. Plus, we will

be having a bus transportation option and an aftercare program option. Visitors will be allowed in the building as long as it is for a scheduled event and they are masked. We are planning on offering all sports this year, plus the drama production with appropriate COVID mitigation protocols. However, currently the transmission numbers within Gallatin County are at a high transmission rate. With this information I am recommending that Anderson school have universal masking at the start of the school year, and to be revisited at our October 14th board meeting. The exceptions on the masking is that masks will not be required outside. When staff are alone in the classrooms or offices they may also choose to remove their masks.

There are a few reasons why I'm wanting to increase our masking policy from what my recommendation was at the August 4th meeting. The first is the transmission rate within Gallatin County. The CDC has us rated at a high transmission rate which recommends masking indoors for all individuals regardless of vaccine status. The second reason is that the majority of our students are in ages 12 and under and do not have the opportunity to be vaccinated, the masking policy helps protect them against the contagious Delta variant of COVID 19. The third reason for my recommendation is that in the situation of a positive case, a close contact that would need to be quarantined is different based upon whether or not an individual is wearing a mask. If individuals are masked then we have a 3 foot distance for close contacts, if individuals are not masked then it is at least a 6 foot radius for a close contact. The requirement of masks helps keep more students in school in the event of a positive case. With our current high transmission rate within Gallatin County, masks provide the best protection against COVID 19 for our staff and students.

Comments:

Trustee Norick: Trusts the experts' advice, supports full mask mandate at this time and that it is a fluid situation that will need to be monitored.

Chair Bauder: Supports this change to keep students in school for as long as we can.

Trustee June: Supports full mask mandate to keep as many kids in school for as long as we can.

Stephani Lourie: not a fan of teaching in a mask, but happy to do it for the safety of the community.

Jim Fryer: prefers an optional mask option, be aware of what metrics are being used to make decisions.

Matthew Hubbard: Thanked the Trustees for their work. Supports an optional mask policy. Asked the Board to consider mental health and learning loss issues when making decisions. He also asked how many covid-19 cases there were at Anderson School last year.

Motion to approve revisions to Policy 1905-Student, Staff, and Community Health & Safety:

Motion: Trustee Atkins

Seconded: Trustee June-passed unanimously

Covid-19 Mitigation Plan Revisions

Superintendent Jacobs explained the COVID Mitigation Plan puts in details our plans for the school year. This is a working document and can be revisited and adjusted throughout the school year as needed. The plan outlines safety measures that will be put in place. It also explains how students will receive instructions within their cohorts, eat in the cafeteria this year with assigned seating within their cohort, and other safety measures. The revised COVID Mitigation Plan reflects my recommendation of the changes to the mask policy that we discussed previously.

It also clarifies the visitor policy that visitors are allowed in the school, with masks for a scheduled time to work in a classroom, or for a scheduled meeting or event, for example a concert or class presentation. Parents may also come have lunch with their child, they will just need to eat outside. Julie Ruff and I have also added language following the CDC recommendation of strongly recommending anyone who is a close contact to a positive case refrain from coming to school until a negative test result is received 3-5 days after exposure irrespective of vaccine status. A letter will go out tomorrow to all families explaining our COVID Mitigation Plan and the approved plan will be put on the school website for reference.

Motion to approve the Covid-19 Mitigation Plan Revisions as proposed:

Motion: Trustee June

Seconded: Trustee Norick—passed unanimously.

Consideration of 2021-22 Bus Routes Revisions

Superintendent Jacobs explained at this time we have not been able to secure a second bus driver for Anderson School. Therefore we will only have one bus route. I will continue to advertise for a bus driver and if I am able to secure one then we will go back to two bus routes. This revised bus route focuses on our subdivisions. It is not having pick up on Cottonwood, Johnson, Fowler, or Cayuse Trail. We continue to move towards a bus stop versus picking up at individual driveways. Students are required to wear masks on school buses according to federal law. Students will have assigned seats prioritizing seating with siblings and within a cohort. Bus registration and payment will be part of the back to school information.

Motion to approve the 2021-22 Bus Routes revision as presented:

Motion: Trustee Norick

Seconded: Trustee Atkins—passed unanimously

Consideration of 2021-22 Student/Parent Handbook

Superintendent Jacobs explained there are a few changes to highlight in this year's parent/student handbook. The dress code information has been streamlined to be more clear. We also will not be allowing hats in the building for students unless there is a special event or there is a medical issue. We were having some issues regarding this with students hiding earbuds under their hats. Students may wear any hats they would like outside. The other item of note in the handbook is regarding cell phones. I am recommending that Anderson move to a no cell phone during the day. This means that cell phones remain in students' backpacks during the school day. They then can be checked at the end of the day by students. This past year we had a more flexible policy on cell phones, however, this was often taken advantage of by students making enforcement difficult at times. We also had students contacting parents during the day to be picked up because they are not feeling well and not using our protocols of going through the office to be picked up. This becomes a large safety issue. If parents need to contact their child during the day for whatever reason they can always contact the office. I believe that having this clear no cell phone policy will make it easier on staff for enforcement of phone behavior, and create a safer environment for our students.

Motion to approve the 2021-22 Student Parent Handbook:

Motion: Trustee June

Seconded: Trustee Atkins—passed unanimously.

Consideration of 2021-22 Staff Handbook

Superintendent Jacobs explained there are no large changes in the handbook this year. However, the copyright section does need to be updated based upon revisions made by MTSBA.

Motion to approve the 2021-22 Staff Handbook:

Motion: Trustee Norick

Seconded: Trustee Atkins—passed unanimously.

Consideration of 2021-22 After Care Handbook

Superintendent Jacobs explained the aftercare handbook outlines the aftercare program requirements. It is based on the handbook from the Gallatin Valley YMCA. The cost for aftercare this year will be a bit more simplified than previous years with it being \$10 per day and \$8 per sibling. The registration form for aftercare will be sent out to all families as part of the back to school information. We will be prioritizing students who attend after care on a regular schedule but will provide a “drop off” or last minute arrangement for families if space is available on a certain day. However, the student needs to be signed up for aftercare in order to utilize the ability to “drop off” a child.

Motion to approve the 2021-22 After Care Handbook:

Motion: Trustee Atkins

Seconded: Trustee Norick—passed unanimously.

Consideration of 2020-21 Trustee’s Financial Summary

Business Manager Roberts presented the 2020-21 Trustee’s Financial Summary.

Motion to approve as presented:

Motion: Trustee June

Seconded: Trustee Atkins—passed unanimously

Consideration of 2021-22 School Budgets

Business Manager Roberts presented the 2021-22 proposed budgets. Overall adopted budgets are \$2,879,030 and a decrease of 25.46 mills from the previous year. The mill decrease was due to a 14.8% taxable valuation increase of new property, lowering taxes by \$34.39/\$100,000 of a taxable value home. Motion to approve the 2021-22 budgets as proposed:

Motion: Trustee June

Seconded: Trustee Norick—passed unanimously

2nd Reading of Policy
3235-Video Surveillance;
4211-School Name
Imagery & Colors; 8550
Cyber Incident

Motion to approve the policies as proposed:

Motion: Trustee Atkins

Seconded: Trustee Norick—passed unanimously

Consideration of \$8,500
Teacher chromebook
Expenditure-contingent
E-rate emergency funds

Motion to approve an \$8,500 teacher chromebook expenditure if the District is approved e-rate funding of \$10,000:
Motion: Trustee Norick
Seconded: Trustee Atkins-passed unanimously

Consideration of
Seamless Summer
Lunch program

Superintendent Jacobs stated Anderson School has the ability to participate in the Seamless Summer Lunch Option for the 2021-2022 school year. This is a program through the USDA that is going to allow us to provide free lunch to all students during the 2021-2022 school year. This is an extension of the free summer lunch program. Seconds, and a la carte items will all be an added charge. This grant also covers the cost of an afternoon snack for our aftercare program. This does not cover adult lunches, it is only for students.

Motion to approve the Seamless Summer Lunch Program:
Motion: Trustee June
Seconded: Trustee Atkins-passed unanimously

Approve 2021-22 Out
Out of District
Applications

Motion to approve the following 2021-22 Out of District Applications:
6th Grade: 6081120216N
8th Grade: 8040820214N

Motion: Trustee Norick
Seconded: Trustee Atkins-passed unanimously.

Personnel

Consideration of
2021-22 Stipends

Superintendent Jacobs stated the stipends are the same as in the past, however, the track stipend has been raised to be equal with all of the others.

Motion to approve the 2021-22 Stipends:
Motion: Trustee Atkins
Seconded: Trustee Norick-passed unanimously

Consideration of
Athletic Director

Motion to approve Kjel Olson as the Athletic Director for the 2021-22 school year:
Motion: Trustee Norick
Seconded: Trustee June-passed unanimously.

Consideration of
Adult Education
Director

Motion to approve Kjel Olson as the Adult Education Director for the 2021-22 school year:
Motion: Trustee June
Seconded: Trustee Norick-passed unanimously.

Consideration of Fall

2021 Volleyball Coaches Motion to approve Angela Seeds as the 7/8th Head Volleyball Coach and the 5/6th Assistant Volleyball Coach and Jessica Cissel as the 5/6th Head Volleyball Coach and the 7/8th Assistant Volleyball Coach:

Motion: Trustee Norick

Seconded: Trustee Atkins—passed unanimously

Consideration of
2021-22 Classified
Contracts

Motion to approve McKenna Lawn Afterschool coordinator 16 hours per week and 8 hours of instructional paraprofessional interventionist, Revised contract for Kjel Olson of only 4 hours classified a week, Ethan Hunts 40 hours per week instructional paraprofessional interventionist:

Motion: Trustee Atkins

Seconded: Trustee June—passed unanimously

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the July 7, 2021 special meeting minutes, July 15, 2021 regular meeting minutes, August 4, 2021 special meeting minutes; claim warrants 43770-43806; ach payroll warrants: 84601-84583; payroll warrants 5222-5231:

Motion: Trustee Norick

Seconded: Trustee Atkins—passed unanimously.

Future Agenda Items

- Policy Review
- Accreditation Standards
- Fall facility/playground walk through report to the Board
- Haunted House

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 6:00 pm via google meet.

Adjournment

No objection to adjournment of meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
District Clerk

Board Chair

Date