



HAMILTON SCHOOL DISTRICT #3 REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

District Board Room

Monday – September 8, 2008

Building and Grounds Committee – 5:30 P.M.

Regular Board Meeting and Final Budget Hearing AGENDA – 6:30 P.M.

1. Call to order:
 - 1.1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Minutes, financial reports, and bills
3. Public comment on any public matter not on the agenda
4. Special presentations, requests, reports and correspondence:
 - 4.1. Higher Education Center/U of M and C.O.T. – Mr. Frank Laurence
5. Board Action:
 - 5.1. Accept Staff Resignations:
 - 5.1.1. Margie Blair - Paraprofessional / High School
 - 5.1.2. Tina Jolly – Paraprofessional / Washington
 - 5.1.3. Carol Schmitt-Weer - Paraprofessional / Middle School
 - 5.1.4. Bonnie Wickham – Secretary / Washington
 - 5.1.5. Norma Mitchell – Paraprofessional / High School
 - 5.1.6. Joe Dow – Head Wrestling Coach
 - 5.2. Recommendation to hire or offer contracts:
 - 5.2.1. Jessica Beisel - .5 FTE Teacher / Hamilton Middle School
 - 5.2.2. Amanda Shaffer – Teacher / Hamilton Middle School
 - 5.2.3. Sonia Bertek – Part-time Teacher / Daly Elementary
 - 5.2.4. Aurora Adams – School Secretary / Washington
 - 5.2.5. Martha Lord – Paraprofessional / High School
 - 5.2.6. Jackie Ashlock – Paraprofessional / Middle School
 - 5.2.7. Victoria Moore – Paraprofessional / Middle School
 - 5.2.8. Chad Williams – Paraprofessional / Middle School
 - 5.2.9. Robin Staton – After School Coordinator and Instructor / 21st Century Grant
 - 5.2.10. Richard Sain – Head Custodian / Washington
 - 5.2.11. Nathen Whitaker – Night Custodian
 - 5.2.12. Joni Montgomery – Vice-Principal / Washington
 - 5.2.13. Patty Montgomery – Food Service / Grantsdale
 - 5.2.14. Elizabeth Currey – Outreach Coordinator / 21st Century Grant
 - 5.3. Recommendation to hire or offer contract: (Notice – This individual falls within the 1st degree of consanguinity in relation to one of the trustees.)
 - 5.3.1. T.J. Pool - Teacher / Hamilton Middle School
 - 5.4. Recommendation to hire or offer contracts/Extracurricular:
 - 5.4.1. Ron Madeen – 7th Grade Girls' Basketball Coach / Middle School
 - 5.4.2. Amanda Shaffer – Cheer Coach / Middle School
 - 5.4.3. Ron Madeen – Assistant Boys' Basketball Coach / High School
6. Discussion and possible action:
 - 6.1. Building and Grounds Committee
 - 6.2. Athletic and Extracurricular Assessment Committee
 - 6.3. School Wellness Committee
7. Building Reports
8. Superintendent's Report / Information
 - 8.1. Washington Modular Complex Update
 - 8.2. Enrollment
 - 8.3. Student Achievement
 - 8.4. Technology Acquisition and Depreciation Fund Levy Proposition
 - 8.5. M.C.E.L. – October 16th and 17th in Billings
 - 8.6. Other

Interested persons are encouraged to attend Board Meetings and to comment on agenda items. If you wish to add an agenda item, please submit a letter to the District Office at least one week prior to the next Board Meeting.

The next Regular Meeting of the Hamilton School District Board of Trustees will be held on October 13, 2008, at 6:30 p.m. in the District Conference Room.

1. **Call to order** – Chair Mr. Nick Hallett called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 p.m. on September 8, 2008, in the District Office Board Room. Trustees present included: Mrs. Corrine Gantt, Mrs. Tamis LaSalle, Mr. Tom Pool, Mrs. Kelly Rogers and Mr. Jim Shea. Administrators present included: Superintendent Mr. Duby Santee; Principals Mr. Kevin Conwell, Mrs. Kathleen Dent, Mr. Brad Henson, and Mr. Dan Kimzey; Assistant High School Principal Ms. Joel Stuber; Head of Maintenance Ms. Judy Hake and District Clerk Ms. Cathy Binando. Trustee Mrs. Lori Holley was not present at the meeting.

1.1. Pledge of Allegiance – Mrs. Gantt led the group with the Pledge.

2. **Minutes, financial reports, and bills** – The Board reviewed the minutes from the Regular Meeting and Final Budget Hearing held on August 11th and the claim details for the month of August (warrant numbers 54440 – 54565).

Mrs. Gantt moved to accept the minutes of August 11th. Mr. Shea seconded. Mrs. Rogers noted a correction to page five; discussed moving the principal reports on the agenda and an article on the technology levy that was in the Ravalli Republic. The Board then voted in favor of the motion 6-0.

Mrs. LaSalle reported that the Finance Committee meets on the Wednesday prior to the Board Meeting and the meetings are open to the public. Mrs. LaSalle reported that the committee discussed fund cash balances and setting up an advisory committee for the School Food Program. This will be a sub-committee of the Finance Committee and will meet immediately following the regular Finance Committee meetings.

Mrs. LaSalle moved to accept the bills and the financial reports for the month of August, 2008. Mrs. Gantt seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

3. **Public Comment:**

Mike Krout – Majestic Bus Service, Inc. – Special Needs Bus Service: Mr. Krout requested an extension of the special education bus route to accommodate the expanding needs of this route. Mr. Krout will work with Mr. Santee to determine a solution to this problem.

4. **Special presentations, requests, reports and correspondence:**

4.1. **Student Council Representative – Ms. Megan Baker:** Ms. Baker reported that the Student Council is working on Homecoming and planning for a survey.

4.2. **Building Reports : The agenda was amended.**

High School – Mr. Conwell reported on the following: The high school enrollment is approximately 550 students. The high school is working on hiring for positions in the responsibility room, a paraprofessional at the alternative learning center and a special education paraprofessional. Mr. Conwell also reported on the A/P testing and stated that the students did well. Fifteen German students will be coming and spending three weeks in an exchange program. CRISS training is continuing. A student at the high school is a National Merit Scholar semi-finalist. Ms. Stuber reported that students are busy with extracurricular activities and she has been attending many 504 meetings.

Middle School – Mr. Kimzey reported on the following: Mr. Kimzey reported that the first week had gone very well and the custodial crew had done a great job in getting

everything ready. There are 370 students enrolled at the Middle School with 54 new students. Mr. Kimzey reported that Gwyn Haas had passed away.

Daly Elementary School – Mrs. Troutman reported on the following: Mrs. Troutman reported that they missed their principal, but the school was running smoothly. Mr. Larsen was out of the hospital and should return in the morning.

Grantsdale Elementary School – Mrs. Dent reported on the following: Mrs. Dent discussed the PIR days and the field trip for IEFA. The enrollment at Grantsdale is at 91 students with 25 new students. The garden is producing well and they are looking at setting up a chicken coop. Mrs. Dent is also working on curriculum and the consortium has purchased a new software system.

Washington Elementary School – Mr. Henson reported on the following: Mr. Henson reported on the many changes that have taken place at his school. The Ladies Auxiliary has donated all new flags to the school. There are 245 students enrolled. Preschool starts on Monday.

5. Board Action:

5.1. Recommendation to Accept Staff Resignations:

- 5.1.1. Margie Blair – Paraprofessional / High School
- 5.1.2. Tina Jolly – Paraprofessional / Washington
- 5.1.3. Carol Schmitt-Weer – Paraprofessional / Middle School
- 5.1.4. Bonnie Wickham – Secretary / Washington
- 5.1.5. Norma Mitchell - Paraprofessional / High School
- 5.1.6. Joe Dow – Head Wrestling Coach

Mr. Pool moved to accept the resignations of the individuals listed in 5.1.1. through 5.1.6. Mr. Shea seconded and they were all thanked for their service. The Board then voted in favor of the motion by a vote of 6-0.

5.2. Recommendation to Hire or Offer Contracts:

- 5.2.1. Jessica Beisel - .5 FTE Teacher / Hamilton Middle School
- 5.2.2. Amanda Shaffer – Teacher / Hamilton Middle School
- 5.2.3. Sonia Bertek – Part-Time Teacher / Daly Elementary
- 5.2.4. Aurora Adams – School Secretary / Washington Elmeentary
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- 5.2.10. Richard Sain – Head Custodian / Washington
- 5.2.11. Nathan Whitaker – Night Custodian
- 5.2.12. Joni Montgomery – Vice-Principal / Washington
- 5.2.13. Patty Montgomery – Food Service / Grantsdale
- 5.2.14. Elizabeth Currey – Outreach Coordinator / 21st Century Grant

Mrs. Rogers moved to hire or offer contracts to the individuals listed in 5.2.1. through 5.2.14. Mrs. Gantt seconded. Funding for these positions was discussed and they are replacement for current positions or paid for by grants. Some paraprofessionals that were RIF'ed were called back. It was

noted that some of the hiring forms had not been completely filled out and it was further noted that due to the position, the background check for 5.2.8. was very important. The title of "vice-principal" was questioned and it was asked if certification needed to be maintained for this position. This item will be looked into. The Board then voted and motion carried 6-0.

5.3. Recommendation to Hire or Offer Contracts: (Notice – This individual falls within the 1st degree of consanguinity in relation to one of the trustees.)

5.3.1. T.J. Pool – Teacher / Hamilton Middle School

Due to his relationship with the recommended teacher for hire and to allow for an open discussion, Mr. Tom Pool was asked to leave the meeting during this issue. It was noted that this meeting and the potential hiring of a relative of a Board Member had been properly noticed in the newspaper.

Mrs. Gantt moved to approve the hiring of Mr. T.J. Pool as a teacher for the Middle School. Mrs. LaSalle seconded. Discussion that followed included concerns of the administration being able to properly evaluate without perceived pressure from the Board; past job performance; current observations; documenting evaluations; closely evaluating all non-tenured teachers; past history of the district; and the seriousness of nepotism. The Board then voted in favor of the motion by a vote of 5-0.

5.4. Recommendation to Hire or Offer Contracts / Extracurricular:

5.4.1. Ron Madeen – 7th Grade Girls' Basketball Coach / Middle School *

5.4.2. Amanda Shaffer – Cheer Coach / Middle School

5.4.3. Ron Madeen – Assistant Boys' Basketball Coach / High School

* There were not enough girls' for a second team so this position was not needed and was withdrawn from the recommendation.

Mr. Pool moved to hire the individuals listed in 5.4.2. and 5.4.3. for the extracurricular positions. Mrs. Rogers seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

6. Discussion and possible action:

6.1. Building and Grounds Committee – Mr. Shea reported on the following:

The committee has set up a special meeting on September 23rd to discuss the 20 year plan.

6.2. School Wellness Committee – Mrs. Gantt reported on the following:

A meeting date of September 23rd was set up for 5:00 p.m. Committee members are Mrs. Gantt, Mrs. Rogers and Mr. Shea.

6.3. Athletic & Extracurricular Assessment Committee – Mr. Pool reported on the following: A meeting date will need be set to discuss the fall coaches for recommendations in December.

7. Superintendent's Report / Information :

7.1. Washington Modular Complex Update: Mr. Santee reported that the project is basically done. The kitchen and paving costs were higher than originally anticipated.

7.2. Enrollment – The total enrollment is comparable to last year, but due to the high

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number of kindergartners, the district may look at an emergency budget amendment.

7.3. Student Achievement: Mr. Santee reported that the CRT scores had not seen the improvement needed to meet the requirements. It is important to get the students to where they need to be.

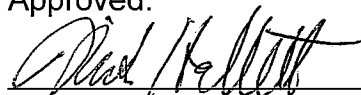
7.4. Technology Acquisition and Depreciation Fund Levy Proposition: A discussion took place on advertising for the technology levy. It was decided that a flyer in the paper was not worth the cost. Flyers have been made to include with the absentee ballots and another flyer has gone home with the students. Mr. Pool and Mr. Santee will discuss the issue with the service clubs. Having information at the open houses, using email, and involving the P.T.A. were also discussed.

7.5. M.C.E.L. – October 16th and 17th in Billings: Mrs. Gantt and Mrs. Rogers indicated their intent to attend the conference.

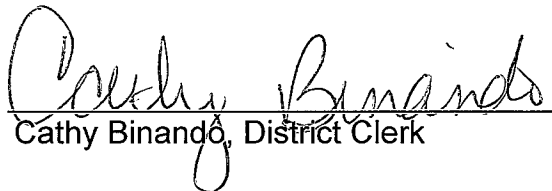
7.6. Other – A special meeting was set up for Friday, September 12th, to discuss the special education transportation issue at 12:00 p.m. (This meeting was later cancelled.)

8. **Adjourn** – Mr. Hallett adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Approved:



Nick Hallett, Board Chair



Cathy Binando, District Clerk