

M I N U T E S
Mason Consolidated Schools
Meeting of the Board of Education

Approved 4/14/21
March 15, 2021

On March 15, 2021, the Mason Consolidated Schools Board of Education held a regular meeting. President Stieben called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Fowler, Smith, Grodi, Otting, Skaggs,
& Stieben

Board Members Virtual: Larrow

Also Present: Supt Tuller, Blair, Valentine, McCain, Russow, Trainor
& Bates

Pledge of Allegiance

Review/Approval of Agenda

President Stieben presented; Superintendent Tuller requested the addition of Action Item B: Approve recommendation to permit Superintendent Kelli Tuller to enter into a contract with SSOE once proposal is legally reviewed.

-It was moved by Larrow, supported by Smith
Motion carried 7-0; (Larrow virtual)

Old Business

Presentation of minutes from the March 3, 2021 Board of Education Meeting

-Mr. Stieben presented, no changes noted

New Business

The next regular scheduled Board of Education meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Library at Mason High School.

Resolution of Support of the Monroe County Regional Enhancement Millage Renewal

-President Stieben Read the Resolution to support of the upcoming May 4th millage.

Reconfirmation of COVID-19 Extended Continuity of Learning Plan

-Superintendent Tuller presented current COVID-19 case and quarantine data for the county, school boundaries and school district. Additional information was shared about changes that would take place if students return full time. Additionally, Superintendent asked each building principal to share a proposed schedule for a full time return. Superintendent Tuller indicated the need to get students back to school to maximize instructional time and that previous conversations indicated the district wanted to wait until staff was vaccinated. All staff opting to be fully vaccinated will be by March 31, 2021. Board members shared comments and concerns regarding bringing more students together, changing the schedule so late into the school year, support for students, keeping a schedule that is working, increasing instruction, and herd immunity. President Stieben reminded board members that the recommendation on the table is to return full time for the remainder of the year.

Report of two-way communication

-President Stieben presented; no questions. Superintendent Tuller indicated that upon inquiry, last month's high school percentages were lower as a result of some students finishing their virtual course.

Discussion of SSOE Proposal Scope and Fee for Services performed on the Natatorium of Mason Senior High School.

-President Stieben presented and indicated the need to get the project moving. Superintendent Tuller shared a couple of items of concern within the proposal. Items to discuss or revise included the need to have a performance provision to solidify a project completion date, discrepancy in the amount identified for the HVAC bid and design, an identified error in spelling, and a discussion on hourly rates. The proposal has been sent to Thrun Law Firm for legal review. Once reviewed and necessary adjustments made, Superintendent Tuller will enter into the contract with SSOE.

Public Comment

- Parent, Tara Stubleski, shared concerns and questions about possibly returning to school full time. Concerns and questions about social distancing, quarantining and instruction if quarantined were shared. Additional questions and concerns were shared by Ms. Stubleski regarding cleaning at the middle school and cleaning after a positive case.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Tuller presented the following items:

Open Meetings Act: Mason Consolidated Schools Board of Education Meetings will now be held in-person. Meetings will be held in the High School Library until further notice.

Additional Funding: On March 9th, Governor Gretchen Whitmer signed HB 4048, the supplemental spending bill for the School Aid Budget. Only 40% of the total anticipated ESSER dollars will be allocated at this time due to the veto of HB 4049. This bill would have prohibited the MDHHS from issuing an emergency order that either closes a school to in-person instruction or disallows a sporting event. These continue to be restricted funds similar to the previous ESSER allocation.

Technology: The Robotics Team was highlighted at the Monroe Chamber of Commerce Koffee Klub virtual meeting on March 9th and able to share how they are personally using the infrastructure provided by the technology millage to support their program. The Monroe County Regional Enhancement Millage will be on the ballot May 4 with a focus of Tech Equity=Prepared Students. The renewal of this millage would continue to support our efforts in providing the technology and resources our students need to continue to thrive in an everchanging world. The Citizens for Educational Technology Committee has been working to share facts and spread the word around the county. Superintendent Tuller will be attending the Monroe County Board of Commissioners Meeting Tuesday as one of three superintendents to speak about how the millage has and would continue to support equity and excellence for the students of Monroe County.

Athletics: The Varsity Football Coaching Position interviews will take place March 25th. Four candidates will be interviewed with the possibility of a second interviews if necessary. The committee will have a recommendation for the board of education on April 14th.

Spring Coaches:

Boys Varsity Golf- Stacy Grimes (5)years-rehire

Girls Varsity Softball- Lance Kettinger (3) years-rehire

Boys Varsity Baseball-Gabriel Mendina (10+) years-rehire

Boys Junior Varsity Baseball-Chad Jacklitch (10+) years-rehire

Boys Varsity Track and Field-Alex Russeau (3) years-rehire

Girls Varsity Track and Field-Julie Ravary (10+) years-rehire

Co-ed Middle School Track and Field- Alison Meisner (10+) years-rehire

Co-ed Middle School Track and Field Assistant-Kara Walczak (4) years-rehire

Volunteer coaches to-date are: Katelyn Russeau (Track), Jay Fowler(Softball), Gary Marcoaldi (Softball), Deanna Vanderpool (Softball), Chris McClain (Softball), Angela Gardner (Softball), Mike Ramlow (Baseball), Grant Grisier (Baseball), Bob Mead (Baseball), Andy Zaleski (Baseball), Steve Reams (Baseball) Katie Shopshire (Softball), Dennis Doty (Baseball), Mic Scott (Baseball)

Resignation: The district received and accepted the resignation of Evelyn Hamlin, bus driver. Presently, sub drivers are covering the bus route. The food service vacancy is now posted due to the possibility of a full-time return.

State Testing Update: The State Board of Education adopted a resolution on March 9, 2021 to strongly urges Legislature to waive state assessments and accountability if USED does likewise. The State Board of Education believes that benchmark assessments should serve as the means for determining interventions and allocation of resources this year.

5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent/Guardian Involvement : 5420 Sex Education:

Received the names of the current Sex Education Advisory Board from Ms. Brenda Huber. The sex education advisory board must include the following members: parents/guardians, students, educators, local clergy, and community health professionals. At least half of the members must be parents/guardians who have a student in the District. A majority of those parents/guardians must not be employed by a school district. All required members are represented.

Administrative Reports

-Mr. Stieben presented, no questions.

Full administrative reports can be found on the District website.

Consent Agenda

Approve the minutes from the March 3, 2021 Board of Education Organizational Meeting
Adopt Resolution of Support of the Monroe County Regional Enhancement Millage Renewal

-It was moved by Otting, supported by Grodi
Motion carried by 7-0; (Larrow virtual)

Action

Approve Reconfirmation of COVID-19 Extended Continuity of Learning Plan to return to a full time in-person schedule beginning April 11, 2021

-It was moved by Fowler, supported by Otting

Smith: Nay

Larrow (virtual): Nay

Otting: Aye

Grodi: Nay

Skaggs: Nay

Fowler: Aye

Stieben: Nay

Motion failed by 2-5

Approve recommendation to permit Superintendent Kelli Tuller to enter into a contract with SSOE once proposal is legally reviewed.

-It was moved by Smith, supported by Grodi

Smith: Aye

Larrow (virtual): Aye

Otting: Aye

Grodi: Aye

Skaggs: Aye

Fowler: Aye

Stieben: Aye

Motion carried 7-0

Board Reports/Comments

Fowler: Welcome Mike. Thank you for the plans. Support the plans either way. It is hard to determine at what point to open up so happy either way.

Grodi: Thank you everybody. Nice to see everyone in person. As Chandra said, it is a tough decision either way. Is the actual gain with the risk and I don't know if it is worth it.

Larrow: Would like to thank all of our staff and everyone who has been trying to maintain our kids going to school. Would like to thank our 9th grade advisor for taking on cleaning the courtyard and allowing me to be a part of that.

Otting: Hello to Mike, nice to have you with us. Thank you all for presenting great plans. Robert will be glad to have all of his video game time intact.

Skaggs: Welcome both Mike and Mike. I am appreciative and grateful. It is wonderful that we get to work with people in this team that is trying to do the best that we can. I want to give a special shout out to Kelly and the amount of time she has spent this year with all the changes and the amount of time she has to spend on the phone. She has been a blessing to our family.

Smith: Nice to see Mike in person, welcome aboard. I would like to think this is a precursor to what we can polish out for next year. I am sure we would have done well with full time but would like to protect our teachers and their families and our students and their families. The plans will be a good precursor for what we need to do when everything gets rolling again. Thank you. Looking forward to getting our pool up and running as soon as possible and I know Mrs. Tuller will do what is best for us. For those that sat with us tonight, it is good to see community involved.

Stieben: Welcome Mike and Mike. Good to have new bodies and blood on board and new thoughts and site lines on board. Getting a master plan in place for the mechanical is something we have wanted to do but hasn't happened. Shout out to my fellow board members. There was a wonderful frank and candid discussion. Thanks for being open and honest. From administration standpoint across the board, appreciate all the plans and how you worked together to create a plan. We are blessed to be able to move on some plans from some very smart people. Thank you and thank you to the public for coming. Thank you, Kelli, for the incredible amount of work you have done. Thank you to Kelly Trainor as well.

Adjournment

At 8:18 p.m., it was moved by Otting, supported by Smith to adjourn the March 15, 2021 meeting of the Board of Education. Motion carried 7-0 (Larrow virtual)

Janice Skaggs, Board Secretary