JAMESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD
Regular Meeting
Unofficial Minutes

School Board meeting on Monday, June 7, 2021 at 5:15 pm in the Thompson Community room at the Middle School.

Present: Roger Haut, President, Heidi Larson, Vice President, Greg Allen, Melissa Gleason, Diane Hanson, Gayle Nelson, Aaron Roberts, Jason Rohr, Robert Toso, Superintendent, Robert Lech and Sally Ost, Business Manager.

Guests: Joe Hegland, Ryan Harty, Jennifer Jung.

President Haut called the meeting to order and welcomed the audience and Amy Neustel, Administrative Assistant.

President Haut called for conflict of interest. Mr. Roberts declared a conflict of interest due to spouse is a teacher at Jamestown Public Schools.

Mrs. Nelson declared a conflict of interest due to daughter is a teacher at Jamestown Public Schools and stated she could be unbiased in executive session. Mr. Rohr declared a conflict of interest due to spouse is a teacher at Jamestown Public Schools.

Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mrs. Hanson to allow Mrs. Nelson to attend the negotiations executive session meeting for JEA. Mrs. Nelson wanted to understand the practice of the board prior with Mr. Allen and how it is different than now. Mr. Allen explained previously with only one person in executive session and if board members were absent. Mr. Rohr believes the board needs to set a process to follow for conflict of interest, during negotiations. Mrs. Larson reminded the board conflicts of interest is declared because it is an individual board members declaration for themselves. Roll call vote: Allen, no; Gleason, yes; Hanson; yes; Haut, no; Larson, no; Rohr, yes; Toso, no; Roberts, yes. 4-4. Motion failed based on unanimous vote required according to ND Century Code regarding conflict of interest for contracts.

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Mr. Toso to approve the consent agenda which consisted of May 17, 2021 regular school board meeting minutes, payment of bills, foreign exchange student from Poland, Belgium and Germany for the 2021-2022 school year, JEA negotiation May 10 and 25, 2021 meeting minutes, and facilities committee meeting May 18, 2021 minutes. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Jennifer Jung, Washington Principal, reported on the state assessments. The ACT test is submitted to juniors and seniors. The results showed it was down from previous years. Mrs. Jung thought this could be due to the pandemic in the spring of 2020 and the learning loss from that virtual learning time. A bill was passed at the state to not require ACT testing, it will go to the individual student to pay for the testing effective 2021-2022 school year. The ND State Assessment is done throughout the district grade levels. The report showed that we are above or matching the state average numbers, which is good. Students are tested in English and Math. ND Assessment was not done last spring due to the COVID pandemic.

Mr. Joe Hegland, Curriculum and Professional Development Director and Mr. Ryan Harty, Middle School Principal reported on District School Improvement and accreditation cycle. Mr. Hegland sated the accreditation cycle is every 5 years. AvancED/Cognia reviewed us in 2018 and is scheduled for the next review in the fall of 2023. The review is done by several administrators throughout ND and other states to inform us of what priorities to improve on and what is being done well. We had 3 areas to improve on: development of a data process, development of curriculum and research curriculum. We have worked with a literacy lens audit and grants received to implement striving readers program. There was changes due to the COVID smart restart plan which would have Hybred and distance learning. The Positive outcome was technology implementing schoology earlier, increase a device per student and

professional development on writing with Steve Dunn. The Striving Readers Grant brought strengthening of the early childhood partners in the community. Para professionals received professional development which was received very positive with 32 participants. Elementary PLC was hit hard with the schedule requirements with the smart restart plan but middle school and high school were able to continue. Professional development ahead is focused on social and emotional training. We continue to work with the University of Jamestown on some curriculum opportunities.

Superintendent Lech reported the Health and Safety plan is a regulation of ESSER funds. The plan will be required to be reviewed and updated every 6 months until 2024. Each ESSER fund has different restrictions.

Superintendent Lech reported the Board will need to decide on an option for the board vacancy for us to move forward.

Superintendent Lech updated on the UJ shared project.

Superintendent Lech reported the COVID sick leave bank brought forth has more days in the bank than planned. The original plan was to absorb the days. Reviewing the bank there are 2 options to give back 1.25 days per person who participated which would leave 53 days remaining for board discussion or 1.50 days back to participants and absorb the loss of 17 days. The COVID bank would close out June 30, 2021.

Superintendent Lech reported a House Bill passed to allow a new credential of special education technicians. This will give additional flexibility and support to special education staff. The credential is a rigorous plan of study to ensure staff are adequately trained to meet the responsibilities.

The Facility committee reviewed the capital projects plan and settle on four priority categories of: 1) facility availability and preventative maintenance, 2) facility safety and quality, 3) facility/district efficiencies and 4) technology and expanded capability. The board would approve the capital project plan with the 10 % variance yearly. Mrs. Larson moved, seconded by Mr. Roberts to approve the updated capital projected plan. Roll call vote with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Toso moved, seconded by Mrs. Nelson to approve the initial application for ESSER III. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Toso moved, seconded by Mr. Allen to accept the resignation of Katie Brandt, English Teacher at the High School at the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year. Roll call with unanimous “yes’ vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Larson moved, seconded by Mrs. Gleason to accept the resignation of Kristin Higgins, Math Teacher at the Middle School at the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Toso moved, seconded by Mrs. Nelson to accept the resignation of Jacob Denautl, Math Teacher at the High School at the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Toso moved, seconded by Mrs. Nelson to accept the resignation of Anna Denault, 6th grade English Teacher at the Middle School at the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

The Board would like to thank them for their service to our students.

Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mrs. Nelson to approve the hire of Stephanie Krapp as Counselor at the high school, Salary $46,200.00 upon a successful background check for the 2021-2022 school year with salary to be adjusted upon completion of negotiations. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Toso moved, seconded by Mrs. Nelson to approve the hire of Mary Gorman as English Teacher at the high school, BS, Salary $44,317.00 upon a successful background check for the 2021-2022 school year with salary to be adjusted upon completion of negotiations. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Mrs. Gleason to approve the hire of Taylor Peterson as 8th grade Math Teacher at the Middle School, BS, Salary $45,789.50 upon a successful background check for the 2021-2022 school year with salary to be adjusted upon completion of negotiations. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Toso moved, seconded by Mrs. Nelson to approve the 2021-2022 Transportation Handbook. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Mr. Rohr to approve the 2021-2022 Elementary Handbook. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Discussion of the options to fill the board vacancy of Robert Toso. Mr. Rohr moved, seconded by Mrs. Hanson to move forward with procedure for selection process option. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Larson moved, seconded by Mr. Rohr to return 1.50 days to the participants of the COVID leave bank. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

President Haut asked the board to vote on all tuition agreements at once due to they all go to the same school. Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Mrs. Gleason to approve tuition agreements for a 1st grade, 2- 10th grade, a 3rd grade and 7th grade Jamestown students to attend Montpelier Public School for the 2021-2022 school year. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

I, Mr. Robert Toso believe that discussion with our negotiators and developing a strategy relative to the School Board's position in this matter in open session would have an adverse fiscal effect on the negotiations position of the Board. Therefore, I move: That the Board enter into executive session, That the following members and negotiators be identified as being present:
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: MELISSA GLEASON, DIANE HANSON, ROGER HAUT, HEIDI LARSON, ROBERT TOSO, SUPERINTENDENT ROBERT LECH, AND BUSINESS MANAGER SALLY OST. On June 7, 2021 at 6:45 pm that only the following topic will be considered in executive session: JAMESTOWN EDUCATION ASSOCAITON NEGOTIATION STRATEGIES
That the legal authority for the executive session is: SECTION 44-04-19.1 OF THE NORTH DAKOTA CENTURY CODE. That the executive session be recorded. Seconded by Mrs. Larson. Roll call vote. Motion carried.

Open meeting resumed at 7:25 pm.

There being no further business, President Haut adjourned the meeting.