

JAMESTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD
Regular Meeting
Unofficial Minutes

Minutes of the regular Jamestown School Board meeting held on Monday, September 21, 2020, 5:15 pm in the Thompson Community room in the Middle School.

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

Guests: Jim Roaldson, Darby Heinert, Linda Mohn, Ashely Hochhalter, Adam Gehlhar, Shannon Hagen, John Hagen, Brenda Kirkeby, Renae Lundo, Kaylee Panchot, Dan Lamp, Annetta Tweten, Kritie Douty and Sara Hegerle.

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

Public Communication: Annetta Tweton, Jamestown, Shannon Hagen, Jamestown, Sarah Hegerle, Jamestown, and Brenda Kirkeby, Jamestown addressed the Board with concerns on the current COVID plan our school has and how it is affecting the students, staff, and activities. Some concerns were the mental health of students, work overload for staff and lack of activities and consistency.

Mr. Toso moved, seconded by Mr. Roberts to approve the consent agenda which consisted of September 8, 2020 regular board meeting minutes, payment of bills, pledged securities, 20-21 enrollment, submission of MISO1, MSO2, MISO3 and PEO2 reports, student follow-up class of 2020. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Superintendent Lech reported on Education Core funding. Additional funds are to be used for personnel costs only and are to be spent by December 31, 2020.

Superintendent Lech reported we have 132 students in Virtual Academy. The virtual academy is more of a time burden for teachers than was explained at time of inquirers. Progress assignment is more than expected. TAG teachers are used for elementary follow-up in virtual academy. Teachers are to contact each student once a week to let the student know they are part of JPS. The Education Core funding dollars will help to address this concern to take the load off the teachers. In certain cases stipends will be able to be paid.

Superintendent Lech reported on the assistance we receive from SEEC Cooperative, our Regional Education Association. The Cooperative helps schools to work together on professional development, grant writing, reading corp, Medicaid billing, afterschool programs, English Learner support and certified staff attendance through a program called Frontline. Regional Education Association funds is part of the state funding formula, which are deducted from our revenue. The funds are not intended to go directly to the school districts but to help support REA to operate and work more efficiently.

Superintendent Lech reported JPS is in Green phase, instructional plan 2. The next review meeting is October 2. Superintendent Lech shared what area schools the same size as us are doing for this school year with class time and activities.

Superintendent Lech reported that Mr. Roberts had requested to add to the agenda a discussion on input gathering, which is later in the agenda.

Mrs. Ashely Hochhalter, 5th grade teacher at Gussner, reported on Teacher Leadership Academy. The TLA program is 5 semesters and the students receive a master degree in Education Leadership. The course is through NDSU, with Mr. Flowers as the advisor. The class consists of Jamestown and Edgeley teachers. The class has discussion with leaders from their communities. There are signature assignments for each class. The course helps each teacher to understand their own capabilities, understand the district and community's direction of a topic and to collaborate with other colleagues. Mrs. Hochhalter felt the course helped to grow our schools and communities. Each teacher has an action research project to present to the school board.

Linda Mohn, Schauer and Associates, reported on the audit process for Jamestown Public Schools. They audit Jamestown Public Schools like other audits they do. Three to four people come to the site to do the audit. They review samples of different section of the business financials by understanding the steps and if they are being followed. If changes happen and why. They speak with staff about the changes. They test for compliance of the federal requirements. The audit takes three – four days at the location and then several days to review for their final findings.

Superintendent Lech explained the public hearing on property tax request.

Mrs. Nelson moved, seconded by Mrs. Gleason to approve the monthly financial reports. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Sally Ost, Business Manager, explained the draft budget in June, final budget in July and changes that happened after July to mill levy, federal funding, and certificate of Indebtness funds. Mr. Toso moved seconded by Mrs. Gleason to approve the revisions to general fund, building fund and debt services 2020-2021 budgets.

| | Revenue | Appropriations |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| General Fund | \$31,781,478.54 | \$31,610,544.51 |
| Building Fund | \$ 4,355,401.80 | \$ 840,552.50 |
| Debt Service | \$ 560,275.75 | \$ 560,275.75 |

Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Nelson moved, seconded by Mr. Rohr to approve the 2020-2021 Resolution for Tax Levies. Mill Levy value as of 8-6-2020 is \$74,568

Tax Levy:

1. General Levy 70 mills \$5,300,000.00
2. Building Levy 10 mills \$750,000.00
3. High School Tuition Levy 7 mills \$530,000.00
4. Miscellaneous Mill Levy 12 mills \$900,000.00
5. Special Assessments 1 mills \$75,000.00

Roll call vote with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Larson moved seconded by Mr. Toso to approve the agreement with QHS. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Larson moved seconded by Mr. Toso to approve the ECSE ESSR grant in the amount of \$3000. Roll call with unanimous “yes” vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Diane Hanson departed the meeting at 6:57 pm.

Mrs. Nelson moved, seconded by Mr. Roberts to approve to post the District Technology Communications Coordinator position. Roll call vote with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Larson moved, seconded by Mrs. Gleason to approve to post the District Technology Specialist Position. Roll call vote with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Nelson moved, seconded by Mrs. Gleason to approve the tuition agreement for a 6th grade Jamestown student to attend Kensal Public School for the 2020-2021 school year. Roll call vote with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Gleason moved, seconded by Mr. Roberts to approve the tuition agreements for Kindergarten, 10th grade, 8th grade and 6th grade Jamestown students to attend Montpelier Public School for the 2020-2021 school year. Roll call vote with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mrs. Larson moved, seconded by Mr. Rohr to approve the open enrollment for two 1st grade Montpelier students to attend Jamestown Public School for the 2020-2021 school year. Roll call with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Roberts asked for discussion on an input gathering regarding concern on our current COVID plan of action. Mr. Roberts moved, seconded by Mr. Rohr to have an open forum and zoom forum for parents, students, teachers and administrators along with a survey to hear concerns and suggestions from all who are involved in this school year. Personnel and grievances will not be part of this forum. Roll call vote with unanimous "yes" vote. Motion carried.

No further business, President Haut adjourned the meeting.