

## **Regular Board Meeting of November 7, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Whitehall School District 4, 47 and 2 of Madison and Jefferson Counties was held on November 7, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Whitehall Middle School Library.

### **Board Members:**

Michelle LaFontaine, Chair  
James Reiff, Vice Chair  
Sharon Howard  
Jeff Briggs  
Sue Pullman  
Paul Shaw

### **Administrators:**

John T. Sullivan, Superintendent  
Patti Drake, District Clerk  
Hannah Nieskens, 6-12 Principal  
Britt McLean, K-5 Principal

Visitors: Kory Klapan

## **AGENDA**

### **ITEM:**

#### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair, Michelle LaFontaine

#### **Flag Salute**

#### **Approval of Agenda**

Sharon Howard made a motion to approve the agenda.  
James Reiff seconded the motion.  
In Favor: Michelle LaFontaine, James Reiff, Jeff Briggs, Sharon Howard, Sue Pullman, Paul Shaw  
Opposed: None  
Motion carried

#### **Visitors**

The visitors were welcomed to the meeting and were told that a public comment period for matters of a general nature would be held later in the meeting.

#### **Public Comment**

None

#### **Minutes**

James Reiff made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 3, 2017.  
Sharon Howard seconded the motion  
In Favor: Michelle LaFontaine, James Reiff, Jeff Briggs, Sharon Howard, Sue Pullman, Paul Shaw  
Opposed: None  
Motion carried

#### **Correspondence**

None

## **REPORTS:**

#### **Elementary Principal**

(See attached)

#### **High School Principal**

(See attached) Ms. Nieskens informed the board that there was a question about the band and cheerleaders not attending the second playoff game. She explained that the decision not to have the band play was made on Friday due to the weather and possible damage to instruments. The visiting band also was not present. There were 2

cheerleaders in attendance, they were bundled up and cheering from the stands in front of the student section.

## **Superintendent**

(See attached) Mr. Sullivan also reported that the project the 21<sup>st</sup> Century students were going to work on, getting a new drinking fountain, was not going to happen, so the school will get the elementary students a new drinking fountain.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Non-Tenured Evaluations**

Ms. Nieskens reported that she evaluates the following non-tenured teachers: Ms. Chiller, Ms. Reamy, Ms. Behrens, Ms. Clarkson and Mr. Neill. She has completed all the evaluations, she gives them positive feedback and also something to improve on. She believes everyone is going in a positive direction.

Mr. McLean reported that he evaluates the following non-tenured teachers: Ms. Forcella, Mr. Hayes, Ms. Wirth, Mr. Harris and Ms. Stevens. He has no issues with any of the teachers and like Ms. Nieskens he gives them positive feedback and something to improve on.

### **School/Facility Improvements**

Mr. Sullivan explained that in our 3-year Strategic Plan under Facilities and Maintenance there is a list of 24 future projects. The committee then made recommendations from this list of projects that should be done immediately, within 3 years and other projects that were mentioned more than once. Some of these projects have been completed or are almost completed and some of have not been started. Mr. Sullivan informed the board that lately there have been some other projects that are of immediate concern, for example: the crow's nest, lighting in the varsity gym, middle school hot water heater, varsity gym floor and the heaters in the classrooms in the elementary. We have an estimate of \$26,000-\$35,000 for the varsity gym floor, an estimate for replacing the varsity gym lights with LED \$8,500 with a \$2,000 rebate for a final total of \$6,500. We have had Core Control come in and do some work on the heating in the elementary, the heat is working the best it has in a long time, but the teachers still cannot control the temperature in their rooms. We would like to have Core Control come back and calibrate the thermostats, this is estimated at \$3,900.

Mr. Sullivan would like some input from the board on these projects. James, Sharon and Jeff all think the lights in the varsity gym should be replaced and not repaired. The savings on putting LED lights in will save us money in the long run. Michelle thinks replacing the water heater should be the number one priority. Paul said the varsity gym floor lasted 10 years and that we should get it refinished. He also thinks we need to consider replacing the crow's nest. The board gave Mr. Sullivan permission to get bids on the projects and move forward with them.

### **School Budget Review**

Mr. Sullivan informed the board that the General Fund is looking good so far. We also have money in the Multi-District and Metal Mines Fund to use for some of the projects discussed earlier. The Transportation Fund looks good. Our Activity bus will be arriving and that will be another expense.

## **Staff Resignations**

Mr. Sullivan informed the board that we have two resignations: Mike Real as custodian and Lauren McDonald as MS Head Track Coach. He recommended the board approve the resignations.

Paul Shaw made a motion to approve the resignation of Mike Real. James Reiff seconded the motion.

In Favor: Michelle LaFontaine, James Reiff, Jeff Briggs, Sharon Howard, Sue Pullman, Paul Shaw

Opposed: None

Motion carried

Sharon Howard made an elementary motion to approve the resignation of Lauren McDonald.

James Reiff seconded the motion.

In Favor: Michelle LaFontaine, James Reiff, Jeff Briggs, Sharon Howard

Opposed: None

Motion carried

## **Substitute Staff**

Mr. Sullivan informed the board that we have two applications for substitutes: Sarah Brinel and Bobbi Jo Benner. He recommended the board approve Sarah Brinel and Bobbi Jo Benner as substitutes.

Jeff Briggs made a motion to approve Sarah Brinel and Bobbie Jo Benner as substitutes.

Sue Pullman seconded the motion.

In Favor: Michelle LaFontaine, James Reiff, Jeff Briggs, Sharon Howard, Sue Pullman, Paul Shaw

Opposed: None

Motion carried

## **Claims and Accounts**

The Claim Approval list was presented to the board.

### **Claims**

Sue Pullman made a motion to approve payment of the high school claims for November as submitted.

Paul Shaw seconded the motion.

In Favor: Michelle LaFontaine, James Reiff, Jeff Briggs, Sharon Howard, Sue Pullman, Paul Shaw

Opposed: None

Motion carried

James Reiff made a motion to approve payment of the elementary claims for November as submitted.

Sharon Howard seconded the motion.

In Favor: Michelle LaFontaine, James Reiff, Jeff Briggs, Sharon Howard

Opposed: None

Motion carried

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

James Reiff made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Sue Pullman seconded the motion.

In Favor: Michelle LaFontaine, James Reiff, Jeff Briggs, Sharon Howard, Sue Pullman, Paul Shaw

Opposed: None

Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Signed:

ATTEST:

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Chairman

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Clerk