SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, January 23, 2024
5:15 p.m. - Wm. Budd Room, Fairmont Elementary School

I. **ROLL CALL & CALL TO ORDER**
A regular meeting of the Fairmont Area Schools Board of Education was held on Tuesday, January 23 at 5:15 p.m. in the Wm. Budd Board Room. Members in attendance were Nicole Green, Julie Laue, Mari Myren, and Jen Harris. Absent: Mike Edman and Dan Brookens. Student school board members Grace Simpson and Abi Peyman were also present.

II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

III. **MINUTES**
A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Mari Myren, and carried to unanimously approve the January 9, 2024 school board meeting minutes.

IV. **AGENDA**
A motion was offered by Mari Myren, seconded by Julie Laue and carried to unanimously approve the January 23, 2024 school board meeting agenda.

V. **CELEBRATIONS AND SCHOOL / COMMUNITY REPORTS**

   A. **School Resource Officer Update**
   Police Officer, Shannon Bass, shared details about his responsibilities as the District's School Resource Officer (SRO). Officer Bass has served on the police force for 26 years and as a SRO since 2019. The majority of his time is spent at the high school, but he also enjoys spending time at the elementary. First and foremost, Officer Bass' goal has been to help students see him as a resource and a real person, not just someone in a uniform. Officer Bass found the SRO position to be intimidating initially, but now views students and the buildings as his community. He's welcomed by students each day and believes their fear connotation related to his uniform is gone. Officer Bass stressed that his role is not to discipline, but to keep students and staff safe. In closing, he noted that the Adopt-A-Cop Program in first grade is still underway and is also an effective means for police officers to instill trust in students rather than fear.

VI. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** - See attached

VII. **FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

   A. **Donations / Grants**
   A resolution was introduced by Jen Harris, seconded by Julie Laue and adopted on a unanimous roll call vote to accept the following donations: 1) $1,000 from the Fairmont Firefighters to be used for a 4th grade field trip and the high school weightlifting program; 2) $300 from Dale and Pat Knewtson Family Foundation for the Robotics program.

   C. **Financial Reports & Bills**
   School board treasurer, Julie Laue, reviewed the January 23, 2024 financial reports.

   A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Mari Myren, and carried to unanimously approve wire transfers for 1/4/24 - 1/7/24, and payment of the January 23, 2024 bills.

VIII.   **OLD BUSINESS**

IX.   **NEW BUSINESS**

A.   **Rental Fee Schedule**
A motion was offered by Nicole Green, seconded by Jen Harris and carried to unanimously approve the 2023-24 rental schedule, effective February 1, 2024.

X.   **PERSONNEL**

A.   **Employment**
A motion was offered by Mari Myren, seconded by Julie Laue, and carried to unanimously approve the employment of the following:

1.   Chelsey Jensen, elementary special education paraprofessional
Effective: January 24, 2024   Salary: Step 1

2.   Kierra Curry, long-term substitute elementary teacher
Effective: March 5 - June 4, 2024   Salary: BA, Step 1

3.   Joice Forster, long-term substitute elementary teacher
Effective: February 8 - March 21, 2024   Salary: Retiree Rate

C.   **Superintendent Contract**
A motion was offered by Nicole Green, seconded by Jen Harris and carried to unanimously approve a three-year superintendent contract for Andy Traetow, effective 2024-2027.

XI.   **BOARD COMMITTEE & OTHER REPORTS**

A.   **CER Advisory Council Meeting** - 1/11 (Mari)
B.   **Operations Committee Meeting** - 1/17 (Nicole)
C.   **SPEC Board Meeting** - 1/22 (Julie)
D.   **Student School Board Member Meeting** - 1/15 (Abi & Grace)
E.   **MSBA Winter Conference** - 1/11 & 12 (Mari, Julie & Jen)

XII.   **OTHER BUSINESS**

VIII.   **ADJOURNMENT**
A motion was offered by Julie Laue, seconded by Mari Myren, and carried to unanimously approve/disapprove adjourning the school board meeting at 5:58 p.m.

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Mari Myren, Clerk