

**Deer Park School District #2  
2105 Middle Road  
Columbia Falls, MT 59912  
REGULAR MEETING**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – May 14, 2024**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Deer Park School District #2 was called to order by Chairwoman Cindy Barnes at the school at 6:40pm for the purpose of considering business to come before the Board.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairwoman Cindy Barnes, Mickale Carter, Jeremy Grady and Patrick Lundie

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Superintendent Sheri Modderman, District Clerk Gina Smith

**STAFF PRESENT:** Amanda Lunde, Christy Olson, Pam Clark, Tana Anderson, Laurie Lapan

**OTHERS:** Bill Trebas, Nicky Ferguson, Charlie Ferguson

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Amanda Lunde read a statement from the Deer Park Education Union (DPEA) regarding the renewal/non-renewal of Heidi Weathers and the process thereof. Amanda highly encouraged the Board to consult with the Administrator regarding staff recommendations and that all should follow the proper grievance process in accordance with the Deer Park policy. She stated the DPEA is grateful for Board's recent re-vote.

Sheri Modderman addressed the non-renewal of Heidi Weathers at last month's meeting. She stated that there was a lack of transparency, communication, trust and respect. Sheri also commented that the Administration and the Board need to work together and she was alarmed at the lack of communication preceding the vote. As the Administrator, she was not informed of a possible issue and was not given the opportunity to address any staff issues. She reminded the Board of their ethical duties outlined in Deer Park's policies.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None noted.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

***District Clerk's Report - Monthly Financial Reports***

**Action Items – Consideration of:**

- May Claims

Mickale Carter made a motion to approve the May claims. Patrick Lundie seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

**Information/Discussion Items**

- April Statement of Expenditure
- April Payroll Report

***Superintendent's Report***

**Action Items – Consideration of:**

- Classified Staff Renewal

- Sheri Modderman recommends renewal of Casie Denning who works 3 days/week as a paraeducator. Mickale Carter made a motion to renew Casie Denning's contract for next year. Jeremy Grady seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.
- Sheri Modderman recommends renewal of Brittney Iverson who works 3 days/week as a paraeducator. Patrick Lundie made a motion to renew Brittney Iverson's contract for next year. Mickale Carter seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.
- Sheri Modderman recommends renewal of Samantha Olson who works 2 days/week as a paraeducator. Jeremy made a motion to renew Samantha Olson. Patrick Lundie seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.
- Sheri Modderman recommends moving Diana Moyer to fill the open paraeducator position for 2 days/week. Diana Moyer is currently an afternoon Crash Zone aide. Mickale Cater made a motion to hire Diana Moyer as paraeducator to fill the open position. Jeremy Grady seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed
- Sheri Modderman recommends renewal of Sally Torres who works as the morning Crash Zone Supervisor and handle the billing. Patrick Lundie made a motion to renew Sally Torres. Mickale Carter seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.
- Sheri Modderman recommends renewal of Linda Toren who works as the Custodian in the Annex building. Mickale Cater made a motion to renew Linda Toren. Jeremy Grady seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.
- Sheri Modderman recommends renewal of Amanda Hellwig who works as the Custodian in the Primary and other buildings. Jeremy Grady made a motion to renew Amanda Hellwig. Patrick Lundie seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.
- Sheri Modderman recommends renewal of Jake Horn who works in maintenance. Patrick Lundie made a motion to renew Jake Horn as maintenance. Mickale Carter seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.
- Sheri Modderman recommends renewal of Josh Kercher who works as the maintenance assistant. Patrick Lundie made a motion to renew Josh Kercher. Mickale Carter seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.
- Out of District Students (Possible closed session)
  - Sheri Modderman recommended to admit the follow out-of-district students who are children of staff members: 15, 18, 29, & 30. Mickale Carter made a motion to admit the recommended out-of-district students. Patrick Lundie seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.
  - Sheri Modderman recommended to admit the all returning students and their siblings who are new to the district: 1-14, 16-17, 19-28, and 31-68. Mickale Cater made a motion to admin all returning students and their siblings. Jeremy Carter seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- Sheri Modderman recommended to admit students new to the district: 57 (going into kindergarten) and 35 (going into 4<sup>th</sup> grade). Patrick Lundie made a motion to admit students 57 and 35. Jeremy Grady seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.
- Sheri Modderman recommended to disapprove new-to-district student number 69 due to class size limitations in the incoming 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class which is already at the class size limit. Mickale Carter made a motion to not admit number 69. Jeremy Grady seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

- **Volleyball Coaches**

Sheri Modderman recommended opening up two coaching positions for next year's Volleyball season. The second coach would be paid their own \$1k stipend as opposed to splitting the current \$1k stipend. Jeremy Grady made a motion to open an additional Volleyball coaching position. Mickale Carter seconded the motion. Patrick Lundie abstained from the vote. All others voted in favor. Motion passed.

#### **Information/Discussion Items:**

- **Status Update on Curriculum Selection**

Teachers have been diligently researching curriculum and reviewing samples. They have identified a first choice for the English-Language Arts (ELA) curriculum for kindergarten through fifth grade. The curriculum committee recommends Wonders by McGraw Hill. Hard copies will be available in the office for Board member and community review.

Science and History curriculum review is still in process. Middle school needs both curriculum sets and has priority, but the curriculum is also looking at kindergarten through fifth grade. More information will be coming as the curriculum committee continues to review Science and History curriculum options.

- **Maintenance Log Update**

Cindy Barnes advised that the school needs to create an updated copy of our maintenance log.

- **Certified Job Descriptions**

The Certified staff went through the MTSBA generic job descriptions and made changes that apply to Deer Park and specific jobs at the school. Sheri Modderman will review the changes and bring them to the board at a future meeting.

#### ***Board Chairwoman's Report***

#### **Information/Discussion Items:**

- **Updated FP-14**

- **Negotiations Update**

The items on the table are the new insurance trust participation and raises for Certified Staff. The DPEA is asking for a 6% on base (steps/lanes) increase. The next negotiations meeting is 5/15/2024.

- **End-of-Year Spending Priorities**

The Board added student desk/chair replacements, 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade whiteboards, walkie talkie for communication during drills, keyless door locks, possible recording

equipment needed for board meetings, gym exterior caulking/painting, chrome books/tablets for board members, new flooring for classrooms that have carpet and ground irrigation.

- Nepotism Hirings Meeting

The Board set for June 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:15am. The meeting must be advertised in the newspaper at least 15 days prior to meeting.

### **FACILITIES UPDATE:**

#### **Action Items – Consideration of:**

- Electrical Work – Reader Board

Project is complete. The reader board is up and running.

- Keyless Entry door locks

Sheri will call the company to schedule the work. Additional funding sources are being reviewed.

- Gym Exterior Caulk/Paint

Gary Anderson is still working on getting bids.

#### **Information/Discussion Items:**

- New Building Proposal

No update at this time.

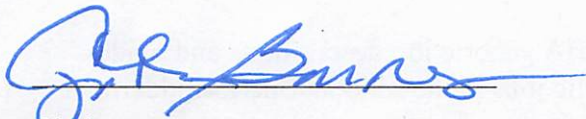
### **NEXT MEETING(S):**

Nepotism Hiring Meeting – June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 8:15 a.m.

Regular Meeting – June 11, 2024

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Patrick Lundie made a motion to adjourn at 8:11p.m. Jeremy Grady seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.



Chairwoman

6/11/2024

Date Approved



District Clerk