



PALMYRA R-1

SCHOOL DISTRICT

Jason Harper, Superintendent | harperj@palmyra.k12.mo.us

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Palmyra R-1 School District Regular Board Meeting Press Release May 15, 2024

The Palmyra R-1 Board of Education met in regular session on Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at the Palmyra R-1 Board Office at 1703 South Main Street, Palmyra, Missouri. All board members were present along with Superintendent, Jason Harper, Elementary Principal, Bridgette Augspurg, and Middle School Principal, Steven Kerr.

The Board heard a report from the Palmyra High School FBLA officers that took the board through their activities and achievements for the 2023-2024 school year. FBLA participates in multiple service projects throughout the year, and 23 of the 35 members qualified for the State FBLA Competitions. Reports were also heard and/or viewed from the principals.

Mr. Harper gave a legislative update. He took the board through the highlights of the state budget that was approved last Friday. Public schools will have full funding for the foundation formula with a state adequacy target of \$6,760 per ADA and receive full transportation funding. The state budget also increased Prop C money by \$119 million that will be allocated monthly after WADA is determined this fall.

Mr. Harper took the board through the preliminary budget that is being prepared for the June board meeting where it will be approved. Increased assessed valuation and state adequacy target has given the District more flexibility in the budget this year. The district has several large projects planned for the summer. Those include an HVAC project that will include 71 HVAC units at the elementary and high school. The transformer at the high school will also be replaced this summer.

The board approved the 2024-2025 salary schedule for both certified and classified staff. The certified salary schedule includes a \$1,250 increase in the base salary. That is a 3.2% raise on the base of the salary schedule. The board also approved \$15 vertical steps for years of service and \$10 horizontal steps for education. Certified staff also received their step for years of service at \$415. The combined average raise for certified staff worked out to approximately 4.04% overall.

The classified salary schedule also received a 4.04% increase. This increased the starting classified salary from \$13.00 per hour to \$13.53 per hour. Classified staff also received their step for years of service.

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Bridgette Augspurg
Elementary School Principal

Steven Kerr
Middle School Principal

Jared Pontius
High School Principal

Brian Wosman
Athletic/Activities Director,
Transportation Director

Kathy Nicholson
Parents as Teachers Coordinator

Kinsey Cissna
Special Education Coordinator



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Bus driver salaries were approved at a range of \$89 per day up to \$97 per day based on years of experience.

The Board did a first reading on MSBA Policy EHBD. This policy covers the use of artificial intelligence (AI) in schools. Middle school assistant principal, Kylee Meyer, will serve as the district's AI coordinator. The AI coordinator that will monitor, regulate, and adjust AI use in the district. The coordinator will also develop an AI use plan that will ask students and employees to work within when using AI. The AI use plan will determine appropriate use and prohibitions regarding AI. The second reading will be done at the June board meeting, and the board can then adopt the policy.

The board approved an intent resolution that allows the district to be reimbursed for bond issue costs prior to the selling of the bonds in late June. These costs will primarily be associated with the schematic design phase of the projects related to the April 2 bond issue.

The board approved the 2024-2025 Professional Development plan. Addy Gottman developed the plan with input from the professional development committee and administrative team. The plan focuses on four main goals. To gain knowledge about the Missouri Learning Standards and improve the curriculum so there is a clear focus on what the students learn. Improve instruction that is focused on student learning by all students and increase student engagement. Use assessment data to revise and implement curriculum and instruction. Provide positive support systems so that high levels of student learning are achieved.

The July board meeting was moved to the Palmyra Elementary Library because of the transformer replacement at the high school. The meeting will be held on July 9, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

The following resignations were approved:

Tanner Adams, Varsity Assistant Baseball Coach
Jessica Bohne, Elementary Paraprofessional
Bruce Farabee, High School Foreign Language Teacher
Pam Frankenbach, Middle School Paraprofessional, Crossing Guard
Mikkah Johnson, Elementary K-Kids Sponsor

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The following hires were approved:

Liz Frankenbach, Summer Painting
Aspyn Harrison, Elementary PE, Varsity Assistant Tennis Coach, Middle School Basketball Coach
Dalton Huffman, Summer Painting
Mikkah Johnson, Middle School Football Cheerleading Sponsor
Kathy Keim, Elementary 4th grade teacher
Emily Lampton, Elementary Paraprofessional
Alexis Meyers, Varsity Tennis Coach
Ali Paulson, Summer Painting
Tara Poor, Elementary Paraprofessional
Nick Powell, Summer Painting
Taylor Reynolds, Middle School Basketball Cheerleading Sponsor
Isaac Williamson, Summer Painting and Grounds
Summer Student Workers

The following internal moves were approved:

Macy Bross, Middle School 8th Grade Math to High School Math
Jill Hicks, Elementary 4th grade to Middle School 6th grade

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