

HARLEM PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Regular Board Meeting
October 19, 2021

ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Johnathan Walker called the meeting to order at 6:20 PM. Trustees present were Johnathan Walker, Kathleen Adams, Valerie Blackcrow, and Michael King (arrived at 6:24 PM). One Trustee position is vacant. Dr. Arlene Bigby, Superintendent, Teresa Cornell, Interim Business Manager/Clerk and eight guests were also present. Approximately seventeen guests attended the meeting via zoom.

A. GUESTS AND DELEGATIONS

None.

B. UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Kathleen Adams to approve:

1. Minutes of the September 16, Regular, October 6th Working Board Meeting and October 12, 2021 Special Board Meetings.
2. Payroll Warrant number 78926 – 78977 in the amount of \$709,415.49
3. Claim Warrant numbers 19047 – 19084 in the amount of \$251,757.91
4. Student Account check number 22084 – 22116 in the amount of \$10,453.78 and void check numbers 22094 and 22099
5. Purchase Orders over \$10,000:
 - Pete’s Plumbing - \$50,000 – Replace both Jr/Sr High boiler hot water heaters - \$50,000
 - Shell Energy – PO#21115 - \$31,000 –Gas for the Jr/Sr High School Building – ongoing all year
 - Superior Business Equipment – PO#21070 – \$18,000 - Maintenance Contract for all District copiers, includes toner – ongoing all year
 - Bear Paw Coop – PO#210403 - \$16,289 – 50% Required SpEd Instructional Block Grant Match
 - First Call Computers – PO#21082 – \$14,760 - IT Assistance – Kaseya Software
 - Faure Holden Attorney – PO#20961 - \$12,947.50 – Legal Assistance for 2019-2020
 - Faure Holden Attorney – PO#20980 - \$11,316 – Legal Assistance for 2020-2021
 - Ezzie’s Wholesale – PO#21045 - \$10,756.62 – Fuel for all school vehicles for 21-22 School Year
 - Triangle Communication – PO#21122 - \$11,000 – Phone and Internet services for District for 21-22 School year
 - Sysco – PO#21072 - \$28,727.05 – Food for District – ongoing all year.

Second by Valerie Blackcrow and motion carried 3 for, 1 absent (King), 1 vacancy.

C. PROGRAM REPORTS

Dr. Arlene Bigby, Teresa Cornell, Marty Dirden, Evelyn Bigby, Jessica Cochran and Clayton Talks Different reviewed their written reports. The Superintendent has received and accepted letters of resignation from Paraprofessionals: Melissa Gunn (resignation effective 9/30/21), Tara Zuelke (resignation effective 10/12/21), Stacy Cole (resignation effective 10/18/21) and Jr/Sr High School Nurse Desiree Bell (resignation effective 10/29/21).

Dr. Arlene Bigby received notice that The Board received MTSBA's "Golden Gavel Award". Congratulations!

A working Board meeting was set for Wednesday, November 3rd at 6:00 PM. Recess 6:22-6:30

D. TR-1 BUS ROUTE APPROVAL

Motion by Kathleen Adams to approve the TR-1 forms for the following bus routes: 12-2 Old Hospital/West Valley, 12-3 East Valley, 12-4 South Main, 12-5 Rodeo Drive #1, 12-6 Rodeo Drive #2, 12-8 People's Creek, and 12-K Half Town/New Town. Second by Mike King and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

E. SET IMPACT AID PUBLIC HEARING DATE

The Board has suggested Nov. 10th at 6 PM in the Board Conference Room for the Public Hearing via zoom.

F. FBIC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

No one from Behavioral Health in attendance. Dr. Bigby will continue to work with them until they have their proposal ready.

G. POTENTIAL ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY

Motion by Valerie Blackcrow to offer the owner \$27,000 for the property at 512 Central Ave. E in Harlem, MT. Second by Mike King and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

H. INTER-FUND TRANSFER

Motion by Mike King to approve an inter-fund transfer from High School Impact Aid fund to High School Miscellaneous Federal Fund for \$5,600.33. Second by Kathleen Adams and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

I. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

The Board formed the following committees:

- Facilities Committee – Mike King & Johnathan Walker
- Negotiations Committee - Johnathan Walker & Valerie Blackcrow
- Housing Committee - Valerie Blackcrow & Kathleen Adams

J. TRUSTEE RESIGNATION/VACANCY

Motion by Valerie Blackcrow to declare Clayton Talks Different's Trustee position vacant. The appointment process will be followed and a new trustee will be appointed to fill this vacancy until the next Trustee Election in May 2022. Second by Kathleen Adams and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

K. CONSIDERATION FOR ISSUANCE OF CONTRACT FOR 2021-22 COACHES/EXTRA-CURRICULAR

Motion by Valerie Blackcrow to hire Brandon Trottier as Head HS Girls Basketball coach for SY 2021-22 per the CBA, with the district reserving the right to withdraw the offer based upon the results of the background check. Second by Kathleen Adams and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

Motion by Valerie Blackcrow to hire Eleanor Doucette as Head 10th Grade advisor at 2% of teacher base salary, per CBA. Second by Kathleen Adams and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

Motion by Mike King to hire Daniel Owens for Chorus at 3% of teacher base, per CBA, contingent upon concerts/events held outside school hours. Second by Valerie Blackcrow and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

L. CONSIDERATION FOR ISSUANCE OF CONTRACT FOR 2021-22 CERTIFIED STAFF

Motion by Valerie Blackcrow to hire John Stiffarm as Aaniiih Cultural Teacher for SY 2021-22 per the C.B.A., with the district reserving the right to withdraw the offer based upon the results of the background check. Second by Kathleen Adams and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

M. CONSIDERATION FOR ISSUANCE OF CONTRACT FOR 2021-22 CLASSIFIED STAFF

Motion by Valerie Blackcrow to hire Cierren Spaulding as Para-professional and Larina Walker as Asst. Cook for Jr/Sr High for SY 2021-22 per the C.B.A., with the district reserving the right to withdraw the offer based upon the results of the background check. Second by Mike King and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

N. CONSIDERATION FOR ISSUANCE OF CONTRACT FOR 2021-22 ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT STAFF

Motion by Mike King to hire Cassie Handran as Business Manager/Clerk for the remainder of SY 2021-22 at a prorated annual salary of \$49,140, with the district reserving the right to withdraw the offer based upon the results of the background check. Second by Kathleen Adams and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

O. WRESTLING

Motion by Mike King to add two additional assistant coach for wrestling. Second by Kathleen Adams and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

P. TERMINATION OF CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE

Employee resigned (refer to Agenda Item C), no action was taken.

Q. COVID RELIEF LEAVE BANK

Motion by Valerie Blackcrow to adopt a Covid Leave Bank with a starting balance of 200 days available for Covid Leave. This leave bank will be retroactive back to 8/23/21 based on proper documentation and application. Second by Mike King and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

R. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT STAFF CONTRACT AMENDMENT – POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION

No action to release. Employee may come back before the Board with documentation if she wants.

S. LIQUIDATED DAMAGES – LARAMIE SCHWENKE

No action to release.

T. REVIEW JOB DESCRIPTIONS

Dr. Arlene Bigby asked if there were any questions on the information sent out. There were no questions. Job descriptions will be reviewed at the working meeting on November 3rd.

U. SUB/EXTRA HELP LIST APPROVAL

Motion by Kathleen Adams to approve the sub/extra help/volunteer list of applicants below with the district reserving the right to withdraw the offer based upon the results of the background check and age requirement. Second by Mike King and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

Derrick Shambo	Boys Basketball Volunteer Coach	
Tana Gorecki	Substitute Teacher	\$17.46/hr
Shelby Main	Substitute Teacher	\$17.46/hr

Second by Mike King and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

V. BOARD POLICY 7336 TRAVEL ALLOWANCE AND EXPENSES

Teresa Cornell and Clayton Talks Different will do more research on per diem rates for staff and students. This will be discussed at the working meeting on November 3rd.

W. BOARD POLICY 5120P FEDERAL BACKGROUND CHECK FINGERPRINT AND INFORMATION HANDLING PROCESS

Motion by Mike King to approve the 1st Reading of BP 5120P Federal Background Check Fingerprint and Information Handling Process. Second by Kathleen Adams and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

X. ADJOURN

Motion by Kathleen Adams to adjourn at 7:41 PM. Second by Valerie Blackcrow and motion carried 4 for, 1 vacancy.

Johnathan Walker, Chairperson

Teresa Cornell, Clerk