

**MIO AUSABLE SCHOOLS' BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 14, 2020**

PRESENT: Holzwarth, Hunter, Irelan, La Vigne, Mitchell, Szymanski, Whaley
ABSENT: None
ADMINISTRATION: Ciske, Shiffer
RECORDING SECRETARY: McVeigh

President Irelan called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda

2020-2021-18

Whaley/Szymanski to approve consent agenda items:

- a) Minutes of Regular Meeting of August 10, 2020
- b) Monthly finance

YES: 7

NO: 0

Motion approved.

Athletic Director's Report – Superintendent Ciske provided an athletic overview. Currently athletics are 'up and down' with two spectators allowed per participant for each sport. Four schools will not be competing in girls' junior high basketball due to the mask requirement. Volleyball had their first game and it went well, with everyone following the mask guidelines. At the present time, there will be no concessions as well as no entry fee, however, donations are accepted. Guards were ordered for football which attach to helmets. This fulfills the face covering rule and does not mandate an actual mask be worn during football practices/games.

Elementary Principals' Report – Mrs. Shiffer reviewed elementary information. New dismissal procedures are going well. Edgenuity Professional Development will be held on September 18, with student dismissal at noon. A 4th/5th split was created, with an additional class of straight fourth and straight fifth grade students. There are currently 233 K-5 students enrolled, with 43 of those students enrolled in virtual classes. Virtual class attendance has been monitored closely. Mrs. Wood is the K-5 virtual teacher. NWEA testing will begin this week. All 'Read by Grade 3' components are still in effect. Students have been cooperating very well with the designated areas, playground sections and mask wearing. There was one out-of-school suspension.

Buildings and Grounds Report – Mr. Ciske reported that the elementary gym roof project is now complete. Enough disinfectant and hand sanitizer has been purchased to last quite a while. Upon evaluation the high school roof, Great Lakes Roofing reported that the roof is in much worse shape than expected. This situation was discussed with our auditor and we were advised that General Fund funds could be lent to the Sinking Fund. This would allow the roof to be repaired before it becomes worse and creates situations that could become costlier. Once funds are collected, the sinking fund would repay the general fund next year. Great Lakes Roofing also evaluated other roof sections. The middle school wing and high school gym are also priorities, but not to the extent of the high school roof. The library roof also needs repairs. We will be replacing roofs for the next few years. The fire alarm crew completed much of the rewiring and will return later in the year to complete the process. Currently obtaining quotes to update the Wi-Fi in the lower elementary wing. A lot of iPads will be used in the lower elementary and the current infrastructure is not sufficient for usage.

Middle School / High School Principals' Report – Mr. Ciske reviewed middle school/high school information. The school year is off to a great state with everyone complying with the mask requirements. Students have adapted well to the Covid-19 modifications. Class meetings were held during the first week of school to go over rules, policies and expectations. Students seemed to be happy to return to school. Online learning was faced with some challenges during the start-up and we are working through that. A special thank you to Karen Mitchell and Kelli McDonald for their work in getting this implemented. The new cell phone policy seems to be going well, with students leaving their phones in their lockers during class. Testing is scheduled to begin and will continue over the next several weeks. An extra challenge this year will be the testing and assessment of virtual students. There were two suspensions.

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Ciske provided an update. The Title application was submitted this week, with less carryover than in past years. This is due to our leveraging 2019-2020 funds to provide chrome books for this year. The auditors have been completing the reconciliations and audit. They are scheduled to be at the November board meeting. Mr. Ciske expects to receive some audited numbers prior to that. Still awaiting word from the legislature and governor on the school aid budget. A Revenue Estimating Conference was recently held. It appears that finances may not be as bad as expected. There are currently 492 students in grades K-12. The Extended Continuity of Learning (ECOL) Plan will be an action item this evening. Special thank you to Mrs. Shiffer for her work in pulling this plan together. Due to the retirement of Sharon Sieting, we have posted a paraprofessional position. We also have an English teaching position open, but have filled that for the first semester with Mr. John Poff.

Public Comment(s) on Extended Continuity of Learning Plan - None

Citizens' Comments - Mr. McFalda stated that students using torches will not be wear masks due to safety issues.

2020-2021-19

Holzwarth/Mitchell

consider the acceptance of the letter of retirement from Sharon Sieting, effective October 2, 2020.

YES: 7

NO: 0

Motion approved.

2020-2021-20

La Vigne/Szymanski

consider approval of the request for maternity leave for Ruth Wood.

YES: 7

NO: 0

Motion approved.

2020-2021-21

Hunter/Whaley

consider the approval of the Mio AuSable Schools Extended Continuity of Learning (ECOL) Plan.

YES: 7

NO: 0

Motion approved.

Board Members' Comments – Board member Linda Whaley expressed thank you to staff and support staff for the excellent job they have done during the pandemic, and added that she commends all of them.

Correspondence - None

There was no other business.

2020-2021-22

Holzwarth/Szymanski to adjourn at 7:07 p.m.

YES: 7

NO: 0

Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeannette McVeigh, Recording Secretary

Cheryl La Vigne, Board Secretary