

Participants: Lester Oehler (Notetaker), James Anderson, Jacque Krumrey, Josh Stauber, Brittney Bryant, Erin McMullen, Jamie Hahn, Megan Irwin, Robbin Stevenson

Votes:

James moves to adopt the most recent school district academic calendar for the 2021-2022 school year. Erin seconds (5,5,5,5,5,5)

Minutes:

September: Erin moves Karen seconds September minutes (5,5,5,5,5)

October: Karen moves to approve October minutes, James seconds, (5,5,5,5,5,5)

7:04 Welcome

Public Comments

Blake asked about take home covid test. Josh: +/- 10 a week are being sent home. Blake followed up about finding ways to promote the tests. Blake also asked about the Muddy Creek newsletter, and the possibility of promoting the tests via that?

Josh was going to talk with Amanda about reminders, and seeing how to boost participation. Josh was relying on the teachers to send out classroom specific, and didn't want to overload parents. Josh said he would explore restarting the newsletter.

Blake complimented the school on its communication; and asked about changing how to pick up the tests to be lower contact. Josh said he would work this out.

Jacque wondered if some of the hesitation could be that it is not clear how easy it is to do this test.

Speeding on Belfountain.

Erin wanted to bring up the regular speeding on Bellfountain near school.

Josh said he asked for a speed trailer. Josh agrees, speeding is a big problem, driving by 55, 60+.

Josh said the kinders were out pleading with cars to slow down.

Lester said that it causes noise and air pollution, and is especially disruptive to the classrooms with the doors/windows open to the road for covid safety.

Minutes:

September: Erin moves Karen seconds September minutes (5,5,5,5,5)

October: Karen moves to approve October minutes, James seconds, (5,5,5,5,5,5)

Executive Report:

Resuming Star testing (district assessment). End of this month, early December. MC will likely do two tests this year. Students will be tested in their classrooms. Liz will help facilitate, and they will use their chrome books. It is not a timed test, so students can take a couple of days to complete.

The conferences went well. High turnout, mostly online, with a few in classroom appointments.

Staffing update. Robbin is going to be the long-term substitute. Josh thanked Robbin for taking this on.

Music: We did get an applicant for a music teacher, ~.5 FTE, but the position is not currently in the budget.

Enrollment: Josh is having Victor put information about openings on our website. Lester suggested that some parents might be shopping for schools now/in near future as kids get vaccinated.

Question to the Board: Do we want to continue aligning our calendar with the district?

James mentioned that our old schedule gave us more hours in the classroom.

Josh said that the trainings for the extra hour on Fridays has been very valuable for training and planning. The two hour windows really gives the teachers a great opportunity to prepare and plan.

Karen said she doesn't want the hour early release used as a prep. With the new reading program, math, etc. training she was in favor of the extra time.

James agreed, saying he finds the hours in the classroom too valuable...

Erin said that she is concerned about the health and well-being of the teachers. Prep/training time... whatever they need.

James doesn't want to set a precedent that this extra hour off is automatic, and will continue indefinitely. Erin agreed, this is a temporary alignment with the district schedule.

Megan said that it is her understanding that the teachers are also working on SPED work, so their burden is a lot heavier this year (Covid). The school district has put a lot on the plates of teachers this year.

Jacque brought up that the teachers don't have the "prep" time while they would normally be with specialists (PE, Music etc).

James moves we adopt the most recent school district academic calendar for the 2021-2022 school year. Erin seconds (5,5,5,5,5,5,5)

Field: It's seeded and turning green!

Outdoor School: Tom and Josh are working on this. It will be more like a "day camp". There is funding for this. Josh is looking for a closer place to do this in the spring.

Field trip with the 1st and 2nd graders was a success. Liz has been a big help as our Opportunity specialist. The 3rd and 4th graders will be next to have a field trip.

Holiday Food Drive: Ms. Angle is working with the kinders to get some food to folks that need it, information is going out.

Future projects: Josh is meeting tomorrow with the Benton County Foundation.

Lights and Security Cameras are going up, front, and North side of classrooms, and one in the (un)covered area. Jeff has been working on that. James asked that they be lights that have as little negative effects on wildlife/astronomy as possible.

Lockdown practice: There was a practice lockdown recently. Jacque said that her son told her there was a deranged man in “rugged” jeans that took over the school, etc. Josh will try to make sure parents know about the drill ahead of time to avoid any confusion.

Reading intervention: Lynn from Willamette Valley Dyslexia Center is working with the students and they are making good progress. Karen said “that lady is absolutely dynamite”! The teachers really got a lot out of her introduction. Josh said that this was going to be a long-term partnership.

SPED: Josh said that the district had some concerns about confidentiality in a townhall, and would prefer a one-on-one conference with individual parents.

Josh said that he would prefer to be the representative for SPED, but due to big picture budgeting and resources, this is how it will be. Josh said he will continue to be involved in IEP meetings, and advocating for our students.

SLP (Speech and Language Pathologist) meetings should start later this month with the students that have these needs.

Jamie expressed concern about confidentiality, and how it might detract from parents getting support from each other.

Robbin suggested that the PTO might be able to start a support group for interested parents.

James said he sent a personal letter to Sami to express his support after the NY times article.

Teacher Liaison: Robbin expressed that the teachers are feeling a little isolated, and not getting enough “group time”. Robbin said she was struggling with PE. Prep has been a struggle for others, not just the lesson plan, but also prepping for individual students to get them going in the right direction; library time is also down due to staffing. The Ag program is quick and effective and engaging.

PTO: Brittney and Saffron were taking over leadership now that Robbin is stepping down as president to teach the 3rd grade.

Treasurer Report: Audit is finished and is being sent to the District.

Budget Update: We've lost a lot of students, and are down from projections. Tonya said 4 out of 5 of the schools she does accounting for were going to dip into reserves. No need to panic about the budget at this point.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:21