

BOARD MINUTES

The La Moille C.U.S.D. #303 Board of Education met in regular session on February 22, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the La Moille Jr/Sr High School library.

Roll Call: Brad Fischer, Bill Schwabenland, Chris Leffelman, Robin Lovgren, Jim Scully, Steve Wendel

Absent: None

Visitors: Ashley Jonson, Jennifer Williams, Walt Zukowski, Anne Johnson, Emily Leffelman, Tara Robinson, Amanda Fischer, Tori Sadnick, Cindy Shevokas (on phone as guest)

AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Brad Fischer and seconded by Robin Lovgren. Ayes: Bill Schwabenland, Chris Leffelman, Jim Scully, Steve Wendel.

RECOGNITIONS

Emily Leffelman recognized our high school counselor, Katie Shevokas, for all of her work on scheduling our students and seeking opportunities for future growth. She was recently recognized by ROE 35 for Excellence in Education, as voted on by her peers. We are very proud of, and happy for, her and this recognition.

Anne Johnson recognized Vicky Bonnell as our Community Recognition. She serves our district as a part-time substitute bus driver and can often be found working as a substitute paraprofessional at Allen library, stating that books are important.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve the consent agenda, which includes the regular meeting held on January 18, 2024 and the February bills, was made by Jim Scully and seconded by Brad Fischer. Ayes: Bill Schwabenland, Chris Leffelman, Robin Lovgren, Steve Wendel.

FINANCIAL REPORT

N/A

ADMINISTRATORS' REPORTS

Lisa Gifford's SBMH (SEL) grant updates: La Moille is still the fiscal agent, but the DePue bookkeeper will assume the bookkeeping role. This has been confirmed acceptable by the Fed. Dept. of Ed, so Stephanie from DePue will be joining the monthly grant work meetings.

Bookkeeper transition and training updates have been sent out in an email sent out 2/20/24 and includes Lisa's beginning to train on bills payable and payroll will Lori this week into next.

Suicide Prevention Training through ISBE is free for those that register by March 1<sup>st</sup>, so that information has been sent out. Lisa has registered for the self-paced. Anne, Emily Kenny, Tori, Cathy and Cindy have also been asked to register.

Phone system updates with Troy: they have updated 3 phones at the Jr/Sr high school and will continue to update now through spring break. Work will continue after spring break through the summer to connect both schools and have new phone numbers.

ISBE Strategic Plan has 4 goals: Equity, Student Learning, Learning Conditions, Elevating Educators

The Public School Calendar updates have been approved by the state superintendent. IASB Starved Rock Division meeting with State Superintendent at LaSalle-Peru THSD 120 in on April 11, 2024, if board would like to meet the state superintendent.

K-6 Anne Johnson updates: Currently there are 88 students at Allen Grade School. Anne updated on upcoming events and trips happening for the k-6<sup>th</sup> grades.

7-12 Emily Leffelman updates: Currently 83 students are enrolled at the Jr/Sr High School. Emily updated with upcoming FFA week, as well as readiness for upcoming state testing. February was also busy with district events for the community.

OLD BUSINESS

Motion to approve the annual and give year Press PLUS policy updates as present in Issue 113 was made by Robin Lovgren and seconded by Chris Leffelman. Ayes: Brad Fischer, Jim Scully, Steve Wendel, Bill Schwabenland.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to grant permission for the Superintendent to begin working on FY25 budget was made by Chris Leffelman and seconded by Robin Lovgren. Ayes: Brad Fischer, Jim Scully, Steve Wendel, Bill Schwabenland.

Approval of the engagement letter and employment of Hopkins and Associates for FY24 audit was tabled.

Motion to move to Executive Session was made by Brad Fischer and seconded by Jim Scully at 7:35pm. Ayes: Robin Lovgren, Chris Leffelman, Steve Wendel, Bill Schwabenland.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

La Moille CUSD 303 Board of Education met in executive session at 7:39p.m. to discuss the performance, employment, and compensation of specific employees.

Roll Call: Brad Fischer, Robin Lovgren, Chris Leffelman, Jim Scully, Cindy Shevokas (phone) Steve Wendel, Bill Schwabenland.  
Administrators: Lisa Gifford, Superintendent; Emily Leffelman and Anne Johnson arrived 10:15pm.  
Visitors: Walt Zukowski

Motion to return to regular session at 10:18pm was made by Brad Fischer and seconded by Jim Scully. Ayes: Robin Lovgren, Chris Leffelman, Steve Wendel, Bill Schwabenland; Cindy Shevokas abstained.

PERSONNEL

Motion to approve Scott Hitzler as a long-term substitute English teacher for the remainder of the 2023-2024 year was made by Steve Wendel and seconded by Chris Leffelman. Ayes: Brad Fischer, Robin Lovgren, Jim Scully, Bill Schwabenland; Cindy Shevokas abstained.

Motion to approve Stephanie Naber as interim bookkeeper, effective immediately made by Chris Leffelman and seconded by Brad Fischer. Ayes: Robin Lovgren, Jim Scully, Steve Wendel, Bill Schwabenland; Cindy Shevokas abstained.

Motion to approve a long-term substitute pay rate of \$240, after 10 consecutive days, through the end of the 2023-2024 school year was made by Chris Leffelman and seconded by Steve Wendel. Ayes: Brad Fischer, Robin Lovgren, Jim Scully, Bill Schwabenland; Cindy Shevokas abstained.

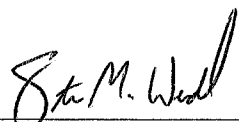
As discussed in closed session, motion to accept, with regret, the resignation of Employee A (Lori Fry), effective March 1, 2024, was made by Chris Leffelman and seconded by Brad Fischer. Ayes: Robin Lovgren, Jim Scully, Steve Wendel, Bill Schwabenland; Cindy Shevokas abstained.

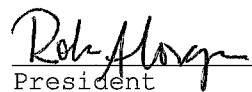
As discussed in closed session, motion to accept, with regret, the resignation of Employee B (Jason Kazin), effective February 23, 2024, was made by Brad Fischer and seconded by Jim Scully. Ayes: Chris Leffelman, Robin Lovgren, Steve Wendel, Bill Schwabenland; Cindy Shevokas abstained.

Motion to approve Scott Hitzler as the 2023-2024 softball coach was made by Chris Leffelman and Robin Lovgren. Ayes: Brad Fischer, Jim Scully, Steve Wendel, Bill Schwabenland; Cindy Shevokas abstained.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 10:23 p.m. was made by Jim Scully and seconded by Brad Fischer. Ayes: Chris Leffelman, Robin Lovgren, Steve Wendel, Bill Schwabenland; Cindy Shevokas abstained.

  
Secretary Pro-Ten

  
President pro tem