July 15, 2020

The Brimfield Board of Education held its regular meeting on Wednesday, June 17, 2020 at 7:05 p.m. in the High School Library. Board Vice President Kenney called the meeting to order with the following members present: Meyer, Heinz, Updyke, Johnson, and Graham.

The board recognized the following visitors: Marilyn Eberle, John Ballentine, Amy Herron, and Amy Kepple.

Updyke moved and Johnson seconded to approve the June 17, 2020 Regular meeting, June 30, 2020 Extra-Curricular Meeting, and July 1, 2020 Building & Grounds Committee meeting. Motion Carried.

Kenney had nothing to report.

Superintendent Shinall reported on his board report. He publicly thanked everyone for making the first month a smooth transition into his new role. He highlighted the Facility Sales Tax amount received and anticipates a gradual increase due to businesses opening up. He mentioned that our legal counsel will not be raising their rates for this upcoming fiscal year. He elaborated on the state moving into Phase 4 of the reopening plan and what that means for the School District. The last piece of information was the distinction between e-learning and remote learning; the District will still have to require approval for an e-learning plan to be in effect.

Mr. Robison reported on his High School Report. He publicly thanked everyone for helping him feel welcome and right at home. He highlighted the school registration days.

Mrs. Albritton reported on her Grade School Report She briefed the Board on Instruction and Curriculum initiatives. She elaborated on facilities, grounds, and maintenance improvements. She publicly thanked Ashley Cornelison on her efforts on the landscaping improvements. She also thanked the custodial staff on their indoor maintenance; due to their hard work, they are ahead of schedule. She briefed the board on a sensory path in the K-4 hallways. Lastly, she briefed the Board on the school registration days. She mentioned that any updates will be made available on the website.

There was one item of old business to address: the fiber line replacement. Superintendent Shinall shared that one issue is the fiber line is tied into the phone system; another is how to run the line. It has been decided it will be run underground and any work on the street (the part that the District owns), will not be a factor. MidCentury will be replacing the line.

There was new business to discuss/approve.

Meyer moved and Johnson seconded to approve Miller, Hall & Triggs as the Attorneys to represent Brimfield CUSD 309 for FY 2020-2021 financial year. Motion carried

Updyke moved and Johnson seconded to approve the Amended 2020-2021 School Calendar. Superintendent Shinall elaborated. This is due to Election Day being a Holiday. Peoria County Institute has been cancelled; there is now a Teachers’ Institute the day after conferences in October.

Motion carried

Updyke moved and Meyer seconded to approve the Brimfield Grade School Handbook. There was a question about major changes. Superintendent Shinall clarified that there were no major changes.

Motion carried

Meyer moved and Updyke seconded to approve the Brimfield High School Handbook. There was a question about major changes. Superintendent Shinall mentioned that there may be a concern about second semester attendance in relation to final exams; it can be addressed later if need be.

Motion carried

Superintendent Shinall shared takeaways from the return to school committee work. As of right now, the intent of the Return to School Committee is to attend in-school five days a week with early release until we can enter Phase 5 of reopening Illinois. The last hour or so of the teacher’s day would be dedicated to remote learning for those who cannot, or choose not to, attend in-school instruction. Masks are a requirement in school and on the bus. He and Mrs. Albritton elaborated on how lunchtime would be handled.

Heinz inquired about the student refusing or forgetting a face covering. Shinall mentioned that students who forget a mask will be offered a paper mask. The state is providing masks to the school, and we will also have paper masks on hand.

Graham inquired about the return to school requirements. Shinall stated there are five:

1. Require use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including face coverings;
2. Prohibit more than 50 individuals from gathering in one space;
3. Require social distancing be observed, as much as possible;
4. Require that school conduct symptom screenings and temperature checks or require that individuals self-certify that they are free of symptoms before entering school buildings; and
5. Require an increase in school wide cleaning and disinfection

A question arose pertaining to Physical Education; Shinall and Albritton shared how that would be handled.

A question arose regarding grading and remote learning; Shinall explained how that would be addressed.

There were questions regarding information from the parent survey. Mrs. Albritton read off the response rate to some of the questions; she also mentioned that Before and After Care has been moved to larger rooms. She also mentioned that with the smartboards comes the ability to share screens and the ability to verbally communicate.

Heinz inquired on how the District plans on handling a positive COVID case. Shinall mentioned that we will be working with the Health Department and following their guidance.

Meyer questioned if there will be a special Board Meeting towards the end of the month to lay out a more official plan. Superintendent Shinall agreed that, yes, this is the plan and he also plans on

communication through an all-call and through the website regarding dissemination of the plan to the community.

Superintendent Shinall, again, informed the board that we do have an unofficial e-learning plan and will go through the proper steps before enacting it.

There were ten personnel matters to discuss/approve.

Updyke moved and Meyer seconded to approve the resignation of Amy McKinty as the Grade School Girls Track Coach. Motion carried

Updyke moved and Graham seconded to approve the resignation of Ramona Barrett as the Grade School Cafeteria Assistant, with appreciation for her time and commitment to the District. Motion carried

Johnson moved and Updyke seconded to approve the resignation of Brent Kieser as the Grade School 8th Grade Boys Basketball, with appreciation for his time and commitment to the District. Motion carried

Updyke moved and Heinz seconded to approve the employment of Erin Self as the Grade School Girls Track Coach. Motion carried

Meyer moved and Heinz seconded to approve Josh McKown as the Grade School Assistant Baseball Coach. Motion carried

Updyke moved and Meyer seconded to approve Ali Jones as the Grade School 7th Grade Volleyball Coach. Motion carried

Updyke moved and Johnson seconded to approve Virginia Emerick as the Grade School Cafeteria Assistant. Motion carried

Johnson moved and Updyke seconded to approve Phil Johnson as the Grade School volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach. Motion carried

Updyke moved and Johnson seconded to approve Penny Silzer as the High School Varsity Volleyball Coach. Motion carried

Johnson moved and Updyke seconded to approve MaKayla Suelter as the High School JV Volleyball Coach. Motion carried

Heinz moved and Johnson seconded to approve:

* Erin Self – Grade School Girls Track
* Josh McKown – Grade School Assistant Baseball Coach
* Ali Jones – Grade School 7th Grade Volleyball Coach
* Virginia Emerick – Grade School Cafeteria Assistant
* Phil Johnson – Grade School volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach
* Penny Silzer – High School Varsity Volleyball Coach
* MaKayla Suelter – High School JV Volleyball Coach

Roll Call: Meyer – yes, Johnson – yes, Heinz – yes, Graham – yes, Updyke – yes, Kenney – yes.

Motion Carried

There were two compensation items to discuss/approve.

1. Updyke moved and Johnson seconded to approve a stipend for the High School Secretary and a stipend for the Grade School Secretary. Superintendent Shinall explained that this was the same stipend up for approval last year; it is for sub-calling. Roll Call: Meyer – yes, Johnson – yes, Heinz – yes, Graham – yes, Updyke – yes, Kenney – yes. Motion Carried
2. Updyke moved and Meyer seconded to approve the Non-Certified Salaries, as presented, for the 2020-2021 School Year. Roll Call: Meyer – yes, Johnson – yes, Heinz – yes, Graham – yes, Updyke – yes, Kenney – yes. Motion Carried

Updyke moved and Johnson seconded to approve the Consent Calendar items. Roll Call: Meyer – yes, Johnson – yes, Heinz – yes, Graham – yes, Updyke – yes, Kenney – yes. Motion carried

Board Vice President Kenney welcomed comments from the community members.

Marilyn Eberle had some questions:

* Will there be special face coverings (i.e. see through masks) worn for impaired students? Shinall explained that the Speech Pathologist placed an order today; paper masks will be available as well.
* Can students carry an extra face covering in their bags? Shinall stated that they absolutely are encouraged to do so.
* How do you plan on addressing students presenting with a cough that may not be related to the virus? Shinall stated that we are pushing for clearer guidance.
* How do you plan on addressing students with a temperature? Shinall explained that the students must be fever-free for 72 hours with no medication.

At 7:57 p.m. Heinz moved and Johnson seconded to adjourn the July 15, 2020 regular board meeting of the Brimfield CUSD #309 Board of Education. Motion carried

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Board President

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Board Secretary