July 10, 2019

The Brimfield Board of Education held its regular meeting on Wednesday, July 10, 2019 at 7:03 p.m. in the High School Library. Board President Thompson called the meeting to order with the following members present: Kenney, Updyke, Heinz, Graham, Johnson.

The board recognized approximately nine community members: Ben Steinbech, Ryan Albritton, Julie Albritton, Steve Thurman, Erin Miller, Sarah Moon, Kelly Walker, Angie Sneeringer, Buffie Stewart, and Jerry Stewart.

Heinz moved and Updyke seconded to approve the June 19, 2019 Regular and Closed session minutes. Motion carried

Board President Thompson elaborated on the halting of the Dell EMC computer purchase (Teacher Stations) that was approved at the previous board meeting. He shared his gratitude for Superintendent McNamara for taking on the Superintendent role for the upcoming School Year. He shared Julie Albritton’s letter of resignation from the board, and, on behalf of the Brimfield Board of Education, accepted such letter.

Superintendent McNamara reported on his board report. He thanked the Board for hiring him in for an interim role. He then shared some of his recent experience with being an interim; he also shared a summary of the interim’s role. He also shared his visit (earlier today) at the grade school and how the air conditioning project is making great progress.

Mr. Shinall reported on his High School board report. He thanked the entire custodial staff for all efforts in keeping the District up to par and for making any location adjustments a painless process. He also added that he will be out next week to attend an IASA convention for aspiring Superintendents next week. He had received a scholarship to attend.

Board President Thompson inquired about website issues. McNamara elaborated and shared his knowledge of how the issue came about and how it is being addressed. Mr. Shinall informed the Board that the new website is actually live, just not under that domain. The District was given a temporary domain to use and that information will be relayed to the public via robocall. The old domain is set to be live again by September 15, 2019.

There was a brief discussion regarding when the PERA Evaluation Committee will take place.

Heinz moved and Updyke seconded to approve Miller, Hall, and Triggs as the Attorneys to represent Brimfield CUSD #309 for the 2019-2020 School Year. Roll Call: Kenney – yes, Johnson – yes, Graham-yes, Updyke-yes, Heinz-yes, Thompson-yes. Motion carried

Updyke moved and Johnson seconded to approve the Grade School Handbooks for the 2019-2020 School Year. Roll Call: Kenney - yes, Johnson – yes, Graham-yes, Updyke-yes, Heinz-yes, Thompson-yes. Motion carried

Mr. Shinall referred to a clause in his contract for a vacation request beyond 3 days.

Updyke moved and Johnson seconded to approve the Brimfield High School Student Handbook. Roll Call: Kenney - yes, Johnson – yes, Graham-yes, Updyke-yes, Heinz-yes, Thompson-yes. Motion carried

Superintendent McNamara elaborated on the Grade School Drop-Off / Pick-up (old business) issue. He shared his thoughts on what the new setup could look like before and after the permanent road closure. A brief discussion ensued. He then shared his take on his (present day) visit to the memorial wall. He informed the Board that, in the past, he has had discussion with families about uprooting trees and planting new ones in a different location. This will be discussed in a future Building & Grounds Committee to decide if this is the approach moving forward.

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

At 7:42pm, Heinz moved and Kenney seconded to leave open session and enter closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of an employee *Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120, being Sec. 2 (c)* Roll Call: Kenney - yes, Johnson – yes, Graham - yes, Updyke - yes, Heinz - yes, Thompson - yes. Motion carried

The board members returned from closed session at 8:35pm.

Updyke moved and Graham seconded to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation to accept the resignation of, with appreciation for time served, Jason Juchems, Grade School Principal. Roll Call: Kenney - yes, Johnson-yes, Graham-yes, Updyke-yes, Heinz – yes, Thompson-yes. Motion carried

Updyke moved and Johnson seconded to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation to employ Sara Dingledine as the Grade School Cafeteria worker. Roll Call: Kenney - yes, Johnson – yes, Graham - yes, Updyke - yes, Heinz - yes, Thompson- yes. Motion carried

Heinz moved and Johnson seconded to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation to employ Trent Trotter as the 7th Grade Boys Basketball Coach. Roll Call: Kenney - yes, Johnson – yes, Graham - yes, Updyke - yes, Heinz - yes, Thompson- yes. Motion carried

Johnson moved and Heinz seconded to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation to employ Antje Carter as the High School Business Teacher. Roll Call: Kenney - yes, Johnson – yes, Graham - yes, Updyke - yes, Heinz - yes, Thompson- yes. Motion carried

Updyke moved and Johnson seconded to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation to employ Julie Albritton as the Grade School Principal. Roll Call: Kenney - yes, Johnson – yes, Graham - yes, Updyke - yes, Heinz - yes, Thompson- yes. Motion carried

Updyke moved and Johnson seconded to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation to approve a stipend for the Grade School Secretary and a stipend for the High School Secretary. Roll Call: Kenney - yes, Johnson – yes, Graham - yes, Updyke - yes, Heinz - yes, Thompson- yes. Motion carried

Johnson moved and Kenney seconded to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation to approve a stipend for the High School Principal. Superintendent McNamara reminded the Board that the High School Principal will be filling the days that he cannot be here for. Roll Call: Kenney - yes, Johnson – yes, Graham - yes, Updyke - yes, Heinz - yes, Thompson- yes. Motion carried

Heinz moved and Johnson seconded to approve the Superintendent’s recommendation to approve the non-certified salaries for the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year. Superintendent McNamara shared that the raise is 3%. Roll Call: Kenney - yes, Johnson – yes, Graham - yes, Updyke - yes, Heinz - yes, Thompson- yes. Motion carried

Board President Thompson welcomed comments from the community members. Jerry Stewart expressed his gratitude to Superintendent McNamara for addressing the Grade School Drop-off / Pick-up concern and the memorial plaques. He would also like to know if the composite pictures will be addressed. Heinz inquired the Board about the status of the mobile display that was once mentioned. Superintendent McNamara and the Building & Grounds Committee members will check with Mr. Zehr.

At 8:47 p.m. Heinz moved and Updyke seconded to adjourn the July 10, 2019 regular board meeting of the Brimfield CUSD #309 Board of Education. Motion carried

Board President

Board Secretary