



Mokena School District 159

Board Highlights for June 17, 2020

Communications

Public: None.

MTA: None.

MCSA: None.

MEF/PTA: None.

BOE: Mr. Everett commented that he had the opportunity to see the t-shirts that were ordered by the PTA for the MJH graduates; very nice.

Action Items that were approved include:

- Previous Month's Minutes
- District Bills
- Personnel –Certified-New Hires: Kelli LeGrand, Marisa Banowski. Certified-Filling Leave of Absence: Emily Timm. Classified-Resignation: Monica Lopez.
- Consent Agenda – Authorization to approve Bills to close FY20; Policy Changes (2nd Reading); Approve Access Control System RFP; Resolution authorizing Himes, Petrarca & Fester to represent the district in proceedings before the State Property Tax Appeal Board and County Board of Review.
- Adopt FY20 Amended Budget
- Approval of Autentico Spanish 1 Adoption
- Approval of Independent Reading Book Purchase
- Resolution to approve the Administrative Cost Waiver
- Resolution-Membership in National Purchasing Cooperative

Information Reports

Superintendent – Dr. White

- Transition Discussions – Dr. Cohen and Dr. White have spent many hours in “transition conversations” over the past several weeks with topics of leadership, district operations, and perceived next steps for the district. Dr. Cohen has been a very frequent participant in administrator meetings, Cabinet meetings, community leader meetings, and area superintendent meetings.
- New Logos – The Superintendent's Communication Team spent some time in the fall working on the development of new logos for the district. Unfortunately, it did not lead to a final version of logos for the District, MES, MIS and MJHS. Dr. White decided to seek the input of administration which led to some great conversations and the involvement of another designer; the cost is less than \$1,700. The MJHS logo is already being incorporated into the newly finished gym floor and on the banner for the promotion ceremony.
- 2020-2021 School Year – Nothing has changed regarding the district's receipt of clear guidance from the Governor or ISBE for the start of the 2020-2021 school year. The district continues to plan for multiple scenarios. This work included meetings with Dr. Cohen, MTA and MCSA leaders.

Assistant Superintendent of Instruction – Dr. Wilkey

- Due to the unpredicted spring the district had and the lack of opportunity to meet with the content committees, the district is postponing the release of the Annual Curriculum and Instruction Implementation Plan to include specific details on curriculum implementation (guided reading books and independent reading books), trainings (dates), staff feedback, etc. In Coordination with union leadership, the district set a new release date of October 1st.
- A total of 18 students have applied for the Dual Language program and all have been accepted. As the district gains more kindergarten registrations, we will begin adding students from the wait list.

- As of June 10th, 120 students have enrolled in kindergarten. At this time, the district will have an average of 17 students in a section. The district anticipates kindergarten enrollment to continue to grow.

Director of Student Services – Ms. Cirone

- Remote Extended School Year Services are up and running. All positions were filled with Mokena School District 159 current staff. Students have also been provided with technology as needed. ESY will run through July 9, 2020.
- The district was recently notified of the possibility of some changes to come in July regarding the Fee For Service component of Medicaid Billing, which is a source of revenue for the district. The department will look to provide more information once it becomes available.
- At this time, the only vacancy for the following school year is for a part-time speech language pathologist.

Chief School Business Official – Dr. Shaw

- Finance Reports – Available on the website.
Finance Committee Update – Primary focus was on Transportation; presentation can be found on the website under Board of Education.
- Budget at a Glance – Educational Fund summary excludes Transfers/Other; Selected period: 2019-07-01 to 2020-05-31; Revenues: \$188,871 under plan (-1.9%); Expenditures: \$807,678 under plan (-5.7%); Combined: \$618,807 favorable surplus condition.
- Amended Budget posted on the website.
- The Limitation of Administrative Cost worksheet must be filed with ISBE by November 15 of each fiscal year. The worksheet should report the actual administrative expenditures for the previous fiscal year and the budgeted administrative expenditures for the current fiscal year; cannot increase more than 5% over their prior year actual administrative expenditures.
- Summer Projects – Seal Coating for MES and MIS parking lots (finished) Accessible, power assisted entry door at the main entry of MES and MIS (work in progress); tuck pointing at MES and MJH (work in progress); Concrete damaged at MES by entrance to Right At School is a trip hazard and needs repair (June 15); MJHS front entrance walkway grading issues (postponed to Summer 2021); MES roofing repair of 2,300 square foot area above N100 (contract signed with Tremco and Malcor); MJH painting main office (July); MJHS track repairs (work in progress).
- Food Service Report – During the months of May/June, the district has been providing three lunches per day for a family in the district.
Transportation - The district is working with the National School Transportation Association and the National Association for Pupil Transportation to provide information and measures to assist student transporters in dealing with the coronavirus pandemic.

Director of Technology – Mr. Smith

- Device Collection – The district collected over 1000 devices that were sent home over the Remote Learning period; 55 devices have not been returned. With 6th and 8th grade device returns, the district noticed a 40% rate of missing styluses with a \$25 replacement per stylus. The district is trying to figure out if this is an issue with device design, communication, or responsibility; Tech Department is working with MJH administration to discuss what adjustments need to be made for the following school year. K-5th grade devices are being checked for damage and function; these devices are being replaced this summer; district will proceed with disposal of assets and will sell these devices to a 3rd party recycler.
- The district has not received any funding for the current E-Rate Filings; this will push back some of the summer project timelines; request for the fiber construction between MES and MIS has been flagged for audit; hopeful the network cabinets and firewall requests come in soon to be able to complete the projects over the summer.
- Purchase orders for the student and staff devices approved last month have been created.
- Updating the door access control system; modernizing and extending the current system.
- Planning new technology classroom configurations for next year for new laptops.

For the Good of Mokena

- Dr. White thanked the Board of Education for the opportunity to serve as Superintendent of Mokena School District 159 for the past two years. Dr. White commented that he is confident in Dr. Cohen as he steps into his new role as Superintendent and that he will continue to move the district in the right direction.
- Board members individually expressed their gratitude to Dr. White for all that he accomplished for the good of the district in the past two years and wished him all the best in his retirement years.

Respectfully,

Submitted on behalf of Dr. Don White, Superintendent