

**MIO AUSABLE SCHOOLS' BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 12, 2020**

PRESENT: Holzwarth, Hunter, Irelan, La Vigne, Mitchell, Szymanski, Whaley
ABSENT: None
ADMINISTRATION: Ciske, Shiffer
RECORDING SECRETARY: McVeigh

President Irelan called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda

2020-2021-23

Hunter/Szymanski to approve consent agenda items:

- a) Minutes of Regular Meeting of September 14, 2020
- b) Monthly finance

YES: 7

NO: 0

Motion approved.

Bolt of the Month Awards – Sixth, seventh and eighth grade students were honored as Bolt of the Month. These students were honored for their academic and citizenship achievements. Five students and their parent/guardian attended the meeting. President Irelan stressed the honor it is to receive this award and also thanked parents/guardians for their role in assisting their child to be the best they can be, not only through grades but through citizenship as well.

Athletic Director's Report – Superintendent Ciske provided an athletic overview on behalf of Athletic Director Courtney Beltz. Athletics have been running smoothly. MHSAA rules have changed regarding spectator limits. It is now based on capacity (20% indoor / 30% outdoor). With the new spectator ruling, we will again charge admission to events. Athletic policies have been going very well as we continue to adapt so that students can participate safely, as well as keep spectators safe.

Elementary Principals' Report – Mrs. Shiffer reviewed elementary information. Conference attendance was good. The Food Backpack program is fully funded thanks to area organizations and local churches. The first distribution will be on October 30. Enrollment is at 229 with 36 virtual students. Students have been excellent about cooperating with designated areas, playgroup sections and mask wearing. There will be a Thunderbolt Citizenship Award given at each marking period for those who have exhibited the Respectful, Responsible and Knowledgeable traits. We have also started a Spark Award. For the month of October, the focus is honesty. Mrs. Wood is the virtual teacher. We have added Edgenuity Pathblazer with K-5 virtual students in Math and ELA. Testing will begin soon. There were two out-of-school suspensions, involving one student.

Buildings and Grounds Report – Mr. Ciske reported that the construction of the Wellness Center began last week. A bid was received from Duro-Last for the replacement of the high school roof. This will happen during the beginning of November. As with the elementary roof, the bid ran through the T.I.P.S pre-bid system. This satisfies the competitive bidding requirement for an expense of this size. The roofing project will be paid for from a general fund loan to the sinking fund. This loan will be repaid next year. This is the final year of our contract with Axium for custodial services. As we go through the year we will explore all

options. We will put it out for competitive bid and look at the cost of contracting versus hiring custodians directly.

Middle School / High School Principals' Report – Mr. Ciske reviewed middle school/high school information. Mrs. McDonald held a financial aid night. The required NWEA testing for sixth and seventh grades has been completed. On October 14, we will begin administering the SAT, PSAT and NMSQT for grades 8-12. Conferences went well, with parents having the option of signing up for a telephone conference or face-to-face. Shutdown expectations have been shared with staff should the need to shut down again occur. Information will also be provided to families that explains the process. IT manager, Deforest Warren has been working non-stop to ensure that iPads and Chromebooks are working and ready to go. He is to be commended for his work and dedication. National Honor Society inductees are in progress. Current enrollment is at 491.

Superintendent's Report – Superintendent Ciske provided an update. Ruth Wood, high school paraprofessional, is on maternity leave. A long-term sub has been hired to fill her spot through the first of the year. We continue to work toward consolidating financial operations to Huntington Bank. The audit is nearing completion and will be presented at the November board meeting. In light of the Supreme Court issuing an opinion that the governor did not have authority to extend the state of emergency orders, the MDHHS has issued emergency rulings that keep in place many of the requirements that had begun as Executive Orders. The board will need to reapprove the Extended COVID Learning Plan. This will be necessary each month. The COVID dashboard is on the website which reflects a link to COVID cases.

Public Comment(s) on Extended Continuity of Learning Plan - None

Citizens' Comments – None

Action Items -

2020-2021-24

La Vigne/Whaley

consider the approval of the reauthorization of the Mio AuSable Extended COVID Learning Plan.

YES: 7

NO: 0

Motion approved.

2020-2021-25

Holzwarth/Hunter

consider the approval of the bid for replacing the roof of the high school wing as submitted by Duro-Last through the T.I.P.S. pre-bid system, and authorization to loan the required funds to the sinking fund from the general fund.

YES: 7

NO: 0

Motion approved.

2020-2021-26

Szymanski/Mitchell

to go into closed session at 6:53 p.m. for the purpose of discussing issues related to contract negotiations.

YES: 7

NO: 0

Motion approved.

2020-2021-27

La Vigne/Holzwarth to return to open session at 7:13 p.m.

YES: 7
NO: 0
Motion approved.

Additional Action Item -

2020-2021-28

Whaley/Holzwarth to consider authorization of the Superintendent to implement budgetary changes as recommended.

YES: 7
NO: 0
Motion approved.

Board Members' Comments – Board member Linda Whaley expressed concern regarding the parent drop off lanes in the morning. Mr. Ciske reported that administration is working on plan(s) to improve the situation and reduce congestion in the morning.

Correspondence - None

There was no other business.

2020-2021-29

La Vigne/Szymanski to adjourn at 7:20 p.m.

YES: 7
NO: 0
Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeannette McVeigh, Recording Secretary

Cheryl La Vigne, Board Secretary