

# BOE Meeting Highlights

Board of Education Meeting June 9, 2021

The Board of Education encourages the public to attend the meetings held on the second Wednesday of each month. There is an opportunity at the beginning of each meeting for input from the public. After that the Board conducts the School District's business, including the Superintendent's and Principals' Reports, position appointments, and issues to act upon.

## Public Participation

- Sarah Anderson, parent of JHS students, has been to 15 graduation ceremonies and has never been to one where the valedictorian wasn't recognized. She didn't like that and wanted to be heard.

## Superintendent's Report-Tim Keteri

- The district was notified that 15 of our students will be going to the new charter school next year. With all the ins and outs of graduates and incoming kindergarteners and freshman, the district will be right around the same enrollment for next year.
- The projected budget for 2021-22 was presented. There could be an increase from the state. It is unknown if lunch will be free again next year for everyone. The budget included steps for teachers and raises for support staff. The district might have to dip into fund equity next year but they will not need to borrow for the summer as in the past.
- Mrs. Trish Sherman, guidance counselor, retired. Ms. Bertucci, English/Spanish teacher, will be moving into that position and should be a good fit. Mrs. Laura Larson, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher, will be moving next year to JHS to do junior high English and guided study. Mrs. Madeline Larson, online instructor, resigned for family reasons. The district will be able to cover everything internally and should not have to lay off anyone.
- Jim Rautiola, JHS class of 1993, is the new ISD Superintendent and should be a good fit.
- There are some NEOLA policies to update including language regarding not discriminating on disabilities and gender or lunch debt, medical forms, finger printing, and no weapons on campus.
- He thanked the Board for their support to him and his family during this hard time. This district isn't a business, it's a family.

## Principal's Report-Kim Harris, South Range Elementary

- The school had their picnic in Twin Lakes that day and it was a great way to wrap up the year. They had perfect weather and kids had a ball. The Booster Club bought materials for every student to do a tie dye shirt. There was also Gatorade for every student from Pepsi.

- Ms. Lehto, math teacher and Camp Nesbit coordinator, hopes to take the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders to the Challenge Course at Tech this summer since they lost out on Camp Nesbit.
- Summer school is set for the first 3 week of August. Last summer they had a great turnout

### **Principal's and Athletic Report-Steve Lishinski, Jeffers High School**

- Mr. Lishinski wasn't present but submitted a written report.
- Class Day and Commencement went well. Thank you to the Adams Township Fire Department for helping with crowd control, specifically, Mr. Niemi and Mr. Nettell.
- Mr. Palosaari and Ms. Torp brought the seventh-grade class to Lake Perrault for a trash clean-up day on June 3rd as part of a Mi-STAR water quality unit. Within two hours, the students had collected almost 70 pounds of trash and several other larger items that were dumped at the lake, including a kitchen sink and a tire rim. The students also installed a semi-permanent sign, made by Mr. Arens, at the lake encouraging people to take their trash home after visiting the lake.
- Mr. Arens' classes also made planter boxes for the community that will be located at South Range Elementary School and all of our athletic award plaques this year.
- Mrs. Lewandowski received a \$75 grant from Michigan Tech's Science and Environmental Outreach program. Her 7<sup>th</sup> grade students are making a garden that will be pollinator-friendly (bee, bird, butterfly-friendly). The students planted lavender, sunflowers, and other pollinator-friendly wildflower mixes. They also picked perennials so that this is an investment that will come back every year. The goal is to harvest some of the flower heads and leaves in the fall to press them in our flower press and use them in various art projects such as press prints in clay, life studies, collaging with encaustics, or mono printing with ink or paint.
- Mr. Kilpela and his physics classes launched 2-liter bottle rockets at the South Range ball fields on Friday. Every rocket launched and met the requirements and we even had a few students get the extra credit points by designing and deploying a parachute for their rockets to float back down. Our highest rocket was in the air for a total of almost 8 seconds putting it roughly 350 ft at maximum height. These were water bottle rockets that were launched at 100 PSI pressure and both classes really did an awesome job building them.
- Various teachers will be participating in professional development throughout the summer.
- The Europe Trip has been canceled due to ongoing travel restrictions.
- The 2021-2022 MHSAA Membership Resolution is due. He recommends to continue with the membership, which allows to participate in all MHSAA sanctioned tournaments.

**Action Items**

- The Board discussed several action items.

*Submitted by Valerie Dobson, South Range Elementary*