

**REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 152  
PROBSTFIELD CENTER FOR EDUCATION  
JANUARY 23, 2017  
PAGE 1**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Tomhave called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led everyone in attendance with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**OATH OF OFFICE:** Chair Tomhave led the Oath of Office Ceremony for Matt Valan. Valan took his seat on the School Board.

**ROLL CALL:** Chair Tomhave requested board member roll call:

Members Present: Mark Altenburg, Cassidy Bjorklund, Melissa Burgard, Scott Steffes, Bill Tomhave, Matt Valan and Dr. Lynne A. Kovash.

Member Absent: None.

**PREVIEW OF AGENDA:** Superintendent Kovash recommended approval of the agenda to proceed with a revision to page 28.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Steffes moved, seconded by Bjorklund, to approve the agenda as revised. Motion carried 6-0.

**WE ARE PROUD:**

**We Are Proud** of the 2017 Teacher of the Year Building Representatives. Each school selects a teacher of the year for that school, and the Moorhead Teacher of the Year is selected from these candidates. The 2017 Teacher of the Year Building Representatives include:

- Angie Jelinek, physical science teacher at Moorhead High School;
- Aura Lee Mohror, English and English learners teacher at Red River Area Learning Center;
- Janelle Frost-Geiser, social studies teacher at Horizon Middle School;
- Jessica Rieniets, fourth- and fifth-grade Spanish Immersion teacher at Ellen Hopkins Elementary;
- Tammy Ressler, special education teacher at Robert Asp Elementary;
- Melissa Kyser, first-grade teacher at S.G. Reinertsen Elementary; and
- Shelly Hanson, early childhood special education teacher at Probstfield Center for Education.

**We Are Proud** of Tammy Ressler and Angie Jelinek, the 2017 Moorhead Teachers of the Year. Ressler and Jelinek were selected as Teachers of the Year by the Education Moorhead Communications Committee. Ressler has been a special education teacher for Moorhead Area Public Schools for 22 years, first at Moorhead High School and since 2009 at Robert Asp Elementary. Ressler graduated from Minnesota State University Moorhead and earned her master's degree from University of St. Thomas. She is a member of the Moorhead cadre for the

**REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 152  
PROBSTFIELD CENTER FOR EDUCATION  
JANUARY 23, 2017  
PAGE 2**

state's Universal Design for Learning team. Jelinek has been a science teacher at Moorhead High School since January 2003 where she currently teaches physical science and AVID and coaches the Science Olympiad team. She graduated from Concordia College and earned her master's degree from Minnesota State University Moorhead.

**MATTERS PRESENTED BY CITIZENS/OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:** (Citizens who wish to address a non-agenda item have the opportunity to speak by raising their hand and being recognized by the School Board chair. Speakers must state their name and will be limited to three minutes. Speakers must complete the sign-up form, which outlines the public input process, and submit it to the School Board secretary.) None.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Steffes moved, seconded by Altenburg, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

Minutes - Approve the January 9, 2017 Meeting Minutes as presented.

Lease Agreement with the City of Moorhead - Approve the proposed rental agreement through December 31, 2018. The lease agreement includes district property described as: E one half of the Northeast Quarter of Section 21, Township 140 North, Range 48 West, Clay County between Moorhead Area Public Schools 152 and the City of Moorhead. The City of Moorhead will pay the district an annual rental fee per acre on 77 tillable acres in the amount of \$155.00 per acre, or \$11,935.00 for a period of two years commencing on January 1, 2017 and ending on December 31, 2018.

United Way of Cass-Clay Grant Award - Accept the grant of \$107,700.00 per year for three years for the Jump Start program and direct administration to send a thank you.

Donation - Accept the donation of \$200 from an anonymous donor for the EIS and Jumpstart programs.

**Resignations**

Ashley Munnell - Paraprofessional, Red River Area Learning Center, effective December 12, 2016.

Kari Plenis - Food and Nutrition Server, Ellen Hopkins Elementary, effective January 6, 2017.

Aleigha Abner - Paraprofessional, Probstfield Elementary, effective January 12, 2017.

Heather Rahn - Jumpstart Paraprofessional, Probstfield Center for Education, effective January 31, 2017.

**REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 152  
PROBSTFIELD CENTER FOR EDUCATION  
JANUARY 23, 2017  
PAGE 3**

Family/Medical Leaves

Kathryn Doan - Paraprofessional, Ellen Hopkins Elementary, Family/Medical Leave (non-FMLA) beginning December 16, 2016 through January 6, 2017.

Tamara Brooks - Teacher, Moorhead High School, Family/Medical Leave (non-FMLA) beginning January 3, 2017 through January 20, 2017.

Tina Bentz - Teacher, Moorhead High School, Family/Medical Leave (FMLA) beginning February 21, 2017 through March 3, 2017.

Jessica Kvanvig - Administrative Assistant, Community Education, Family/Medical Leave (FMLA) beginning April 28, 2017 through May 19, 2017.

Julie Johnson - Teacher, Ellen Hopkins Elementary, Family Medical Leave (FMLA) beginning May 18, 2017 for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year.

Other Leaves of Absence

Bette Stieglitz - Early Childhood Family Education Teacher, effective January 10, 2017 through March 31, 2017

Perwin Habib - Paraprofessional, Probstfield Elementary, effective January 11, 2017 through January 20, 2017.

Change in Contract

Christina Withers - Lunchroom Supervisor, 2.75 hours per day, Robert Asp Elementary to Lunchroom Supervisor/Crossing Guard, 5.75 hours per day, effective January 4, 2017 (new position).

New Employees

Elaina Linnell - Lunchroom Supervisor/Crossing Guard, S.G. Reinertsen Elementary, \$10.25 per hour, 5 hours per day, effective January 9, 2017 (replaces Sabine Lapjani).

Kelsie Dickman - Paraprofessional, Probstfield Elementary, B21 (0-2) \$16.09 per hour, 6.75 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective January 17, 2017 (replaces Bridget Graffis).

Kaitlyn DeWitz - Paraprofessional, Probstfield Elementary, B21 (0-2) \$16.09 per hour, 6.75 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective January 20, 2017 (replaces Aleigha Abner).

Megan Brunner - Paraprofessional, Horizon Middle School, B21 (0-2) \$16.09 per hour, 6.75 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective January 23, 2017 (replaces Rachel Wessman).

Abdiweli Ibrahim - Paraprofessional, Horizon Middle School, B21 (0-2) \$16.09 per hour, 6.75 hours per day, 5 days per week, effective January 23, 2017 (replaces Joan Fjeldseth).

Josh Carlson - Head Coach Clay Target League, Moorhead High School, .04 (7) \$1,972.00, effective with the 2016-2017 season (new Position).

Memorandum of Understanding: Lakes and Prairies Head Start - Approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Moorhead Area Public Schools and Lakes and Prairies Head Start. The

**REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 152  
PROBSTFIELD CENTER FOR EDUCATION  
JANUARY 23, 2017  
PAGE 4**

MOU indicates there will be collaboration between the district and Head Start and does not place additional requirements in terms of services delivered by the district beyond those services that the district is already required to provide.

Motion carried 6-0.

**MAJOR MAGNITUDE FIELD TRIP REQUEST - HORIZON MIDDLE SCHOOL TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C.**: Janelle Frost-Geiser, Horizon Middle School social studies teacher, presented information related to the proposed Major Magnitude Field Trip for Horizon Middle School 7th and 8th grade students to travel to Washington, D.C., for four days in May 2018. Students will see and feel first hand the history and impact of our nation's capital. Students will be visiting memorials, museums and sites that have been or will be discussed in the curriculum. This field trip also acts as an introduction to courses offered in high school, including U.S. History, Government and World History. Students will be funding the trip using their own resources. The anticipated cost per person is \$1,759.

Altenburg moved, seconded by Bjorklund, to approve the Major Magnitude Field Trip request for Horizon Middle School students to travel to Washington, D.C., in May 2018. Motion carried 6-0.

**MAJOR MAGNITUDE FIELD TRIP REQUEST - MOORHEAD HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR TRIP TO ORLANDO, FLORIDA**: Kathie Brekke, Moorhead High School choir director, presented information related to the proposed Major Magnitude Field Trip for Moorhead High School choir students to travel to Orlando, Florida, on January 11-15, 2018. Through this trip students will have the opportunity to perform at Disney World, participate in a recording session with world renowned artists, critique other choir's Disney performances, and experience an exchange concert with an Orlando-area high school. The anticipated cost per person is \$1,600.

Valan moved, seconded by Steffes, to approve the Major Magnitude Field Trip request for Moorhead High School choir students to travel to Orlando, Florida, on January 11-15, 2018. Motion carried 6-0.

**APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2017 REVISED BUDGET, FISCAL YEARS 2018, 2019 AND 2020 PROJECTED BUDGETS**: Brandon Lunak, assistant superintendent for finance and operations, reviewed the district's revised fiscal year 2017 budget and projected fiscal year 2018, 2019 and 2020 budgets.

**REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 152  
PROBSTFIELD CENTER FOR EDUCATION  
JANUARY 23, 2017  
PAGE 5**

In comparing the 2017 preliminary budget to the 2017 revised budget, revenues increased \$898,706 due to an increase of \$128,000 in local sources, \$75,000 increase in state aids due to an increase in the border city tax credit, long-term facility maintenance revenue increase due to student enrollment, and health and safety increase of \$185,642, which is neutral as it is offset by expenditures.

Expenditure increases of approximately \$2.8 million include unchanged administrative salaries; combined instructional and special education expenditures decreased by \$520; building and grounds increased by \$67,900; transportation increased \$225,980; and capital outlay increased by \$2,529,515 as a result of increased technology expenditures, new classroom setup costs, and an increase for lease levies and setup costs for Vista Center for Education.

According to current projections, the district is projecting expenditures to exceed revenues by approximately \$2.4 million for fiscal year 2017, \$3.6 million for fiscal year 2018, \$1.9 million for fiscal year 2019 and \$3.1 million for fiscal year 2020.

Discussion was held related to projected fund balances and the need to be conservative.

Steffes moved, seconded by Valan, to approve the Fiscal Year 2017 Revised Budget as presented. Motion carried 6-0.

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** Dr. Kovash reported on traveling with the Moorhead High School theater students to New York as a chaperone for the major magnitude field trip. They were able to see the “Hamilton” musical and learn the history associated to the play. Dr. Kovash said Brian Cole did an outstanding job managing the field trip details.

Dr. Kovash congratulated Bill Tomhave for being re-elected to both the Region 1 Board of Directors and Lakes Country Service Cooperative Board of Directors.

She reported on attending Lt. Governor Tina Smith’s visit to Glyndon and reminded board members to read the MREA website legislative session updates and how MREA is proposing the creation of a Basic Education Guarantee (BEG) to make the funding formulas fairer to rural districts. She briefly explained the E-12 education spending related to special education, and voluntary preschool application, and she will continue to send updates on biennial funding.

Dr. Kovash noted a Community Focus Group/Listening Session is scheduled for January 31 from 5-7 p.m. in the high school media center related to the Designing Moorhead High School’s 21st Century Academic/Instructional Program work being done. She also reminded board members of the February 13 board photo session.

**REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 152  
PROBSTFIELD CENTER FOR EDUCATION  
JANUARY 23, 2017  
PAGE 6**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Brief reports were heard related to the S.G. Reinertsen PTAC, Instruction and Curriculum Advisory Committee, Executive Finance Committee and Ellen Hopkins PTAC meetings, and Red River Area Learning Center Family Night, MSBA Annual Leadership Conference, Minnesota State High School League session at MSBA and Lt. Governor Tina Smith's visit to Glyndon related to tax cuts for Minnesota's farmers.

**OTHER PERTINENT ITEMS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD:** Chair Tomhave reminded board members of the January 27 Intergovernmental Retreat at 8:30 a.m. at CCRI.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Hearing no objections, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

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Matt Valan, Clerk