

# MINUTES

OF THE

## SCHOOL BOARD OF DISTRICT NO. 40, YAMHILL COUNTY McMINNVILLE, OREGON

**McMinnville School District Office**  
**800 NE Lafayette Ave., McMinnville OR**  
**Monday August 23, 2021 7:30 p.m.**  
**In Person and via zoom**

The Board of Directors of the McMinnville School District met in a **Special Business Session** at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, August 23, 2021 in person and via zoom. Roll call indicated the following:

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Larry Vollmer  
Dr. Paul Haddeland  
Ms. Abbie Warmbier  
Ms. Janis Braich  
Mr. Gerardo Partida  
Mr. Carson Benner  
Mr. Jason Bizon

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATION:

Ms. Debbie Brockett, Superintendent  
Ms. Melanie Martinoff, Board Secretary

AUDIENCE: Mr. David Bousquet, Mr. Kevin Carroll, Mr. Brian Crain, Ms. Samantha Nelson, and Ms. Kourtney Ferrua.

At 7:35 p.m. the Board opened the Special Business Session.

The board voted to affirm the decision at level 2 in the grievance filed by the McMinnville Education Association on June 3, 2021. The motion made was to uphold the decision made by the previous Superintendent.

**By Motion by** Ms. Abbie Warmbier **and Seconded by** Mr. Gerardo Partida the **Motion Passed Unanimously** to affirm the decision at level 2 in the grievance filed by the McMinnville Education Association on June 3, 2021.

At 7:40 p.m. the Board closed the **Special Business** session.

At 7:41 p.m. The Board opened the **Work session**.

The Board discussed the District Goals which had been rewritten at the Board Retreat. The goals will return to the board business meeting on September 13, 2021 for action.

Superintendent Brockett spoke about House Bill 2560. This bill goes into effect on January 1, 2022. It states that any time public comment is allowed in person, the same format must be used for online viewers. Right now the Board is allowing public comment in person for 30 minutes total; 3 minutes per person, for a total of 10 public comments. Written public comments can also be submitted by 3:00 p.m. on the day of the Board Business meeting. The Board needs to determine the best way to receive public comment because it must be the same method for both; in person and online. The possibility of video testimony was discussed. The important thing is making sure the public knows how to communicate with the Board. It's important to remember that the McMinnville School District's Board meetings are to conduct board meetings and support students. This can come back in October and November for more discussion. The question was discussed on how one can vet someone zooming in to ensure they are from this community. It would be important to have a method of designating who gets to speak first if it is via zoom and in person. It was suggested having a goal to make this decision on public comment before the December Board meeting so that MSD will have time for a trial run. MSD would provide Spanish translation as well for anyone who wished to speak in Spanish. MSD needs to make sure that people understand that if they speak or write in, it becomes public record. There is a new timer coming for the board room. One other suggestion was that if something else works in other parts of Oregon, then MSD should find out about it and use it.

Superintendent Brockett spoke about the new vaccine mandate which means staff must be vaccinated by October 18th. Pfizer was approved today by the FDA for use as a vaccine. There are two exemptions; medical exemption signed off by a medical doctor or a religious exemption. The forms are still being developed for these two exemptions. MSD still needs more clarification on what the exemptions mean. It isn't clear yet if that means teachers have the ability to work from home. ODE and some of the organizations are coming out with forms specific to COVID19 due to the high infection rates at schools. Vaccination clinics are being set up now at schools. HR will process the vaccination information so that the information is kept securely. This mandate applies to bus drivers as well. There is no discussion about a mandate for students to have the vaccine right now.

At 8:30 pm, Mr. Brian Crain spoke about positive registration for bus riders. MSD used to develop the bus routes based on the full 3,000 eligible riders. Before Covid, they analyzed the numbers of routes based on the whole number of eligible riders. It seems that only 43% of those eligible used the bus service and routes were being designed for the full rider load. This year, MSD has polled the 3,000 eligible riders and so far only 33% have actually registered. So even when they finish getting everyone registered, they can make more efficient routes and with the shortage of drivers this year, that will help greatly. Normally there are 50 bus drivers, and this year there are only 30 so far. First Student has to develop

the routes now because school is starting soon. In the future, positive registration will happen in the Spring to make it easier. Salem Keizer has done this successfully for many years.

Ms. Samantha Nelson spoke on transportation. There are typically five drivers in reserve at First Student and they don't have them this year. They need to attract more drivers. First Student realized that the drivers pay was at the medium pay rate for CDL drivers. In the last year, First Student's pay rate in comparison to other companies has fallen. First Student has asked for a \$3.50 per hour increase for drivers. The current contract goes through June 30, 2023. There is competition from delivery companies right now. Sysco is also having issues contracting drivers. There just aren't enough drivers to fill the spots needed. MSD is on a 70% reimbursement from the State for transportation. First Student has made this proposal to other districts and they have found it to be successful. First Student is offering other items to attract drivers; bonuses and paid training for CDL license. There are other districts having the same issues. The raises would only be for the drivers. State law states 1 mile (elementary) and 1.5 (secondary) mile boundaries for busing for students.

### **Subcommittee Reports:**

The board gave their subcommittee reports for long range, fiscal, policy and instructional topics.

Fiscal Subcommittee: They looked at enrollment in the school district.

Policy Subcommittee: The group discussed how policies actually work.

Instructional Subcommittee: They went over the data collection this year, the new teacher's orientation and the in service for staff.

Long range Subcommittee: The meeting is this Thursday.

### **Directors Comments:**

Board member Braich wanted to say how great the communication is going. There were over 2,000 views of the newsletter in 2 days. She appreciates that the information is brief and precise.

Board member Warmbier thanked principals for their time as she visited schools.

Board member Vollmer attended the volunteer effort, Beyond Backpacks, last Saturday and 600 students were helped with backpacks this year.

Board member Bizon enjoyed the tour of all the facilities with Mr. Crain. He likes the district logo very much. He wants to know how to drop in the district logo to his email.

There is a business meeting on September 13th.

The Board Work Session was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.