

The Mountain Community School Board
Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2022
Location: The Mountain Community School

Call to Order

6:04 p.m. by Jeanette Butterworth

Board Members present: Carina Erkel, Lauren Tilden, Rebecca Schwartz, Rick Prudhomme, Brad Ward, Jeanette Butterworth

Staff members present: Anthony Johnson, Cathey Chet

Also present: Bethel Dirks

Approval of Agenda

Proposed change to agenda: discussion about animals on campus will be tabled and sent over email.

Motion made to approve agenda with changes by Rick Prudhomme; seconded by Carina Erkel.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approval of August 20, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Motion made to approve meeting minutes by Rebecca Schwartz; seconded by Rick Prudhomme.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Jessica Freeman, Sixth Grade teacher

- Discussion of upcoming middle school field trip to the Mountain Trail Outdoor School at Kanuga; her exploratory class, TMCS News; and the potential addition of middle school clubs and using parent volunteers to facilitate them.

Principal's Report, Anthony Johnson

- Approval vote for teacher pay: teacher salaries should be able to be approved for this year based on the new state salary schedule. This currently creates a deficit in the budget.
- Brad Ward: We want to start a learning process where the whole board understands the budget. We are working on presenting the budget in a more distilled way so that it is clearer to understand, and the board can have more financial oversight. Next month we should be able to present something more concrete, and so advise the board to wait another month before approving the teacher pay increase.
- Compliance: two fire drills have been completed. One may be done next week over fall break.
- QBS training will be finished Friday, Sept. 23, increasing trained staff from 4 to 13.
- SEL Family Survey was sent out to the student body and will be reviewed after fall break. TMCS counselor Sarah Harvey helped set the questions to get an idea of the mental health of our students.
- Current staffing needs are a Sunset Supervisor and substitutes.

- Program development: three withdrawals this month. Unexcused absences went down. Letters are sent out after three and six days of absences. There were three office referrals: one resulting in a two-day OSS. There was one confirmed covid case.
- Crew is returning Nov. 2. Principal Johnson is also covering classes for an hour to allow other staff to observe other classes and staff members.
- Community outreach: An interview was done with WTZQ to talk about the school. Mr. Johnson is working with the Rotary Club to involve the community in TMCS, including adding Interact Club to the eighth grade class.
- Beanstalk Builders should be here next week to install the new playground in the back of the school.

Approval of Budget Report

Motion to approve budget report by Brad Ward; seconded by Rebecca Schwartz.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

School Safety Proposal

- Increasing the number of cameras is the main priority from the School Safety Proposal.
- Responses from SEL Family Survey will be used to determine mental health needs of school.
- Recommendation is to move forward with at least the new cameras if not the entire proposal from the School Safety Proposal since the funds are coming from reserves.
- Boundary fence repair: needs to be discussed among the board. Condition of fence is poor currently.

Approval of School Safety Proposal

Motion to approve \$15,000 for cameras and rekeying of doors by Rick Prudhomme; seconded by Rebecca Schwartz.

Other Business

- GNAR planning to begin, and a timeline constructed.
- Planning is continuing to create working committees, each of which would have a board representative.
- Next board meeting is Oct. 25, 2022 at 6 pm; executive board meeting is Oct. 12, 2022 at 8:30 pm.

Closed session

Motion to enter closed session made by Rick Prudhomme; seconded by Carina Erkel.

Motion to enter open session by Rebecca Schwartz; seconded by Brad Ward.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Rick Prudhomme; seconded by Brad Ward.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm by Jeanette Butterworth.

Submitted by Bethel Dirks