

Bois Blanc Pines School Board of Education
Regular Meeting
April 14, 2020

NOTE: In cooperation with local, state, and national response guidance for the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was held via phone conference only. The public was notified, and the conference call-in information was provided to the public well in advance of the meeting, to support full participation.

Call to Order/Roll Call

School Board President Cindy Riker called the meeting to order via conference call at 4:00p.m.

Board Members participating were Board President Cindy Riker, Vice President Suzette Cooley-Sanborn, Secretary Dan Reynolds, and Trustee Jessi LaPorte. Administrator Dean Paul and Superintendent Angie McArthur also joined the conference call.

More than 20 members of the public joined the call; however, not all members identified themselves as required. Those who did identify themselves included Christine Hasbrouck, Ernie Smith, Beth Beson, Jim Mackay, Wendy Spray, Tom Bach, Brandon Schlund, and Ron Petersen.

Approval of Minutes

S. Cooley-Sanborn made a motion to approve the regular Board meeting minutes from March 10, 2020. D. Reynolds second.

Roll call vote: Ayes were J. LaPorte, D. Reynolds, S. Cooley-Sanborn, C. Riker. Nays, none.
Motion carried.

C. Riker requested that the April meeting minutes reflect that the meeting was held via conference call, in cooperation with the state's COVID-19 public meeting restrictions.

Communications

A letter of interest in student re-enrollment for 2020-2021 was received from Christine Hasbrouck (undated), and an email was received from a prospective student (04/14/2020), expressing interest in re-enrollment for the current year and for 2020-2021. A letter of interest in the Board vacancy was received from Theodore A. Spray (dated 02/11/2020, postmarked 03/05/2020, received 03/11/2020).

Administrator's Report

D. Paul reviewed the email from the prospective student, and reminded everyone that school can be open even though school buildings must be closed during the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. He stated that the Board should decide whether to pursue reopening the school for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, with a long-term substitute, or plan on waiting until 2020-2021 to reopen. A substitute teacher from any location could be appointed to interact with parents and provide online/remote education to Island students. D. Paul and A.

McArthur would take the lead on identifying a substitute for the remainder of the 2019-2020 year, should the Board decide to pursue reopening at this time.

D. Paul stated that, under the circumstances, the Pines School District's current daily rate of pay for substitute teachers would apply for a long-term substitute.

EUPISD Superintendent Angie McArthur introduced herself and reviewed the Governor's Executive Order 2020-35, which stops in-person education from occurring in a school building through the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Every local district is required to file a Continuity of Learning Plan with the Superintendent to continue receiving state aid payments and to provide student education for the remainder of the year. Even though the Pines School is closed, it is still receiving state aid, which means it is important to file the report so aid can continue. Ms. McArthur sent the Board a template, and she will complete and approve a Plan on behalf of the Pines School District.

Ms. McArthur explained that, if the Pines School desires to contract with a long-term substitute, it could "piggyback" onto another school's curriculum as needed. If one or more students will be re-enrolled, the ISD enrollment processes will be followed. Ms. McArthur can make inquiries with other districts regarding the possibility of including student(s) in their respective grade curricula. C. Riker will convey to D. Paul any special student needs for online access to be provided. No further Board action is required for enrollments to take place. The Continuity of Learning Plan shall also reflect that food service was not provided in the past for students of the Pines School.

Ms. McArthur addressed the unfilled Board seat, explaining that it becomes the ISD's responsibility to fill the seat after 30 days' posting by the local Board of Education. She stated that the ISD did post the opening, adding that the law does not impose any time limits or any requirements for the candidate selection process. Until the seat is filled, the Pines School Board can function as a four-member Board, with the only risk being a split vote. C. Riker noted that a letter of interest was received by the local Board, and that letter will be forwarded to Ms. McArthur. C. Riker also asked that the Pines School Board re-post the opening on its Web site and its Facebook page with an updated date.

D. Paul stated that preparations for finding a permanent teacher for the 2020-2021 school year should begin promptly. An interview team will be needed, consisting of representatives from the Board, the ISD, and student families. The posting can be published by the ISD nationwide via a system called AppliTrack. All members of the interview team can be granted access to AppliTrack to review applicants and to comment to each other privately about each applicant. The posting response deadline may be kept fairly tight, e.g., 10 days. The interview team could open its process to the Island community, enabling members the public to share what they would like to see in a schoolteacher. The public could also potentially submit questions via email for the interview team to ask candidates during the interview process.

D. Paul added that teacher contracts often begin in July or August. It would be advantageous to select a candidate as early as June, to allow time for the successful candidate to familiarize himself or herself with the community, the classroom, and to resolve logistics such as travel and long-term lodging.

S. Cooley-Sanborn and D. Reynolds agreed to represent the Board on the interview team. Christine Hasbrouck agreed to represent student families on the team. D. Paul will work with Superintendent McArthur to finalize

ISD representation on the team. During the COVID-19 pandemic, it may be necessary to convene the interview team remotely via conference call. D. Paul will lead the team.

Superintendent McArthur noted that the Pines School District can set its own start date for the 2020-2021 school year.

Visitor Comments

None.

Old Business

Key access to school items in Wagner Room: Not currently needed during COVID-19 response.

RFP for door replacements: On hold during COVID-19 response. School Information Kiosk project is also on hold.

Education for School Board Members: Not currently possible to proceed.

Strategic School Plan will remain on the agenda on an ongoing basis. No new items.

Township Bank Deposits: C. Riker has contacted Township Treasurer Anne Kennedy regarding making deposits directly to the school bank account. The Township has agreed to do so.

Social Media: D. Reynolds reported that a Facebook page was established for the Pines School District, at www.facebook.com/boisblancschool. He will also follow up with the ISD Information Technology department regarding setting up a generic email address for the District.

IPER Action Plan: C. Riker had asked Board previously to review package from Connie Cullip. It included the following:

ISD Guidelines for Extended School Year Services: These were not available to review. C. Riker will follow up with Connie Cullip to obtain them and plan to vote on the next meeting.

Policy for Emergency Removal, Suspension, and Expulsion of Students: Superintendent McArthur clarified that school principals and superintendents have the authority to suspend any student for up to 10 days without Board action. Additional guidelines apply to Special Education students.

S. Cooley-Sanborn made a motion to adopt the IPER Policy for Emergency Removal, Suspension, and Expulsion of Students. C. Riker second.

Roll call vote: Ayes were J. LaPorte, D. Reynolds, S. Cooley-Sanborn, C. Riker. Nays, none.

Motion carried.

C. Riker is waiting for further input from Connie Cullip on other items for Board review and voting. These should be available by the next regular meeting.

New Business

EUPISD and Pines School District COVID-19 response: D. Reynolds published a COVID-19 statement on behalf of the District on its SchoolWires Web page, and on the district Facebook page. No other new business related to COVID-19 was discussed.

MICIP: S. Cooley-Sanborn will review MICIP Readiness Checklist and bring action items to the next regular Board meeting. J. LaPorte noted that items on the MICIP checklist should be reflected in the selection process for new faculty.

Financial Statements

C. Riker noted that a budget amendment will be necessary. She is working with ISD financial contacts and will provide follow-up at the next regular Board meeting.

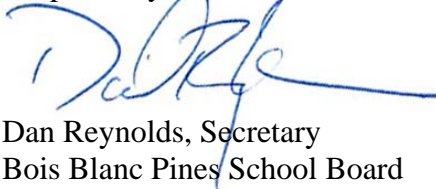
D. Reynolds made a motion to approve payment of the bills and to complete a bank transfer of \$5,000.00. J. LaPorte second.

Roll call vote: Ayes were J. LaPorte, D. Reynolds, S. Cooley-Sanborn, C. Riker. Nays, none.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:02pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dan Reynolds', is written over a horizontal line.

Dan Reynolds, Secretary
Bois Blanc Pines School Board