**Regular Meeting**

**Pines School**

**August 11, 2020**

The School Board President, Cindy Riker, in person and via Zoom, at 4:09 p.m. Other board members present were Jim Gilligan, Chris Hasbrouck and Suzette Cooley-Sanborn. Dan Reynolds was absent. Our administrator, Dean Paul, and the EUPISD Superintendent, Angie McArthur, were present. Note: This meeting was held aside at the Pines School.

Chris Hasbrouck made a motion to approve the agenda, as amended. The motion was seconded by Jim Gilligan. Roll call vote: Ayes: Gilligan, Hasbrouck, Cooley-Sanborn and Riker. Nays: None. Absent: Reynolds. Motion carried.

Suzette Cooley-Sanborn made a motion to approve the minutes for the following meetings, July 14, 2020 Regular Meeting and July 18, 2020 Special Meeting. The motion was seconded by Jim Gilligan. Roll call vote: Ayes: Gilligan, Hasbrouck, Cooley-Sanborn and Riker. Nays: None. Absent: Reynolds. Motion carried.

**Communication: None**

**Committee Reports: None**

**Amendment to Custodial Agreement:** We are now required, due to covid-19, to have the school cleaned every day. It’s necessary for us to amend our Subcontract Agreement for Custodial Services. Cindy made a recommendation to the Board for the payment of additional services. A motion was made by Suzette Cooley-Sanborn to increase the monthly payment from $300 to $780, during the time the new requirement is in effect. Motion seconded by Chris Hasbrouck. Roll call vote: Ayes: Gilligan, Hasbrouck, Cooley-Sanborn and Riker. Nays: None. Absent: Reynolds. Motion carried.

**Citizen Concern:** Jessi LaPorte commented on her concern about the school board being discriminatory against her and her family.  Our legal counsel, Robert Huber from Thrun Law Firm, responded with his interpretation of the allegations.

**Administrator Report:**

* Welcome to Sherry. At the present time we are moving forward with face to face schooling.

**Teacher:**

* Our new teacher, Sherry Corbett, was introduced and she spoke to the audience. Would like to have an open house as soon as she is set up.

**Old Business:**

* **Teacher’s Contract:** Cindy explained to the Board her failure to remember that the medical contribution that a school can provide is capped. In order to still make Sherry come out whole, we had to decrease the amount of medical contribution we had approved and increase her salary. The Board was provided the documentation to support the change. As a side note, Sherry will be covered under COBRA. She will have to pay the amount over the medical contribution allowed. SETSEG was not able to give us an equivalent or better policy. We will still need to investigate insurance for her, as her COBRA will only go for 18 months. Chris Hasbrouck made a motion to approve the 2 person insurance contribution of $14,260.37, the single person insurance contribution of $7,043.89 (contribution being pro-rated for 4 months and 8 months respectively) and the salary of $64,000. The motion was seconded by Cindy Riker. Roll call vote: Ayes: Gilligan, Hasbrouck, Cooley-Sanborn and Riker. Nays: None. Absent: Reynolds. Motion carried.
* **MICIP/Strategic Planning (Visioning Workshop):** We are coming up to our last workshop and should be able to complete it and get ready for the next step. Our teacher will join us.
* **School Repairs (Doors, Heating, paint, and misc.)** At the present time all of our repairs have been put on hold. We have been notified by the Building Inspector that we need to have an architect or engineer draw up plans that must be submitted to the State of Michigan for approval. Angie McArthur is helping us find an architect. There was discussion about getting the paint here to complete the siding project on the rear of the building before school opens. That would not be part of the architect plan.
* **Amend 2020-2021 Calendar:** Discussed whether or not we wanted to change the start time, days off, etc. It was decided we would not change anything at this time. The first day of school is the same day as our next meeting. By then Sherry would have an opportunity to get some parent/guardian feedback on some of the changes she would like to make. She would like to extend the lunch break. We told her to use her judgement for the first day and then we will discuss.
* **Water Testing:** We got the report back. All is well. The system was flushed. We are high in iron and calcium, which is the same as the last report.
* **Septic System:** The location of the septic system has been identified. The township has no record of the date the septic was installed and neither does LMAS. As an aside, we have been informed by Mike Gahn the asbestos was removed from the school when he and his father installed the wood siding, approximately between 1982 and 1987. We will review the school board minutes to see if it is documented.
* **SafeSchools enrollment & progress:** By the end of this month 4 of the 5 school board members will have completed 6 mandatory classes: Cultural Competence & Racial Bias, Discrimination Awareness in the Workplace, Diversity Awareness: Staff-to-Staff, FERPA: Confidentiality of Records, Making Schools Safe and Inclusive for LGBTQ Students and Workplace Bullying: Awareness & Prevention.
* **Basketball Court:** Tabled until next month
* **School Handbook:** Tabled until next month.

**New Business:**

* **Preparedness for Return to School:** Every school district must submit this document by August 17, 2020 and post it on its website. The document was reviewed and questions answered. Suzette Cooley-Sanborn made the motion to approve this plan. The motion was seconded by Jim Gilligan. Roll call vote: Ayes: Gilligan, Hasbrouck, Cooley-Sanborn and Riker. Nays: None. Absent: Reynolds. Motion carried.
* **School Supplies/Quotes for 2020-21 school year:** The teacher submitted various quotes on a SMART board, laptops and school books. Cindy Riker made a motion to approve any REAP orders that had been reviewed with Dean Paul and herself. Chris Hasbrouck seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Ayes: Gilligan, Hasbrouck, Cooley-Sanborn and Riker. Nays: None. Absent: Reynolds. Motion carried.
* **BOE Secretarial Position:** Chris Hasbrouck has volunteered to take on this role for the school board. Cindy Riker made a motion to appoint Chris Hasbrouck as secretary and pay her a $150 per month stipend beginning in September 2020. The motion was seconded by Suzette Cooley-Sanborn. Roll call vote: Ayes: Gilligan, Cooley-Sanborn and Riker. Nays: None. Abstain: Hasbrouck. Absent: Reynolds. Motion carried.
* **SET/SEG:** It was brought to our attention that our policy runs from September through August. We are one of the only schools of this policy year. Cindy Riker made a motion to change our policy year from September through August to July through June to coincide with our budget year. Motion seconded by Jim Gilligan. This year’s policy will run September through June. Roll call vote: Ayes: Gilligan, Hasbrouck, Cooley-Sanborn and Riker. Nays: None. Absent: Reynolds. Motion carried.
* **Title IX Regulation Changes:** The Board was advised there is an update on Title IX, Nondiscrimination On The Basis Of Sex in Education Programs and Activities. By October we will need to incorporate the changes into our Bylaws & Policy documentation. There will be a template to use, provided by the ISD. The Board was asked to become familiar with Title IX and its upcoming changes.

**Public Comment:**

* Numerous citizens had comments during this time period. Those commenting, not necessarily in this order, were Joyce Harmon, Rebecca Currier-Long, Margi LaPorte, Jessi LaPorte, Kathy Brown, Connie Gask and Misty Sibbald. Please note the recording used for scribing the minutes was very poor. We captured as much as was audible. Concerns varied from: pumping the septic, toilet issues, egress, lockers, 15 minute lunch, public doesn’t know anything except by word of mouth, feels things are missing from school, copies of minutes available at the meetings, needs to have inclusive school, think ahead, lack of response, Jessi LaPorte not being interviewed, board discrimination, teacher’s salary and insurance coverage, paying for getting classroom ready, damaged railing, lumber used on repair, too many items keep being put off, tabling items on the agenda, lengthen the meetings, survey, basketball court, school handbook, school plans for changes in Covid requirements, what happens if we do not have students, parents on the school board, people on Zoom very frustrated with not being able to hear, feel some of the school board members should reside, student’s not feeling comfortable enrolling, need to get community back, minutes not available, architect notice/nothing being done, school should be safe and ADA, preschool, one on one education, are we prepared academically for all students, same story/different day, why was a student’s achievements not acknowledged.

**Financial Report:**

* The financial reports were reviewed and discussed. Chris Hasbrouck made a motion to approve the August bills and transfer $10,000 from savings to checking. Suzette Cooley-Sanborn seconded the motion: Roll call vote: Ayes: Gilligan, Hasbrouck, Cooley-Sanborn and Riker. Nays: None. Absent: Reynolds. Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM: Discussion with Angie McArthur.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Riker, Acting Secretary

Bois Blanc Pines School Board