

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MIDLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board Meeting **6:00 P.M**
Tuesday, May 28, 2024
Middle/High School Cafeteria
106 West Webster Street
Wyoming, Iowa
Board Minutes

President Sarah Fishwild called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. board members present: Jeramie Ellefson, Scott Doll, Stacie Cronkleton, Lennie Miller, Patti Whitmarsh and Teri Sterk, with Terese Jurgensen/Superintendent acting as board secretary, board policy; 206.03. In attendance were teachers, staff and community members: Megan Willimack, Rosalie Ahrendsen, Mike Whitmarsh, Darren Kelley, Deanna Martens, Tom & Jennifer Orr, Katalin Rushford, Elisha Hansen, Megan Frankfurt, Terry Lineburg, Mackenzie Lasack, Bobby Willms, Thomas Winters, Jamie Christiansen, Ryan Steines, John Zimmerman, Roger & Connie Pegorick, Clay Pestka, Brad Brownell, Steve Barber, Jill Youse

- Cronkleton led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Fishwild reviewed Midland's Mission Statement
- Roll Call: Cronkleton, Miller, Fishwild, Doll, Ellefson, Whitmarsh and Sterk in attendance.
- Sterk moved and Elefson seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried, 7 - 0.
- Board discussed the transition of VISTA software replacing Software Unlimited had begun in process. Full financial reports will be available for the June 24, 2024 board meeting.
- Invoices were discussed. Whitmarsh inquired about the intercom system, \$50,000 coming out of the General Fund. Miller questioned the tax on diesel fluid purchases and inquired about our tax exempt status. Jurgensen responded that if they are on the invoice, they will be paid by Midland. A motion was made by Miller to approve the bills as presented, Doll seconded, motion carried with Cronkleton abstaining 6-1; Motion carried.
- Received visitors/public forum. Terry Lineburg questioned the board regarding the Cash Reserve Levy increase that had just passed. He inquired if this tax would be reduced in the next few years as had been previously discussed in previous board meetings. Jurgensen responded that there is nothing certain in this current economic situation. Jurgensen stated that it was the hope of the board to increase solvency for the district and to be able to decrease taxes for the district in the future.
- Receive Open Enrollment In and Open Enrollment Out requests for Midland. There were seven Open-Enrolled In and 7 Open-Enrolled Out for the 2024-2025 school year. Whitmarsh asked if this was a busy time of year for these requests. Jurgensen responded with, Yes, but the Open-Enrollment Law just changed, so that Open-Enrollment could not take place throughout the school year, but would return to being once a year, March 1st, as it had been previously. Jurgensen stated that this will be good for Midland and for students across Iowa. Cronkleton made a motion to approve the Open Enrollment Requests, Miller seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried, 7-0.
- Discussion of the Superintendent Recommendation to hire John Zimmerman, with the AEA holding the contract for one year with Midland paying the AEA \$99,594.41 split in two installments (January 2025 and June 2025) and providing \$350 monthly mileage and full family insurance was discussed. Whitmarsh and Miller voiced their concerns that the AEA contract obtained by Miller as being part of the personnel committee, did not have Zimmerman's name on it. Whitmarsh asked if Zimmerman had seen the contract? Miller and Whitmarsh expressed that they did not believe this contract was in the best interest for Midland schools because of a variety of components within the AEA contract. Zimmerman responded that if he had known about this

concern in advance, the problem could have been resolved prior to the board meeting. He also stated that he believed it was a typical AEA contract that was traditionally used between GWAEA and school districts. Whitmarsh and Miller expressed that, "It was not personal." Miller made a motion to Table the Recommendation, Elefson seconded the motion, there was no further discussion, all voted in favor, aye, motion carried, 7-0.

- Personnel recommendations were reviewed and discussed with Scott Doll making a motion to approve the personnel recommendations as listed, Cronkleton seconded, motion carried, all in favor 7-0. The following are the personnel recommendations:
 - Internal Transfer Current, Brenda to OJ Custodial
 - Thomas Winters & Carrie Oakley being hired for summer custodial positions
 - Internal transfer, Stacy Feurhing, from paraeducator, to custodial in Wyoming
 - Jill Forker: resignation - will need to hire
 - Elizabeth Wright: resignation Band/TLC - Band is hired, will not rehire TLC
 - Terri Hamilton: resignation; 3 hour kitchen staff, will need to hire
 - Jennifer Westphal: resignation; Science/Agriculture/FFA - will need to hire, will post internally and externally immediately
 - Jacob Oldaker: resignation; HS Math - will need to hire, will post internally and externally immediately
 - Wrap-Care position open - posted internally
- There were no new fundraisers - no discussion
- Yearly membership for Iowa Association of School Board membership; cost to membership was not provided. Jurgensen will provide the actual cost for the June 24th board meeting. Miller voted to table the motion, Cronkleton seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried, 7-0.
- Yearly membership for Iowa School Finance Information Services; cost to membership was not provided. Jurgensen will provide the actual cost for the June 24th board meeting. Miller voted to table the motion, Cronkleton seconded, all members voted in favor, motion carried, 7-0.
- Discussed adding Jester Equipment Insurance to Midland. Cost for the insurance would come out of the Management Fund. PEBL Fund would pay for the initial cost of any equipment breakdown or preventative maintenance for 77 different categories. The insurance money that would pay for claims turned in, would be paid back in the General Fund category, thereby increasing the General Fund for Midland. Miller made the motion to approve the bid with Jester/SU in the amount of \$82,356. Whitmarsh seconded the motion. All voted in favor; motion carried 7-0.
- Superintendent Jurgensen's report outlined the elementary building project including progress and the work for June. The MEA Negotiation process was reviewed and an explanation of Pool-Based Bargaining. All staff (teachers, secretaries, office staff, paraeducators, kitchen, bus drivers, administrators) receive 3% increase on the base wage. All minimum requirements for new teachers (\$47,500) and teachers in the profession over 12 years receiving the minimum wage of (\$60,000) utilizing the Teacher Salary Supplement dollars. An outline of decreased spending was outlined with approximately \$173,727 being eliminated from the budget as well as other avenues to decrease spending.
- Deanna Marten's report outlined celebrations of students for the end of the year Leader in Me, Wildly Important Goals, (WIGs) in the elementary. ISASP goals regarding reading and math were also shared with the board.
- Bobby Willm's report covered celebrations, outstanding student achievement awards, graduation celebrations and end of the year achievement. Willms shared an ISASP Document she created that outlined the district's proficiency statements, areas in need of growth, for grades 3-11. Willms also shared the 24-25 school year's goal of increasing student achievement through reducing chronic absenteeism.
- There will be a Special Meeting to discuss G.O. Bonds and the building project with Piper/Sandler - Travis Squires on Thursday, June 13th at 5:00 pm.
- Allefson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Doll seconded the motion, motion carried 7-0.

