

1 **Stevensville Public Schools**
2 **School District #2**
3 **300 Park Avenue**
4 **Stevensville, Montana 59870**
5 **Telephone: (406) 777-5481**
6 **Fax: (406)258-1246**
7

8 **Special Board Meeting**

9 **May 15, 2023**

7:00 pm

Music Center Choir Room

10
11 **1. Opening of Meeting – Call to Order- Salute to Flag- Roll Call**

12 Chairwoman Cathi Cook called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the MPR Choir Room.
13 Cathi led the Pledge of Allegiance. The trustees present were Dan Mullan, Kris McKoy, Stephanie
14 Esch, Tony Hudson, Billy Donaldson and Jennifer Gunterman (arrived at 7:03 pm). Ben Meyer
15 was not present. Superintendent Dave Thennis, Business Manager/Clerk(s) Bill Schiele & Christy
16 McLaren were present.

17
18 **2. Recognize Visitors/Public Comment**

19 **Board Comment**

20 Chairwoman Cathi Cook read from a thank you card from Jessica Shourd, which thanked
21 the Board for Staff appreciation week. Tony Hudson asked if community members had donated
22 to staff appreciation week and was told by Fran Schmitz that Frontier Café and several local coffee
23 shops had donated. Fran indicated that the Stevensville Parent Teacher Facebook page has a list
24 of all donors.

25 **Public Comment**

26 There was no public comment.
27

28 **3. Consent Agenda**

29 **A. Resignations**

30 **i. Thomas Waddell – High School Math**

31 **ii. Luke Price – Middle School Assistant Football**

32 **B. Employment** **All employment is pending completion of satisfactory*
33 *background checks.*

34 **i. Bret Reneau—High School Social Studies & Drive Education**

- 35 ii. **Shannon Jessop– High School Head Volleyball Coach**
- 36 iii. **Ryan Tolley – Assistant High School Girls Basketball Coach**
- 37 iv. **Shannon Barrett – Middle School Summer School Teacher**
- 38 v. **Beth Schreiber – K3 Reboot Camp Teacher**
- 39 vi. **Jaime Praast – K3 Reboot Camp Teacher**
- 40 vii. **Nichole Oyler – K3 Reboot Camp**
- 41 viii. **Amber Marin – ESY Paraprofessional**
- 42 ix. **Peggy Diepstraten – Kindergarten Readiness Paraprofessional**
- 43 x. **Paige Bierly – Kindergarten Readiness Paraprofessional**
- 44 xi. **Debbie Stevens – Kindergarten Readiness Paraprofessional**
- 45 xii. **Shylah Poling - Kindergarten Readiness Teacher**
- 46 xiii. **Cejay Paulsen – Kindergarten Readiness Teacher**
- 47 xiv. **Jennifer Walthall – Kindergarten Readiness Teacher**
- 48 xv. **Chanda Gum – Kindergarten Readiness Teacher**
- 49 xvi. **Ayse Haxton – High School Summer School ELA Teacher**
- 50 xvii. **Wes Wells – High School Summer School Social Studies Teacher**
- 51

52 Chairwoman Cathi Cook told the Board they will now approve the consent agenda items.
53 Cathi asked the Board if there were any questions or comments on the consent agenda items.
54 Stephanie Esch asked if Bret Reneau was a certified Drivers Education Teacher. Superintendent
55 Thennis indicated that he is.

56 Cathi asked the Board if there were any consent items they would like to remove from the
57 list. There were no items to be removed. Cathi told the Board the consent of any trustee pertains
58 only to the items they have the authority to decide on and if there is no objection, the agenda
59 items will be adopted by unanimous consent. There were no objections, and the consent agenda
60 items were approved by unanimous consent.

61
62 **4. Business: Discussion and Action Items**

63 **A. 12.3 MOU – Linda Burrington**

64 Superintendent Thennis explained that Linda Burrington requested an exception to 12.3
65 of the CBA with the Stevensville Teachers Association. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Ms.
66 Burrington has decided to retire June 30, 2023. Dave has received support and approval of the
67 MOU from Vicki Motley, which will allow Linda to retire with the payout as outlined in section
68 12.3. Stephanie Esch motioned to approve the one-time MOU between the Stevensville School
69 District and the Stevensville Teacher Association modifying the agreement in section 12.30 of the
70 collective bargaining agreement. Billy Donaldson seconded the motion. Stephanie Esch, Dan

71 Mullan, Tony Hudson, Cathi Cook, Billy Donaldson, and Kris McKoy voted aye. Jennifer Gunterman
72 could not vote.

73 **B. Consideration to enroll Kindergarten Student**

74 Chairwoman Cathi Cook explained that student A has taken the kindergarten screening
75 and it was determined that she is ready to enter Kindergarten. Dave supports Mrs. Shourd's
76 recommendation to accept Student A into Kindergarten. Tony Hudson motioned to approve the
77 early kindergarten enrollment for student A based on the Stevensville School District assessment
78 results. Kris McKoy seconded the motion. Stephanie Esch, Dan Mullan, Tony Hudson, Cathi
79 Cook, Billy Donaldson, and Kris McKoy voted aye. Jennifer Gunterman could not vote.

80 **C. Consideration to Rehire Non-Instructional Profession Staff – Business**
81 **Manager**

82 Jennifer Gunterman motioned to accept the rehiring of Mr. Bill Schiele as the Stevensville
83 Business Manager starting July 1, 2023, until his retirement on August 31, 2023. Stephanie Esch
84 seconded the motion. All present voted aye.

85 **D. Consideration of Stevensville School District Insurance Plan**

86 Superintendent Thennis indicated that the Insurance Committee, which is made up of
87 staff from all departments in the district, met with PayneWest representatives, Rob Turner and
88 Kelsy Wark, last week to discuss bids from MUST, Mountain Health Co-Op, and Blue Cross Blue
89 Shield. The Insurance Committee recommends continuing our agreement with MUST to provide
90 health insurance for employees. The Insurance Committee also recommends dental, vision, and
91 voluntary life and disability insurance through MUST. There were several questions asked about
92 the insurance coverage which were answered. The district will continue to pay \$811/month
93 towards the health insurance for each full-time employee. Dental, vision and voluntary life and
94 disability are all optional products employees can pay for. Fran Schmitz commented that she is
95 concerned about the number of teachers working multiple jobs to support themselves and
96 increases in insurance costs will only make this worse. Jennifer Martinez indicated that the
97 increase would take a sizable portion of her paycheck, especially since she works a 10-month
98 position. Clerk Christy McLaren indicated that other districts in the valley contribute only
99 \$446/month towards tiered health insurance plans. Tony Hudson motioned to select Montana
100 Unified School Trust (MUST) as the health insurance provider for the Stevensville School District

101 for the 2023-24 school year with the options presented. Billy Donaldson seconded the motion.
102 All present voted aye.

103 Superintendent Thennis distributed a quote for Microsoft Surface computers. The current
104 I-pads that trustees use aren't reusable when trustees leave the district and the Surface is easier
105 to wipe the data from and reuse in the future. This will be discussed at a future meeting.

106 **5. Adjourn**

107 Stephanie Esch motioned to adjourn the board meeting. Jennifer Gunterman seconded
108 the motion. All present voted aye.

109

110 Board Chairman: Signed Copy on File in District Office.

111 Date: June 13, 2023.

112 School Board Clerk: Signed Copy on File in District Office.

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