

MAROA-FORSYTH C.U.S.D. #2

COVID-19 Zoom Remote Meetings –Special Meeting & Regular Meeting, May 18, 2020

For public comment please email: john.ahlemeyer@mfschools.net

Public comments will be read into the record at the meeting.

SPECIAL MEETING

2019-20 Amended Budget – PUBLIC HEARING

May 18, 2020 -- 6:15 P.M.

~~HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY~~ via Remote Zoom Meeting

Agenda

1. Call to Order
Call Special Zoom Meeting to order: Amended Budget for 2019-2020 at 6:15 P.M.
2. Roll Call
Present: Matt Crawford, Lindsey Wise, Brad Wilkey, Wissam Hasnain, Lori Willoughby, Darin Duzan, Brandi Binkley
3. 2019-20 Amended Budget Overview
John – Thanked everyone for joining. Depending on Governor’s direction on meeting in June, we will probably have it in cafeteria with social distancing and masks. In terms of budget overview, Leo did a nice job in last meeting outlining why we need to amend the budget.
Leo – Have nothing to add, everything is the same as last month. As referenced in the summary, in essence the revenues ran higher than originally anticipated and expenditures were also. Still show a balanced budget and budget for the rest of the year.
John – Every Board member will need to sign the amended budget.
4. Citizens Wishing to Comment on the 2019-20 Amended Budget
John – We have posted on the website and posted in our buildings. Public comments were to be sent to me and I have not received anything.
5. Adjournment – Special Meeting
Motion to adjourn: Matt Crawford, 2nd by Brad Wilkey
All in favor: All
Opposed: None
Special Meeting adjourned at 6:27 P.M.

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

May 18, 2020 -- 6:30 P.M.

~~HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY~~ via Remote Zoom Meeting

Agenda

1. Call to Order
Zoom meeting called to order at 6:28 P.M.
2. Roll Call
All present. (See roll call for Special meeting above)
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Closed/Executive Session – Approval, To enter closed/executive session for the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, dismissal, or performance of specific employees of the public body pursuant to Section 5.0 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

Motion to go into closed session – Lindsey Wise, 2nd by Brandi Binkley
All in favor to go into closed session at 6:29 P.M.

Item 1 - Discussion regarding Janitorial positions

Item 2 – Discussion regarding Waivers for Certified teachers to enroll their students in our District

Motion to move out of closed session – Brad Wilkey, 2nd by Matt Crawford
All in favor – All, Opposed - None

Presentations

5. Recognition of Visitors and Delegations
None
6. Citizens Wishing to Address the Board
None, no emails were received prior to the meeting.

Learning & Discussion

7. New Middle School Project Updates – BLDD/Stifle/PMA

John – Later in the agenda we will be approving the next phase of the architect agreement and construction manager situation as seen in the board packet. This is just a formality in moving to the next steps on how we proceed to work with them and start construction. No questions from the Board.

John – Regarding Bonding Agent – continuing to pursue the relationship with them; they have put together a plan for our project and the work is supposed to play out over the next 12 months. We have asked him to pursue 5.9 million to sell the bonds to allow us to do the work and pay for things that need to be done for the next 12 months. Resolution will be in July/August. When we put the projections together, the interest rate is a lot lower than what was in the projections, we need all the help we can get. A part of the total project was using sales tax money and the lower interest rate, this will take pressure off of us having to use the sales tax money. It won't be until the following Nov/Dec of 2021 when we would sell and issue the rest of the bonds, \$33M minus \$5.9M. No questions from the Board.

John – We need to have another 3rd party (PMA, a financial investment asset service) to help us with investing and doing proper pay out of the bonds. PMA has the ability and expertise to help districts to get the best deal possible. John asked Leo to describe another agreement 6 months down the road with PMA.

Leo – PMA's work with agencies across the nation. When we talk about borrowing in the millions of dollars, the local banks will not handle that. We will certainly use Scott and Prairie State Bank, but a company like PMA, will set up an asset management system with us and help us set up those funds. They will set up timed deposits and help coordinate the \$30M investment. PMA's work really close with liquid asset fund and work with schools all across the state.

John – Related and unrelated to COVID, we are strongly encouraged to keep our business as local as possible. Pre COVID that was always something boards try to keep local as much as they can. I will monitor and it will also help the local economy. No questions from the Board.

8. COVID-19 Refunds

We have had a lot of questions about spring sports and do we credit those people moving forward and for our seniors, how do we refund them. The other things that have come up are our Band trip to Disney and getting refunds that they are entitled to (Darin as a parent is affected by this). The District is doing everything we can to support the mechanisms in place under the contracts that were signed, but it reaches further than the School District. I had our attorney review the contract and the way it was written, they do not have to refund anything. Our sponsors, Chris and Sarah, are working with those people to try to maximize the return. Attorney conversation and advise was to take what you can get.

Darin – They were only going to give 75% back in April, but we haven't received anything. Disney cancelled and closed their stores. I feel the business office should be the ones handling all trips. Our responsibility is to the parents and not to the employees. I feel the District wasn't being transparent. This should have been taken care of way sooner than now given that many families needed the money that is being refunded.

John – The learning curve is that those things need to go through the business office and let them deal with the upfront negotiations/contract for any trips that are being taken by the school. The educators should not be doing this, educators should educate and administration should be taking care of the arrangements.

Darin – We have a retainer to have an attorney to review things. Any time it involves a student in a vehicle it needs to go through transportation office. Any time money is handled, it should go through the business office.

John – I will research and investigate oversight procedures in place to direct sponsors who want to take trips, so we can leverage our resources to support our parents.

9. 2019-20 Wrap Up/July 2020 Events/2020-21 Updates

John - Technically we are on Spring Break this week since we were able to move our Spring Break to the end of the school year. Last Thursday was the last report day for our teachers, and last Monday was the last report day for our students. The reason we didn't need to deal with Friday was because we moved our Good Friday day to an eLearning day.

I will need to go in and work with ROE to revise the calendar. The board may not need to revise the calendar. We still plan to do prom, graduation, and senior trip the last week of July. We are all awaiting the Governor's direction after May 30th for guidelines for schools on how we can operate in the summer. Everything is up in the air for the State as to the phases for June and July. Could be a possibility with 10 people or less with our coaches and fine arts people. I am closely monitoring to not put people in jeopardy but allow us to do things. If there are some in person things in June/July that we are allowed to do, we would like to move with them. Doing the best we can to be patient and flexible. There is a sense that there is going to be a more local effort on getting advice.

Brandi – I will be happy to help how I can. (Brandi works for the Health Department)

John – Brice reached out to our seniors and they want to do an in-person graduation, so we are waiting to see what we can do and then make a decision. If we move into phase 4, there is a chance you could have 50 or less in July. We are trying to be patient and respectful. We are trying to do something for those students who are leaving for the armed forces ahead of them leaving since they will not be able to be here for graduation in July.

Wassim – Quick comment – Last week was the AP exams, and there was technical issues when they took the exam. Since those exams were part of the course, could there be a potential or flexibility to get a retake exam? I'm curious to see if we are able to get some ability to retake the exam. I'm not sure how much that plays into their letter grade. The college they send the exam to decides whether they get credit or not.

10. Fast Track State Grants

John – Part of what we are up against now and the next 6 weeks is the bureaucracy on what we are given, the projects have to be 1/2M or more, but not sure if the Middle School project will apply. There is also a Cares Grant, trying to spend that money and the latest of what they call relief grants. They are saying to try to structure how to spend this money in a way to prepare for remote learning; purchase things for remote learning; having hotspots in the community; and purchase cleaning supplies. All school districts are trying to figure out how to use this money without knowing what we are going to be doing. Leo and I have been trying to figure it out. Cares money is federal money and we can spend it on things that we have done and things we will be doing. Fast Track is state money. It is very stressful, and we will do the best we can to predict and spend the additional money wisely. No questions from the Board.

Action

11. Approval, Consent Agenda (Any item may be removed from the consent agenda by any board member.)

- a. Approval of the Open Minutes for the Board Meeting on April 27, 2020
- b. Board Bills of May 2020
- c. Financial Reports

Motion to Approve: Matt Crawford, 2nd by Wassim Hasnain

Discussion: None

Yes votes: Matt Crawford, Lindsey Wise, Brad Wilkey, Wissam Hasnain, Lori Willoughby, Darin Duzan, Brandi Binkley

No votes: None

Motion Passed

12. Approval, BLDD Architect Agreement

Motion to Approve: Matt Crawford, 2nd by Lindsey Wise

Discussion: None

Yes votes: Matt Crawford, Lindsey Wise, Brad Wilkey, Wissam Hasnain, Lori Willoughby, Darin Duzan, Brandi Binkley

No votes: None

Motion Passed

13. Approval, 2019-20 Amended Budget

Motion to Approve: Matt Crawford, 2nd by Lori Willoughby

Discussion: None

Yes votes: Matt Crawford, Lindsey Wise, Brad Wilkey, Wissam Hasnain, Lori Willoughby, Darin Duzan, Brandi Binkley

No votes: None

Motion Passed

14. Approval, RIF Honorable Dismissal of ESP Employees

Motion to Approve: Lindsey Wise, 2nd by Lori Willoughby

Discussion: None

Yes votes: Matt Crawford, Lindsey Wise, Brad Wilkey, Wissam Hasnain, Lori Willoughby, Darin Duzan, Brandi Binkley

No votes: None

Motion Passed

15. Approval, Hiring of District Personnel & Acceptance of Resignations/Personnel Report of 5/15/20

Motion to Approve: Matt Crawford, 2nd by Brad Wilkey

Discussion: None

Yes votes: Matt Crawford, Lindsey Wise, Brad Wilkey, Wissam Hasnain, Lori Willoughby, Darin Duzan, Brandi Binkley

No votes: None

Motion Passed

16. Approval, Revised 2019-20 School Calendar

Motion to Approve: Brandi Binkley, 2nd by Wassim Hasnain

Discussion: None

Yes votes: Matt Crawford, Lindsey Wise, Brad Wilkey, Wissam Hasnain, Lori Willoughby, Darin Duzan, Brandi Binkley

No votes: None

Motion Passed

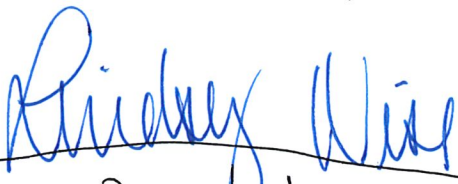
17. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn: Matt Crawford, 2nd by Darin Duzan

All in Favor: All

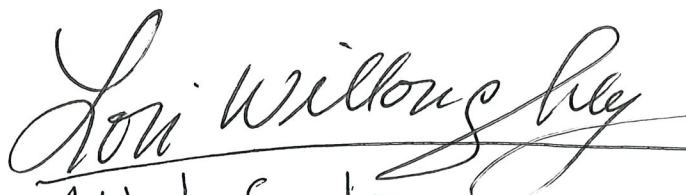
Opposed: None

Meeting adjourned at 7:44 P.M.



Board President

Date 6/22/20



Attest: Secretary

6/22/20

Date

MAROA-FORSYTH C.U.S.D. #2

May 15, 2020 Personnel Report

Teacher Certified Staff Resignations/Retirements/Leaves for Board Action

- None at This Time

Non-Teacher Certified Staff Resignations/Retirement/Leaves for Board Action

- Jody Luttrell, Transportation Coordinator
- Cheryl Vandervoode, HS Girls Tennis

Teacher Certified Staff Open Positions

- None at This Time

Non-Teacher Certified Staff Open Positions

- HS Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)
- Custodian (2)
- HS Girls Tennis
- Transportation Coordinator
- Transportation Office Clerk (.5)

Teacher Certified Staff Recommendations for Board Action (Individual Information Attached)

- None at This Time

Non-Teacher Certified Staff Recommendations for Board Action

- Jody Luttrell, HR/Payroll Coordinator, \$34.48/hr

Miscellaneous Personnel Information