

SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4
Monday, August 24, 2020
REGULAR BOARD MEETING--6:00 P.M. – ELEMENTARY WORKROOM
SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES WILL BE FOLLOWED

- I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Board President, Larry Duncan at 6:02 p.m.
 - A. ROLL CALL:
 - 1. MEMBERS PRESENT: Clinton Arbuthnot, Larry Duncan, Tyler Gibson, Kay Maes, Jennifer Swanson
 - 2. MEMBERS ABSENT: None
 - 3. SCHOOL PERSONNEL PRESENT: Richard Hargrove, Kyle Lasley, Pam Hartley, Blake Gale, Spencer Stewart and Van Walker.
 - 4. GUESTS PRESENT: None
- II. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None
- III. APPROVE THE AGENDA: Clinton Arbuthnot made a motion to approve the August 24, 2020 agenda. Kay Maes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- IV. ROUTINE ITEMS:
 - A. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE July 20, 2020 Regular Meeting and Special Meeting July 30, 2020.

It was noted that Tyler Guder was incorrectly typed in place of Tyler Gibson in a couple of places in the regular minutes. Tyler Gibson made a motion to approve the July 20, 2020 regular meeting and July 30, 2020 special meeting minutes with the correction of Guder to Gibson as needed. Jennifer Swanson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
 - B. FINANCIAL REPORTS: The board members and Mr. Hargrove reviewed and discussed the August financial reports.
 - C. CLAIMS PAYABLE – August 24, 2020: The board reviewed the August 24, 2020 claims payables. Kay Maes made a motion to approve the August 24, 2020 claims payables as presented. Clinton Arbuthnot seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.,
- V. PUBLIC COMMENT: Deb Sharpe addressed the board on behalf of the Springfield Teachers' Association. She reported that the STA held their beginning of the year organizational meeting and elected 2021 officers. The 20-21 officers are: Renee Loflin, President; Leslie Stewart, Vice-President; Carey George, Treasurer; and Kallysa McGeary, Secretary. Other action at the meeting included approval of Tatelyn Lasley as a recipient of an STA scholarship, updating the bereavement policy and formation of various committees. Mrs. Sharpe also shared preschool information with the board. She noted that today was the 1st day of preschool and all classrooms have been re-staged to allow for social distancing, all staff are wearing mask and students are screened each morning. Student numbers are a little lower this year and the staff is maintaining as best they can with smaller staff numbers.

IF YOU ARE HERE TO ADDRESS THE BOARD, PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING:

Welcome to the open forum portion of our meeting. We appreciate your interest in participating in this conversation time with the Springfield School District RE-4 Board of Education. A sign-up sheet was provided at the entrance to the Board meeting for all persons wishing to address the Board. It is requested that comments be limited to five minutes per speaker. Patrons are invited to share comments with the Board in an orderly manner that is consistent with the respect and dignity that should be part of a Board of Education public meeting. The Board will require that speakers and audience members adhere to basic standards of civility and, with limited time available, as the Board President, I may need to limit or terminate discussion to maintain decorum or to give as many people as possible the opportunity to speak. The Board will not take any action during this time. It is the preference of the Board that comments concerning District personnel be addressed in executive session. Discussion of individual students must occur in executive session. Please inform the Board if you intend to make comments concerning District personnel or students so those comments may be heard in executive session.

- A. CORRESPONDENCE: None
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- VI. OLD BUSINESS:
 - A. CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: Mr. Hargrove reported that some areas are getting close to being finished. There are still several items under construction. The vestibule needs a heater, some touch-up painting and adjustments on the entry doors. The fire permit finally came through The eye wash station in the science lab has been completed, but the body wash station and the fume hood aren't finished yet. There are still some outside doors to be replaced, but shipping has caused a delay and the asbestos team will have to return when doors arrive. The plan is to schedule this over a 3-day weekend. The ceiling tile in JH hallway is installed as well as the interior door hardware.

- B. UPDATE ON BEGINNING OF 20 – 21 SCHOOL YEAR: Mr. Hargrove and Mr. Lasley both commented on the first few days of in-person school. Both felt that students and staff are trying to work within the guidelines to provide a safe educational experience. The process will continue to evolve, but students and staff are excited to be back.
- C. CHSAA UPDATE AND OUR ATHLETIC PLAN: Spencer Stewart, Athletic Director, updated the board on the current CHSAA guidelines for 20-21 sport seasons. He explained that sports seasons have been divided into four seasons: Season A, B, C, D. Season A is currently underway. Springfield is participating in cross-country only which will finish up in October. There will be no sport competitions in November and December. Season B will be January to February and Springfield will be participating in Basketball and Wrestling. During Season C, from March to April Springfield will be competing in Football and Volleyball. Springfield Track and Field and Baseball will be during Season D from May to June. He explained that if some sports go into extended season regional and state play-offs, there will be some overlap of seasons. Right now there is no definitive decision on fan participation. He also shared that shelter-in-place sports and club sports are options available for student participation.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. DISCUSS AND APPROVE BOND RESOLUTION AND BOND QUESTION LANGUAGE: The following Bond Resolution and Bond Question was recommended for adoption by Richard Hargrove, Superintendent. Tyler Gibson made a motion to approve the Bond Resolution and Bond Question Language as presented. Jennifer Swanson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Springfield School District No. Re-4, in the County of Baca, and the State of Colorado (the “District”), is a public corporation duly organized and existing under the Constitution and the laws of the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Board of Education of the District (the “Board”) have been duly elected, chosen and qualified; and

WHEREAS, Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution (“TABOR”) requires voter approval for any new tax, the creation of any debt, and for spending certain moneys above limits established by TABOR; and

WHEREAS, the District has applied to the State of Colorado (the “State”) for financial assistance from its Build Excellent Schools Today (“BEST”) program to be utilized for the acquisition, construction, and equipping of certain improvements of the District as further described in Section 4 below (the “BEST Project”); and

WHEREAS, the State has selected the District as recipient for a BEST grant for 2020; and

WHEREAS, in order for the District to take advantage of the BEST funding in the amount of \$34,154,782, the District is required to provide matching funding in the aggregate principal amount of \$5,990,000 to be utilized for the BEST Project; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined the interest of the District and the public interest and necessity demand and require enlarging, improving, remodeling, repairing, or making additions to any school building, constructing, or erecting school buildings, equipping or furnishing any school building, improving school grounds, as provided in the ballot question set forth below, all at a cost estimated at approximately \$40,144,782 (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, TABOR requires the District to submit ballot issues (as defined in TABOR) to the District’s electors on limited election days before action can be taken on such ballot issues; and

WHEREAS, November 3, 2020, is one of the election dates at which ballot issues may be submitted to the eligible electors of the District pursuant to TABOR; and

WHEREAS, the County Clerk and Recorder (the "County Clerk") of Baca County (the "County") will conduct the election on November 3, 2020, as a coordinated election (the "election"); and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to submit to the eligible electors of the District, at the election, the proposition of (1) creating general obligation indebtedness in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$5,990,000 to finance the Project and (2) increasing taxes to pay such debt; and

WHEREAS, the District will not have held more than one other election on the question of contracting a bonded indebtedness for any purpose within the twelve months immediately preceding the election herein called.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. RE-4, BACA COUNTY, COLORADO:

All action heretofore taken (not inconsistent with the provisions of this resolution) by the District and the officers thereof, directed towards the election, the Project, and the objects and purposes herein stated, are ratified, approved, and confirmed. Unless otherwise defined herein, all terms used herein shall have the meanings specified in Section 22-42-101, C.R.S. or Section 1-1-104, C.R.S.

The election shall be conducted as a coordinated election in each of the Counties pursuant to TABOR, Article 42 of Title 22, C.R.S., and the Uniform Election Code of 1992, and all laws amendatory thereof and supplemental thereto. The election shall also be conducted by the County Clerk of the County. The District hereby determines that the election shall be held on November 3, 2020, and that there shall be submitted to the eligible electors of the District the question set forth herein. Because the election will be held as part of the coordinated election in the County, the Board hereby determines that each of the County Clerk shall conduct the election on behalf of the District pursuant to the Uniform Election Code of 1992.

The total aggregate principal amount of the indebtedness to be incurred from time to time for the portion of the Project to be completed pursuant to this resolution shall not exceed the sum of \$5,990,000.

The Board hereby authorizes and directs the officers of the District to certify on or before September 4, 2020, the following question in substantially the form hereinafter set forth to the County Clerk. Such question shall be submitted to the eligible electors of the District at the election.

BOND QUESTION

SHALL SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4 DEBT BE INCREASED BY \$5,990,000, WITH A REPAYMENT COST OF UP TO \$9.8 MILLION, AND SHALL DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED BY UP TO \$490,000 ANNUALLY BY THE ISSUANCE AND PAYMENT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO PROVIDE LOCAL MATCHING MONEY REQUIRED FOR THE DISTRICT TO RECEIVE APPROXIMATELY \$34,154,782 IN STATE GRANT FUNDS (WHICH ARE NOT REQUIRED TO BE REPAYED AND THE RECEIPT OF WHICH IS CONTINGENT UPON THE DISTRICT'S ABILITY TO PROVIDE THE MATCHING AMOUNT) UNDER THE BUILDING EXCELLENT SCHOOLS TODAY ("BEST") PROGRAM TO FINANCE THE COSTS OF:

- ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING, EQUIPPING, AND FURNISHING A CONSOLIDATED PK-12 FACILITY TO PROVIDE STATE-OF-THE-ART, SAFE AND SECURE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSOLIDATING THE PRIMARY ACADEMIC FACILITIES UNDER ONE ROOF, REDUCING OPERATING EXPENSES BY ELIMINATING REDUNDANCY, AND STREAMLINING FACILITY MAINTENANCE;

WITH SUCH GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO BEAR INTEREST, MATURE, BE SUBJECT TO REDEMPTION, WITH OR WITHOUT PREMIUM OF NOT MORE THAN THREE PERCENT, AND BE ISSUED AT SUCH TIME, AT SUCH PRICE (AT, ABOVE OR BELOW PAR) AND IN SUCH MANNER AND CONTAINING SUCH TERMS, NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THIS BALLOT ISSUE, AS THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY DETERMINE, AND SHALL AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES BE LEVIED WITHOUT LIMIT AS TO THE MILL RATE TO GENERATE AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT IN EACH YEAR TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF, PREMIUM IF ANY, AND INTEREST ON SUCH DEBT AND ANY DEBT ISSUED TO REFUND SUCH DEBT, OR TO CREATE A RESERVE FOR THE SAME, PROVIDED THAT ANY REVENUE PRODUCED BY SUCH MILL LEVY SHALL NOT EXCEED \$490,000 ANNUALLY?

Pam Hartley is hereby appointed as the designated election official of the District for purposes of performing acts required or permitted by law in connection with the election.

If a majority of the votes cast on the question to authorize general obligation indebtedness and the levy of ad valorem property taxes submitted at the election shall be in favor of incurring general obligation indebtedness and levying ad valorem property taxes as provided in such question, the District acting through the Board shall be authorized to proceed with the necessary action to incur general obligation indebtedness and levy ad valorem property taxes in accordance with such question.

Any authority to contract general obligation indebtedness or to levy ad valorem property taxes, if conferred by the results of the election, shall be deemed and considered a continuing authority to contract the general obligation indebtedness and levy the ad valorem taxes so authorized at any one time, or from time to time, and neither the partial exercise of the authority so conferred, nor any lapse of time, shall be considered as exhausting or limiting the full authority so conferred.

If a majority of the votes cast on the question authorize the issuance of bonds as described in the bond question set forth above, the District intends to issue such bonds in the approximate aggregate principal amount of \$5,990,000 to pay the costs of the Project, including the reimbursement of certain costs incurred by the District prior to the execution and delivery of such bonds, upon terms acceptable to the District, as authorized in a resolution to be hereafter adopted and to take all further action which is necessary or desirable in connection therewith. The officers, employees, and agents of the District shall take all action necessary or reasonably required to carry out, give effect to and consummate the transactions contemplated hereby and shall take all action necessary or desirable to finance the Project and to otherwise carry out the transactions contemplated by the resolution. The District shall not use reimbursed moneys for purposes prohibited by Treasury Regulation §1.150-2(h). This resolution is intended to be a declaration of “official intent” to reimburse expenditures within the meaning of Treasury Regulation §1.150-2.

Pursuant to Section 1-11-203.5, C.R.S., any election contest arising out of a ballot issue or ballot question election concerning the order of the ballot or the form or content of the ballot title shall be commenced by petition filed with the proper court within five days after the title of the ballot issue or ballot question is set.

The officers of the District are authorized and directed to take all action necessary or appropriate to effectuate the provisions of this resolution.

All orders, bylaws, and resolutions, or parts thereof, in conflict with this resolution, are hereby repealed.

- B. APPROVE IGA FOR BOND REQUEST: Mr. Hargrove addressed the Intergovernmental Agreement, a copy of which was included in the board packets. The agreement outlines the terms between the county and school district for the upcoming election on November 4, 2020. Clinton Arbuthnot made a motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Baca County for the November 4, 2020 election. Kay Maes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
 - C. UPDATE ON BEGINNING OF YEAR COUNT: Superintendent Hargrove updated the board on the current student count and compared it to the count that the 2020-21 budget was built around. At present the count is approximately 2 less than estimated for budget purposes; however the official count won't be determined until the official student count day on October 1.
 - D. APPROVE RURAL ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP: Mr. Hargrove reported that the Colorado School Rural Alliance has been very active during this COVID-19 era. He recommended that the district continue to pay membership and stated that membership cost remained the same as last year, \$750.75. Kay Maes made a motion to approve membership in the Colorado School Rural Alliance. Tyler Gibson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
 - E. APPROVE CASB JULY 2020 SPECIAL POLICIES: Superintendent Hargrove reviewed CASB policy updates with the board. Most updates involved wording changes. Adoption of this set of special policies is mandatory. He recommended the adoption of the August 24, 2020 CASB Special Policies. Kay Maes made a motion to approve the adoption of the August 24, 2020 CASB Special Policies AC_E_1, AC_E_2, AC_R1, AC, AC_R_2, ADC, EBBA, BBBA_R, EBCE, GBA, GBAB, GBGA, GCE_GCF, IC_ICA, IKA, JB, JBB, JF, JFBB, JH, JICDD, JICDE, JICEA, JICEC, JIII, JLCC, KI, LBD. Tyler Gibson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously,
 - F. APPROVE "ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN THE EDUCATIONAL PROCESS" RESOLUTION: Mr. Hargrove presented a resolution drafted by CASB to define "Actively Engaged in the Educational Process" and Student Attendance for the 2020-2021 School Year. A board policy or resolution is needed this year if a School district wants to use a form of remote learning for the 2020-21 academic year as a result of public Health and safety measures. Clinton Arbuthnot made a motion to approve the Resolution to Define "Actively Engaged in the Educational Process" and Student Attendance for the 2020-2021 School Year. Jennifer Swanson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
 - G. DISCUSS SUSPENSION OF GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS OF 2021: This item was for discussion only. Mr. Hargrove reported that CASB is currently working on suggested wording for a policy if CDE decides to allow suspension of the requirements for the 2021 graduating class due to circumstances created by the COVID pandemic.
- VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: C.R.S. 24-6-402(4) (f) (h): Board members, Superintendent Hargrove and Jr. /Sr. High School principal went into executive session at 7:17 p.m. The board returned to regular session at 7:37 p.m.
- A. PERSONNEL:
 - 1. Starla Westphal—2nd grade teacher
 - 2. Spencer Stewart--HS Girls Head BB coach
 - 3. Gary Thompson--Bus driver
 - 4. Student issue (graduation requirements)

- IX. ACT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION: Superintendent Hargrove made the following employee hire recommendations: Starla Westphal for 2nd grade teacher; Spencer Stewart for HS girls head basketball coach and Gary Thompson for an activity and substitute route bus driver. Tyler Gibson made a motion to approve the hiring of Starla Westphal for a second grade teacher, Spencer Stewart for the head high school girls' basketball coach and Gary Thompson for an activity and substitute bus driver. Jennifer Swanson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- X. REPORTS
- A. JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH PRINCIPAL – KYLE LASLEY: Mr. Lasley reviewed the August 2020 Board Report he had provided. Items he discussed were the efforts that student and staff are making to work with the guidelines for a safe school environment, the current student count, the decision to offer cross-county as the only fall competitive sport and an update on the new staff members.
- B. SUPERINTENDENT/ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL REPORT – RICHARD HARGROVE: Mr. Hargrove informed the board that the auditor was here and completed his on-site audit and will be working with Missy remotely to complete various other elements. He reported that the preliminary numbers show that there may be a good carry-over. Superintendent Hargrove briefly discussed a gas theft that was reported to the school. He shared that the new staff members are settling in and doing good.
- XI. OTHER ITEMS TO DISCUSS: None
- XII. BOARD MEETING DATES:
1. REGULAR BOARD MEETING – September 21, 2020
- XIII. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD: None
- XIV. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned by consensus of the board at 7:57 p.m.

Larry Duncan, President

Kay Maes, Secretary

Clinton Arbuthnot, Vice-President

Tyler Gibson, Treasurer

Jennifer Swanson, Director