

PARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 6
Special Board Meeting
July 7, 2020

The Board of Education of Park County School District No. 6 met on July 7, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the Westside Annex Board Room. Chairman Nelson called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present: Stefanie Bell, Tom Keegan, Brandi Nelson, Cathy Roes and Karen Schipfmann. Jenni Rosencranse arrived later. Absent: John McCue. Administrators present: Peg Monteith. Directors present: Tony Hult, Terry Gardenhire, Dawn Solberg and Chynna Singer.

Chairman Nelson called for approval of the agenda.

Stefanie Bell moved to approve the agenda. Cathy Roes seconded. Motion carried and the agenda was approved.

Mr. Gardenhire shared information and reviewed the options for selling the existing transportation facility. He stated an updated appraisal was deemed unnecessary by the vendor who conducted the most recent appraisal and that the appraisal in 2016 indicated an appraised value of \$460,000. Trustees weighed in on the options in an effort to determine how best to get a higher return for this property. Trustee Keegan requested current market information or a comparative analysis of the property be completed. A discussion about hiring a marketing company to market and advertise the property was held. Trustees agreed they felt a sealed bid method might be the best method. Mr. Gardenhire was asked to draft a Request for Proposal for marketing and advertising of the property and will be shared with trustees once it's complete. Mr. Gardenhire also shared an update on the funding for the new transportation facility. Business Manager, Dawn Solberg, shared updated information regarding budgeting and paying for the new facility based upon her visit with the district's auditors.

Trustees began the review of student handbooks starting with the activities handbook. Chair Nelson gave a historical update on the handbook work that began last September and how she felt it was still not ready to approve. A lengthy discussion was held with activities director, Tony Hult, about the perceived contradictions and inconsistencies and how the individual sports handbooks should align with the official activities handbook. Rules pertaining to overnight travel do not align across all sports and with the official activities handbook. Chair Nelson stated that the activities handbook needs a complete overhaul and would require work over the next school year. Additional concerns regarding details for parents being unclear, lack of action over drug and alcohol violations and inclusion of a statement about hazing also need to be included. Trustees then reviewed regular school handbooks. A notable difference was noted on how policy is referenced across elementary, middle and high school handbooks. A COVID-19 addendum and a hazing narrative (middle and high schools only) was added. Trustee Bell spoke about her concerns over the attendance policy, particularly due to COVID-19. Chair Nelson encouraged trustees to review the attendance policy prior to the meeting on July 21. Superintendent Monteith weighed in on the length and detail in the handbooks, the need for more parent friendly language, and consistency throughout the grade bands. The goal is to review and revise handbooks over the school year in order to make them more parent friendly, follow a consistent format, and achieve more brevity and clarity. Trustee Rosencranse questioned the lack of "search and seizure" information in the middle school handbook. Trustee Roes noted a lack of a table of contents in the middle school handbook. Trustees agreed to contact administrators with any additional suggestions of additions to their handbooks.

Superintendent Monteith explained the reasoning behind possible adjustments in the 2020/2021 school calendar. She explained the state statute regarding 10 days for staff professional development. The administrative team considered moving all but one of those days (Oct. 12th PD Day would remain in the calendar) to the start of the school year in order to provide necessary training and classroom set-up. This would allow teachers time to become familiar with the new Learning Management System (LMS) called Canvas, which is supported by the state. Start date for certified staff would remain the same. Students would start August 31 in this proposed calendar and both students and teachers would end the school year on May 28th. Parent/Teacher conference trade days were removed with the thought that there would not be traditional "in person" conferences. Staff were surveyed and results were generally in favor of the calendar changes. Losing trade days was the common area of concern.

A brief recess was taken.

The meeting resumed and trustees reviewed Policy GCLA – Professional Staff Schedules and Calendars. Trustee Bell reviewed changes based on language she took from Teton and Sheridan districts, however she noted the revisions had

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not been reviewed yet by legal counsel. Trustee Roes requested this policy be forwarded to the Policy Committee. Question about an Extra Duty Assignment policy was asked. Mrs. Singer replied that Policy GCBAB was updated in 2019. Mrs. Monteith stated the district needs to ensure that the policy language does not conflict with contract language, so a review by legal counsel is advised.

Trustees reviewed Policy GCCAA – Certified Staff Illness, Bereavement Leave and Retirement Incentive. Trustees Bell and Nelson worked on revisions to the policy pertaining to the 7x7 ratification document and the agreement regarding trading sick leave for personal leave. They felt Policy GCCAA was a better fit for the language. Questions submitted by central office staff were discussed. The words “pending administrative approval” were to be included.

Trustees reviewed Policy GCCAAB – Personal Leave. A long discussion regarding leave days, their intent and the confusion surrounding the various kind of leave was held, as well as the number of consecutive days that can be used. Trustees Bell and Nelson will again revisit this policy and make adjustments.

Mrs. Monteith shared an updated plan for a future greenhouse at Valley School. Valley teacher, Michelle Dean, plans to seek grant funding to cover expenses. Local ranchers have agreed to supply the labor once funding is established.

Chair Nelson called for action on the “Healthy Is” agreement.

On motion by Tom Keegan, seconded by Karen Schipfmann and carried, the agreement was approved for signature.

There being no further business to come before the board, on motion by Cathy Roes, seconded by Tom Keegan and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Chairman of the Board

Date

Clerk

Date