

PARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 6
Special Board Meeting
December 1, 2020

The Board of Education of Park County School District No. 6 met on December 1, 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, Jessica Case, Tom Keegan, Brandi Nelson, Karen Schipfmann and Sheri Schutzman. Cathy Roes attended via Zoom. Administrators present: Peg Monteith, Jeremiah Johnston and Beth Blatt. Tim Foley attended via Zoom.

Chairman Nelson called for approval of the agenda.

On motion by Karen Schipfmann, seconded by Stefanie Bell and carried, the agenda was approved.

Assistant Superintendent Tim Foley began a review of fall academic data by explaining WY-TOPP, MAP, ACT and the use of universal screeners. Cortnie Broadus reviewed the WY-TOPP fall interim data and explained that students are tested by end-of-year standards. Mr. Foley reviewed MAP scores and entertained questions from trustees, where there was not only some concern over lack of skills in some students, but what the district could do with high achievers that need to be challenged. All trustees agreed there should be more focus on math skills. Mr. Johnston and Mrs. Blatt reviewed ACT data by noting that more students are scoring in the range to receive Hathaway scholarship money. Mr. Foley explained the use of universal screeners, particularly for literacy and math, which took a hit from the school closures. Trustee Bell shared her interest in seeing kindergarten data in light of the district not being able to hold kindergarten readiness camp.

Superintendent Monteith reported that there has been a spike in COVID-19 cases since coming back from the Thanksgiving break with an anticipation that there will be more. She reviewed the winter sports rules from WHSAA and there is concern about moving forward with sports being held indoors. Student athletes must be masked when they are not competing and spectators will be mandated to wear a mask for the duration of the event. WHSAA is taking a hard line on following the rules or schools will risk losing their ability to participate in regional competitions. Substitute fill rates have been much better and student teachers have been helping to cover.

Amy Gerber shared her plan for a possible upcoming Andros Island trip for students. She has been trying to be optimistic by planning ahead but cannot wait until March to begin organizing for the trip. She reported that she has two dates to work with and is leaning toward a June travel date. She explained that students must test negative for COVID within five days of travel and she is working with the International Field Studies group to ensure all measures of safety are being taken. Trustees held a lengthy dialogue with questions surrounding the district's liability. Mrs. Monteith agreed to look into this. Trustees also agreed that some type of liability waiver would be prudent.

Mrs. Monteith updated trustees on the Title IX regulations. She explained that Title IX was amended this summer and the board updated corresponding policies in September. Any entities receiving federal funds must comply with these updates and WDE scheduled a desk audit of our district with a submission date of September 8. After contact with WDE, that date was moved to October 8 and all forms were uploaded and submitted. Staff are now working to get into compliance with online training and will have additional training by district counsel on specific roles. No funding was provided to accommodate with this mandate. One change is that the Title IX coordinator will be switched from the superintendent to the director of student support services. Once training is complete, all information will be uploaded to the website and an additional training module will be added to SafeSchools for staff to complete.

Chair Nelson moved up the discussion of the grant for culinary arts at CHS.

Mrs. Monteith shared that clarification had been provided and the grant did include monies for appliances as well as the kitchen remodel. Mr. Johnston explained that specifications did not originally include the purchase and inclusion of a dishwasher, but one could be added and that CHS is also planning to add a nutrition course.

A brief recess was taken.

The meeting resumed and discussion of a voluntary separation incentive package for certified instructional staff was held.

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Chair Nelson stated that the early retirement incentive is open until January 18 and trustees could entertain the idea of adding a voluntary separation incentive package for consideration to offer after that date. Mrs. Monteith shared that guidance had been sought from legal counsel and it was determined the voluntary separation incentive could be utilized if the district needs additional attrition. This incentive would be for staff who do not qualify for the early retirement incentive and would be in the amount of \$10,000.

Superintendent Monteith shared that rather than bringing a committee together to discuss calendar considerations for 2021/2022 wherein the same issues are generally discussed, a couple of draft calendars had been created that could be shared via survey to certified staff, classified staff and parents. The possibility of creating a two-year calendar was also offered. Trustees weighed in with several comments including gaining feedback from students, the parent/teacher conference trade day being moved to the Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving, having Good Friday and making sure the district observes holidays they do not have off from school. Trustee Bell brought up the policy on calendar and felt in order to not have a committee determine the calendar, the district would need to change policy.

Superintendent Monteith shared that NWC had reached out to her to discuss the possibility of using some Cody High School classroom space in an effort to reduce rental costs they currently incur at the Park County Complex and to work more collaboratively with CHS science teachers and our students. The NWC interim president and science staff recently toured CHS and were very excited about the possibility of using an unused science lab for classes. Typically, their classes are held in the evening and the classroom has easy access from a single point of entry. Rental fees would include the cost of a custodian. Trustees shared pros and cons. This item will be on the December 15 board agenda for approval.

Chair Nelson called for approval of the consent agenda.

On motion by Tom Keegan, seconded by Karen Schipfmann and carried, the following consent item was approved:

Classified Employment
David "Eric" Crumb, Technology Specialist, District

Chair Nelson called for action on the request for student travel to Andros Island.

Tom Keegan moved to approve the trip to Andros Island with the flexibility to cancel and subject to review or creation of a liability waiver for illness/insurance by legal counsel or any other recommendation legal counsel may have. Cathy Roes seconded. Motion carried.

Trustee Bell moved to adjourn. Karen Schipfmann seconded. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Chairman of the Board

Date

Clerk

Date