

PARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 6
Board Meeting
November 16, 2020

The Board of Education of Park County School District No. 6 met on November 16, 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, Paige Martinez – Student Trustee, Brandi Nelson, Cathy Roes, Jenni Rosencranse and Karen Schipfmann. John McCue participated via Zoom. Administrators present: Peg Monteith, Tim Foley, Jeremiah Johnston, Beth Blatt, Kelly Merager, Jay McCarten, Allison Lewis, Nick Gallagher and Tony Hult via Zoom. Directors present: Terry Gardenhire, Sam Hummel, Dawn Solberg and Chynna Singer.

Chairman Nelson called for approval of the amended agenda.

Stefanie Bell moved to approve the amended agenda with the exception of vouchers for payment which she requested to be moved to an action item with a roll call vote. Jenni Rosencranse seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Cody High School girls' swim coach, Emily Swett, along with assistant coach, Amber Boysen, introduced all-state girls' swimmers, Ally Boysen, Tara Joyce, Megan Boysen and Paige Bower and presented them with certificates.

Tim Fixter of Fagnant, Lewis & Brinda, PC shared the results of the district's audit. While hundreds of hours are involved for both parties, everything went very well and the district received the highest grade it could get ~ an unmodified opinion. He commended Mrs. Solberg and staff for doing such good work and being helpful. Revenues are strong and the cash position stayed flat. There was one small finding pertaining to food service that they reported only because they were required to do so, but they felt it was largely due to Cares Act funding.

Kelly Merager introduced the November certified employee recognition winner, Mr. Mike Denning. Mr. Denning was unable to attend due to a coaching obligation.

Nick Gallagher introduced the November classified employee recognition winner, Afton Grant. He read her nomination and shared that Mrs. Grant consistently goes above and beyond.

Superintendent Monteith introduced Sunset Elementary assistant principal, Allison Lewis.

Chair Nelson recognized outgoing board trustees, John McCue and Jenni Rosencranse. Mrs. Rosencranse received a plaque in recognition of her service as chairman of the Board for 2019/2020.

Tony Hult provided a fall sports season update via Zoom. The number one goal was to start and complete the fall sports season. No activities were canceled, there were no activities violations, and there have been very few ineligibilities. Overall, the outcome was quite favorable.

Mrs. Solberg gave the budget update as of October 31, 2020. As of that date, \$6.9M has been expended with 78% of the budget remaining.

Mr. Gardenhire gave a brief update on the 2021 summer projects that he will be putting out for bid. The new transportation facility is essentially complete, but they are waiting on TCT for security and fire suppression installations.

Mrs. Monteith shared information pertaining to the pandemic. Currently, COVID numbers are down in the schools and nurses have begun to help with contact tracing. The district has decided to discontinue temperature checks at the doors as they have found that student/staff self-reporting has worked far better. Sports teams will, however, continue to utilize temperature checks. Recent information received from WHSAA regarding indoor sports has included mask mandates and no team dinners.

Chair Nelson called for approval of the consent agenda.

On motion by Cathy Roes, seconded by Karen Schipfmann and carried, the following consent agenda items were approved except for vouchers for payment which was moved to an action item:

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Certified Employment

New Hires

Brandi Barbieri, 4th Grade Teacher, Eastside

Classified Employment

Resignations/Terminations/Retirements

Alan Short, Bus Driver, Transportation
Vicki Bathauer, Severe Needs Para, CHS (T21)

New Hires

Cheri Cortez, Severe Needs Para, CMS
Emmie Baker, Tech Para, Eastside

- Minutes of October 20, 2020 Board Meeting
- Minutes of October 26, 2020 Special Board Meeting
- Minutes of November 3, 2020 Special Board Meeting
- Approved Surplus and Sale of Two (2) Buses
- Approved the Purchase of Four (4) New Buses
- Approved Renewal of Raz-Kids and Reading A-Z in the amount of \$10,704.90
- Accepted a Donation of Strider Bikes to the Elementary Schools in the amount of \$14,225
- Approved Closure of the Internal Service Health Insurance Fund
- Accepted a Secondary Workforce Discovery Grant in the amount of \$10,000 plus \$1,232.14 in reallocated funds
- Granted permission to purchase equipment and supplies for the CHS broadcast journalism class from B&H in the amount of \$11,239.78 from Perkins Grant
- Granted admission of Wyoming resident out-of-district student
- Approved a contract with NW BOCES for student placement - \$174,156.75
- Authorized a grant application for “Libraries Transforming Communities: Focus on Small and Rural Libraries”
- Accepted a \$1,000 donation to CHS wrestling

Chair Nelson called for Public Comment. There was none.

Chair Nelson called for discussion of a potential 2020/2021 calendar change.

Superintendent Monteith shared with trustees that Park County School District 1 was taking two additional days at Thanksgiving and at Christmas due to the increased cases of COVID and would be adding these days to the end of their calendar year. She shared that our staff had been surveyed regarding the same idea, which would add four days to the end of the school year. While the results were split relatively evenly, many were concerned about working parents' inability to secure childcare at the young ages and they did not want students to come back for just a few days after Memorial Day. Trustees agreed to simply take a wait and see approach for days at Christmas.

Chairman Nelson called for input on proposed WSBA resolutions.

Trustees discussed the resolutions and were particularly focused on adding security, including cybersecurity discussions to executive sessions. This issue is working its way through the WSBA delegate assembly as a resolution to forward to the legislature.

Chairman Nelson called for discussion of the potential offering of an early separation agreement. She noted that this agreement was different from the early retirement incentive and this deadline would occur in February.

Mrs. Singer shared that both the early retirement incentive and early separation agreement shared similar language. The Board would need to determine whether they would approve an early separation agreement at the January meeting. Chair Nelson added that this agreement captures the same group of employees, but has different qualifiers. Trustee Bell asked about the criteria for determining “equitably dispersed” and Trustee Rosencranse suggested that the due date should probably be a day earlier to allow for administrative discussion prior to the January board meeting. It was also noted that employees could not apply for both options.

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Chairman Nelson called for first reading of Policy GCQA – Instructional Staff Reduction in Force.

On motion by Jenni Rosencranse, seconded by Cathy Roes and carried, Policy GCQA was moved from first to second reading.

Chairman Nelson called for first reading of Policy HB – Negotiations, Legal Status.

On motion by Cathy Roes, seconded by Stefanie Bell and carried, Policy HB was moved from first to second reading.

Chairman Nelson called for acceptance of the revisions to HB Procedure – Negotiations Procedure for Certified Staff.

Jenni Rosencranse motioned to accept HB Procedure as HB-R (regulation). Cathy Roes seconded. It was noted that Trustees Bell, Roes and Schipfmann worked to clarify this procedure and recommended it become a regulation. Motion carried.

Chairman Nelson called for second and final reading of Policy BDE – Board Committees.

On motion by Jenni Rosencranse, seconded by Karen Schipfmann and carried, Policy BDE was approved on second and final reading.

Chairman Nelson called for approval of the early retirement incentive.

Jenni Rosencranse moved to approve the early retirement incentive with changes. Stefanie Bell seconded. Chynna Singer shared that the document had been reviewed and okayed by legal counsel. Trustee McCue requested a roll call vote. Trustees Bell, Keegan, Nelson, Rosencranse, Schipfmann and Roes – aye. Trustee McCue – abstained. Motion carried.

Chairman Nelson called for approval of the bid for a hoist for the transportation facility.

Sam Hummel recommended awarding the bid to NW Lift in the amount of \$41,598.65 based on bid specs.

On motion by Stefanie Bell, seconded by Karen Schipfmann and carried, the bid was awarded to NW Lift.

Chairman Nelson called for acceptance of the audit report.

On motion by Tom Keegan, seconded by Karen Schipfmann and carried, the audit report was accepted.

Chairman Nelson called for approval of vouchers for payment.

Trustee Roes requested a roll call vote. On motion by Trustee Bell, seconded by Trustee Rosencranse and carried, the following vouchers for payment were approved. Trustees McCue, Schipfmann, Nelson, Keegan, Bell and Rosencranse – aye. Trustee Roes – abstain.

<u>Vouchers for Payment</u>	
General Fund	\$465,491.24
Special Revenue	\$ 423,838.58
Major Maintenance	\$34,300.10
Capital Construction Account	\$ 578,818.26
Food Service	\$37,685.80
Internal Service	\$21,800.00
Depreciation Reserve	\$43,907.34
Cody School Fund	\$30,272.76
Payroll	\$1,978,980.55

Chairman Nelson called for Board Reports.

Stefanie Bell will be attending the WSBA virtual conference. She asked for numbers and trends in our food service department. She shared congratulations to the athletic teams.

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Tom Keegan attended a recent Shoshone Recreation District meeting. While our district has been successful with no athletic event cancellations, hockey has not been so lucky and has had regular cancellations. He expressed his thanks to Trustees McCue and Rosencranse and shared that they would be missed.

Jenni Rosencranse enjoyed the tour of the new bus facility, which was a long time coming. She shared how proud she is of our school district.

Karen Schipfmann thanked Trustees McCue and Rosencranse for their service. She has been working with Mrs. Singer on substitutes. She has been in buildings and gathered feedback from substitutes.

Cathy Roes agreed it was neat to see the new bus facility. The 3x3 meetings have been a whirlwind, but productive. She thanked Jenni Rosencranse and John McCue for serving on the Board.

John McCue thanked the trustees and stated that he enjoyed working with them all. He added that it involved much more than most people could envision.

Brandi Nelson attended a certified PMC meeting where compliments were shared, which was a nice change. She will attend the WSBA conference virtually from home. The new bus facility was amazing and Mr. Gardenhire did a nice job. She attended the state football championship game where Cody won.

Gen Sheets entered the meeting and Trustee Bell asked about student participation. Mrs. Sheets stated that feeding trends are down slightly with approximately 10 less students at the high school, 5 less at the middle school and 15 less, mostly at Eastside for elementary levels.

Chair Nelson spoke about the board's goals progress and how trustees are making strides in achieving those goals. Student achievement results will be shared in December, communication has been consistently improving, they are focused on what's best for students and efforts to reconvene the policy committee needs to begin.

Student trustee, Paige Martinez shared she was happy to hear that there was no current plan to return to remote learning. Students will be testifying in front of the Joint Education Committee regarding an amendment to the Jason Flatt Act. Student council saw success with the Veteran's Day assembly and have been busy with Make-A-Wish, the Model UN, recognition through the Shoshone Recreation Department and the youth program with the museum.

Chairman Nelson called for the Superintendent's Report.

Mrs. Monteith announced that the JEC meeting tomorrow will include testimony by her, Dr. Cossaboon and Cody students regarding the Jason Flatt Act. Additionally, information on competency based learning and early childhood education will be discussed. The recalibration committee meets again next month. The Veteran's Day program was amazing through a virtual platform. WASA has held budget cut discussions but still has not heard if the legislative session will be pushed back. A possible project with NWC includes holding science labs at Cody High School. A group of NWC staff toured the high school and felt it could potentially be good for them and for Cody High School. In closing, she gave a shout out to Coach Matt McFadden and his coaching staff and athletes for winning state and their work on developing student athletes' character.

There being no further regular business to come before the Board, a brief break was taken prior to executive session.

Jenni Rosencranse moved to convene the meeting and move into executive session at 8:38 p.m. for the purpose of W.S. 16-4-405(a)(ii) personnel or 16-4-405 (a)(ix) to consider or receive any information considered confidential by law. Cathy Roes seconded and the motion carried.

Trustee McCue motioned to reconvene the regular meeting and adjourn. Stefanie Bell seconded. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Chairman of the Board

Date

November 16, 2020

Clerk

Date

November 16, 2020