

PARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 6
Board Meeting
April 20, 2021

The Board of Education of Park County School District No. 6 met on April 20, 2021 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, Cathy Roes, Karen Schipfmann, Sheri Schutzman and student trustee, Paige Martinez. Administrators present: Peg Monteith, Jared Moretti, Jeremiah Johnston, Beth Blatt, Tony Hult, Sean Murray (Interim Asst. Principal at CMS) Nick Gallagher, Jay McCarten and Betsy Sell (Interim Principal at Livingston). Supervisors present: Chynna Singer, Terry Gardenhire and Dawn Solberg.

Chair Nelson called for approval of the amended agenda.

On motion by Karen Schipfmann, seconded by Tom Keegan and carried, the amended agenda was approved as submitted.

Chair Nelson shared that anyone wishing to address the board could sign up and anyone watching the meeting that wished to submit public input could do so via email to park6@park6.org and to include their name, phone number and topic.

Chair Nelson called for employee recognition.

Mr. Johnston introduced certified employee of the month, Sean Murray, and read his nomination.

Mr. McCarten introduced classified employee of the month, Maureen Shuler, and read her nomination.

Chair Nelson called for the elementary school reports.

Jay McCarten reviewed WY-TOPP fall/winter data for Sunset Elementary School noting improvements and areas needing work. Nick Gallagher shared similar data but for Eastside Elementary School. He said students are glad to be back in school. Interim Principal, Betsy Sell, briefly shared the data for Livingston Elementary School. Mr. McCarten stated that the biggest difficulties stem from the lack of being able to read facial cues due to masks.

Dawn Solberg gave a brief budget update as of the end of March 2021 stating the district has expended nearly \$2M from the general fund, leaving approximately 39% remaining. Cash reserves estimate to-date is around 10%.

Mr. Gardenhire gave a brief facilities update adding that four projects are a bit behind: Cody High School culinary arts kitchen, the Cody High School roof claim, the district panic bar project and the bi-polar ionization project. He noted the lack of bids on the original due date for the sale of the former transportation facility, but shared two bids had been received for the extended due date. One offer came in for \$150,000 and the second one for \$430,000.

Chair Nelson called for approval of the Consent Agenda.

Stefanie Bell moved to approve the consent items. Trustee Schipfmann seconded. Motion carried and the following consent items were approved:

Certified Employment

Resignations/Terminations/Retirements

Jason Doty, Special Education, CMS

Tara Kelley, 3rd Grade, Livingston

Darcy Smith, Life Skills, Sunset

New Hires

Raffie Halajian, Physical Therapy, District

Betsy Sell, Interim Principal, Livingston

Sean Murray, Interim Asst. Principal, CMS

Transfers

Karen Skoric, from 2nd Grade to Title I, Sunset
Joanna Krubeck, from Special Education to 2nd Grade, Sunset
Angie Foley, from Special Education to 2nd Grade, Sunset
Erik Wood, from 3rd Grade to 5th Grade, Eastside
Audra Wood, from Instructional Facilitator to 3rd Grade, Eastside

Classified Employment

Resignations/Terminations/Retirements

Ernest Hiltz, Driver, School Nutrition
Bethany Schledewitz, COTA, District
Sue Curci, Crossing Guard, Livingston

New Hires

Jeff Smith, Custodian, CHS

Vouchers for Payment

General Fund	\$321,492.20
Special Revenue	\$42,886.51
Major Maintenance	\$1,225.00
Capital Construction Account	\$15,965.50
Food Service	\$36,504.91
Depreciation Reserve	\$13,668.50
Cody School Fund	\$21,897.41
Payroll	\$1,945,642.48

- Minutes of March 16, 2021 Board Meeting
- Minutes of March 22, 2021 Special Board Meeting
- Minutes of April 6, 2021 Special Board Meeting
- Minutes of April 12, 2021 Special Board Meeting
- Approved PowerSchool Annual Renewal - Total \$29,411.86
- Approved Admission of Wyoming Resident Out-of-District Students
- Accepted \$2,500 Donation to CHS Track
- Authorized Purchase of Mathematics Textbooks - Total \$168,296.02
- Authorized Purchase of Kubota Tractor – Heart Mountain Equipment \$16,134
- Amended 2021/22 Calendar (Date Correction)
- Approved Audit Engagement Letter with Fagnant, Lewis & Brinda
- Accepted \$3,000 Donation to CHS football and \$2,000 to CHS cheer
- Approved Purchase of 2 Tilt Skillets – Total \$33,397.74
- Approved 2021 Security Camera Project Change Order - \$47,240
- Approved 2021 District Concrete Replacement Bid – Concrete and Up - \$22,457.75
- Authorized Board Chair to Sign Use Agreement for Use of City Soccer Fields
- Authorized Purchase of CHS Lab Computers – Dell Technologies - \$39,072

Chair Nelson called for Public Comment

Brandon Robinson spoke in favor of applying for a mask variance.

Jana Haines shared that there is anxiety in students and their behaviors, reflected on the district’s mission, vision and goals statements and asked the board to consider proceeding with application for a mask variance.

Chair Nelson read an emailed comment from Christy Foote regarding making equal cuts to any budget reductions for activities and athletics.

Chair Nelson shared results of the survey sent to staff and community about a mask variance. Staff 71% - Yes, 22% - No. Community 78.6% - Yes, 18.9% - No. Trustees offered input on the results. Superintendent Monteith shared that no COVID cases had been reported for the past six weeks, but if there is an uptick the district would fall back to the Smart Start plan instituted at the beginning of the school year. Trustee Roes stated that those still wanting to wear masks should make that personal choice and Trustee Bell reminded all of the opportunity to treat one another kindly

the next six weeks. A question was asked how many teachers had been vaccinated. Superintendent Monteith answered around 60% of which we are aware. Chair Nelson thanked staff, students and community for coming together to follow Public Health guidelines, stressing that safety is still a priority. Student Trustee, Paige Martinez, offered that students have adapted to wearing masks, but should remain cautious. Mrs. Monteith added that the district will continue to following guidelines for gatherings as well as WHSAA protocols for sports and activities.

Chair Nelson called for review of the public input received from the special meeting on possible budget cuts for activities and athletics.

Trustee Bell shared that HB 143 failed; this was the bill requesting the majority of budget cuts. She went on to say that it's important for the public to know that the district funds \$200,000 over what the model pays for activities and athletics. Trustees agreed that the messages were fairly consistent about making equitable cuts, keeping small sports and how good it was to hear from students. Trustee Schutzman shared that as a member of the booster club, they support all WHSAA sanctioned athletics and activities and can provide some funding assistance.

Chair Nelson called for first reading of Policy JEA – Compulsory Attendance Age.

Tom Keegan motioned to move Policy JEA from first reading to second reading. Stefanie Bell seconded. Mr. Keegan asked about the addition of Item f pertaining to homeschool. Stefanie Bell shared that the changes included Item f and were reviewed by legal counsel. Motion passed.

Chair Nelson called for first reading of Policy JEB – Entrance Age. She added that the policy has been revised to align with new statutory requirements effective August 1. The academic support committee reviewed the policy along with WSBA templates and had the revisions undergo a legal review. A regulation will be developed to accompany the policy.

On motion by Cathy Roes, seconded by Karen Schipfmann and carried, Policy JEB was moved from first to second reading.

Chair Nelson called for first reading of Policy IKF – Graduation Requirements. She noted that the policy revisions had been completed by CHS administration and the academic support committee resulting in a reduction of required credits over the next three years.

On motion by Sheri Schutzman, seconded by Cathy Roes and carried, Policy IKF was moved from first to second reading. Cathy Roes noted IKF-E should also be reviewed.

Chair Nelson called for second and final reading of Policy DJE – Bidding Requirements.

On motion by Stefanie Bell, seconded by Tom Keegan and carried, Policy DJE was approved on second and final reading.

Chair Nelson called for acceptance of the bid to purchase the old transportation facility.

On motion by Cathy Roes, seconded by Stefanie Bell and carried, the bid from Cloud Peak Development, LLC in the amount of \$430,000 was accepted. Karen Schipfmann extended a thank you to Erika Quick and student, Raelyn Mong, for all of the work advertising the sale. Trustee Bell added that a date for a ribbon cutting was still needed. Trustee Roes agreed to work on this.

Chair Nelson called for action on a mask variance, adding that it must be approved by Public Health.

On motion by Cathy Roes, second by Sheri Schutzman and carried, the superintendent was authorized to work with Park County Public Health to apply for a mask variance.

Chairman Nelson called for Board Reports.

Trustees reported participation in 3x3 meetings, committee work to include policy, budget and health insurance, participation in the Jack-a-lope Jump fundraiser, NSBA training, WSBA training, Big Horn Avenue crosswalk work, attendance at track meets, soccer games and spoke of upcoming events such as prom and graduation. Chair Nelson added that a Title IX report is anticipated in June.

Student Trustee, Paige Martinez, added that students have been busy with WY-TOPP testing, Advanced Placement testing, the state art symposium, student council elections, prom, graduation party planning, possibly scheduling more dances, held the 8th grade visit to CHS and participation in the Republican Women’s Leadership Tea where four seniors received scholarships. Mrs. McLeod has also created a map of where the graduating seniors will be going.

Chair Nelson reviewed board goals stating she felt the trustees are making good progress.

Chairman Nelson called for the Superintendent’s Report.

Superintendent Monteith thanked elementary principals along with interim principal, Mrs. Sell, for the information provided in their earlier report, as well as all of the hard work being done by the board. The recent WSBA training with Powell and Meeteetse was excellent. She spoke briefly about the interim topics for consideration for each of the Joint Interim Legislative Committees for the remainder of 2021. She suggested that trustees watch for the committee meetings to be scheduled over the remainder of the year and to consider participating virtually.

There being no further regular business to come before the board, on motion by Tom Keegan, seconded by Stefanie Bell and carried, the meeting convened into executive session at 8:29 p.m. for W.S. 16-4-405(a)(ii) (personnel); 16-4-405(a)(iii) (pending or proposed litigation); or 16-4-405(a)(ix) (to consider or receive any information considered confidential by law).

The executive session adjourned and the regular meeting resumed.

Stefanie Bell moved to accept the request of Mr. Merager for a one-year leave of absence for the 2021-2022 school year in accordance with Policy GCC. The request includes the stipulation that employment of Mr. Merager must be outside of public education. Karen Schipfmann seconded. Motion carried.

On motion by Karen Schipfmann, seconded by Cathy Roes and carried the meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Chairman of the Board

Date

Clerk

Date