



**EAST OTERO SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1**  
301 RATON AVENUE  
LA JUNTA, COLORADO 81050

**BOARD WRAP-UP**

**Board of Education Meeting**  
**March 11, 2019**

1. **WORK SESSION**
2. **ROLL CALL** – Ayala, Backes, Bickel, Leyba and Paolucci
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
4. **STUDENT RECOGNITION – STATE WRESTLING CHAMPION: ISAIAH GAMEZ**  
The Board congratulated Isaiah Gamez on receiving his second state championship title in wrestling. Director Bickel gave Isaiah a certificate.
5. **STUDENT RECOGNITION – SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS**  
The Board recognized the La Junta Science Fair winners. The students gave the Board their name, grade and the title of their project. Each student was given a certificate by the Board members and congratulated. La Junta Public Schools also received the Regional Champion School Runner Up award at the Arkansas Valley Regional Science Fair.
6. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA – AGENDA APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
  3. **CONSENT AGENDA**
    - A. **Personnel Approval**
      - Heather Glasson - Resignation as 5th Grade Teacher at La Junta Intermediate School effective 5-24-19 (added 3-8-19)
  5. **FINANCIAL REPORT**
    - A. **Financial Report for February 2019**
      - Fund Balance added 3-8-19
  7. **SUPERINTEDENT'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS**
    - A. **Superintendent's Report**
      - CDSSIP Increase (added 3-8-19)
7. **CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED**
  - A. **Personnel Approval**
    - Joseph Gamez - New Hire as Junior High Assistant Wrestling Coach for the 2019 season
    - Christina Trevino - Resignation as Paraprofessional at La Junta Primary School effective 2-13-19
    - Cayla Proctor - Resignation as High School Assistant Volleyball Coach effective immediately
    - Kendra Taylor - Resignation as High School Assistant Volleyball Coach effective 2-25-19
    - Rebecca Miner - New Hire as Junior High Assistant Track Coach for the 2019 season
    - Dianna Marquez - New Hire as Paraprofessional at La Junta Primary for the remainder of the 2018-2019 school year
    - Cindy Haberman - Retirement as Principal at La Junta Primary School effective 6-1-19
    - Iliana McMillan - Resignation as Kindergarten Teacher at La Junta Primary School effective 5-24-19
    - Cara Larsen - Resignation as Special Education Teacher at La Junta Primary School effective 5-24-19
    - Jessica James - Resignation as 4th Grade Teacher at La Junta Intermediate School effective 5-24-19
    - Heather Glasson - Resignation as 5th Grade Teacher at La Junta Intermediate School effective 5-24-19
  - B. **Approve the 2019-2020 Tiger Learning Center (TLC) School Calendar**
8. **MINUTES** – February 11, 2019 Regular Meeting **APPROVED AS PRINTED**

**9. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Merinda Reisch, Business Manager, was unable to attend the meeting due to illness. Superintendent Lovato recommended approval of the financial report. **FINANCIAL REPORT APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

**10. PRESENTATIONS**

- **Cindy Haberman**

Mrs. Haberman was unable to attend the meeting. Superintendent Lovato read her intent to retire to the Board.

- **District Accountability Committee (DAC) Report**

Members of the District Accountability Committee gave a report to the Board (Michael DeIDuca, Audrey Berg and Sarah Zane). There were three categories mentioned:

- *ICAP (Individual Career Academic Planning)*

Mrs. Zane said parents are concerned that the district is looking at a work-force readiness career pathway for students. She urged the Board to find evidence-based research to back up their decision if that is the route they choose. The concern is students may be pushed away from the college bound pathway.

- *Parental Involvement*

Mrs. Zane asked that language used in meetings (acronyms, etc.) be explained to parents and that the audience is taken into consideration. She feels not enough explanation is given and these corrections may help to increase parental involvement.

Mrs. Berg shared her experience with attending the district accountability meeting. She said a follow up meeting was held with the administration and was very pleased to go to that meeting. Mrs. Berg also sits on the Communities That Care (CTC) committee. She said CTC is working on improving the parent engagement with the schools.

- *School Safety Planning*

Mrs. Zane stated another concern regarding school lock down drills. She said research is showing these drills are causing trauma to students. She asked the Board to research the impact these drills have on teachers and students.

- **Science Curriculum Presentation**

Ms. Linda Langin-Maxwell with Houghton-Mifflin-Harcourt said she wanted to show her support for the adoption of Science Dimensions. She said Science Dimensions is an exciting new program. The curriculum is based on Colorado science standards. The textbook is also available online which will be helpful to parents.

**11. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Superintendent Lovato said the Primary School construction project is gaining ground. Floors are being poured, as well as framing work being completed.

The Tiger Talkers were recognized: At the national qualifying meet, Caitlyn Dieckmann was 2<sup>nd</sup> alternate in Drama and the team of Austin Kurtz and Caitlyn Dieckmann were named 1<sup>st</sup> alternate to Nationals. Congratulations were sent to the pair.

Superintendent Lovato took a moment to congratulate Yliana Garcia, a 5<sup>th</sup> grade student, who won the Elks Lodge sponsored Otero Hoop Shoot, the Canon City Hoop Shoot and the Salida Hoop Shoot. She travels to Arvada for the regional competition.

The Colorado School Districts Self-Insurance Pool (CSDSIP) is proposing an 84% increase for insurance. This increase is due to statewide property loss due to damaging storms last year. The projected cost is \$248,000. Superintendent Lovato said he will be looking into this.

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade orientation will be held March 27, 2019. The information has been released on social media, as well as to parents.

## **BOARD WRAP UP – March 11, 2019**

### **Page | 3**

Superintendent Lovato reviewed the beginning of year (BOY) to middle of year (MOY) data for grades K-8. Director Ayala said it seems students who are performing above benchmark are stuck and there doesn't seem to be a lot of movement. She said she is pleased that the students who are below level are improving, but doesn't want the above level kids to be stagnant.

Superintendent Lovato said he has a meeting on Thursday regarding New Horizons/Tiger Learning Center (TLC) with BOCES. He said he is looking at about 10% per grade level of students who would benefit from a work force readiness program. He said an idea that is being considered is declaring an alternative learning campus in the district. Superintendent Lovato said he feels that offering a more diverse curriculum for our students will benefit all students.

Regarding staffing patterns for next year, Superintendent Lovato said he is looking for an additional Math and English teacher at the Junior/Senior High School. He said there are some elementary positions already open and he is hoping to find a social worker.

Summer school will begin the first of June. Notification will be sent home after spring break. He said a questionnaire will be sent out in hopes to find out if transportation is a barrier for summer school attendance, as attendance will be a stipulation for non-retention.

Superintendent Lovato reviewed the snow day process. He explained his process on making the decision on whether or not to call a snow day process. Every district in the valley is different. La Junta Public Schools has many students who have to wait for school bus in the elements, as well as crossing guards at the elementary schools. If the roads are slick, this can be hazardous for those staff members. He takes into consideration students who drive to school and explained his ultimate goal is to keep students and staff safe. If any further days have to be called off due to weather, those days will be made up so we stay above the required student hours required by the Colorado Department of Education.

Superintendent Lovato said he is working closely with Mr. Canaday and GCG, Inc. and the district will be assuming control of the maintenance department on July 1, 2019.

## **12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. Approve Sidewalk Replacement and Tree Removal at Primary School (Lovato) **REJECTED PER SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION**

## **13. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Share Results of Board Self-Evaluation (Paolucci) **THE BOARD DISCUSSED THEIR SELF-EVALUATIONS. THESE WILL BE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AND WILL BE LOCATED AT EAST OTERO SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE.**
- b. Approve Revised Maintenance Supervisor Job Description (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- c. Review the Superintendent Evaluation Process (Paolucci)
- d. Approve Resolution in Support of S-CAP (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- e. Approve GCG, Inc. Official Notification (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- f. Approve New District-Wide Science Curriculum (Lovato) **APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$219,093.47 AS PRESENTED**
- g. Approve Revised Policies GDBD and GCCAA on First/Revised Reading (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- h. Approve Administrative Staff Employment Renewals – Resolution 2019-1 (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- i. Executive Session regarding Student Discipline per C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4)(h). **ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:03 P.M. MEETING RECONVENED AT 8:12 P.M.**

## **14. BOARD COMMENTS**

- ✓ Director Backes was glad to have a good turnout at the meeting. She enjoyed celebrating our students. She also would like teachers to understand they have a voice and should utilize the chain of command. She thanked the audience for their comments and participation.
- ✓ Director Ayala said she is pleased to have feedback from parents through the accountability report at tonight's meeting.

## **BOARD WRAP UP – March 11, 2019**

**Page | 4**

- ✓ Director Leyba also appreciates the input from parents who attend the district accountability committee meetings. She addressed her fellow Board members and told them she appreciates each one of them. She feels the Board does their research so they are knowledgeable. Director Leyba said she attended the recent crisis intervention training and said La Junta Public Schools was well represented. She gave the teachers an extra thank you. Director Leyba shared there is a “My Life Matters” group held on Fridays at the Peer 613 house. She said she will be attending an active school shooter training. Director Leyba congratulated all the students who receive awards.
- ✓ Director Bickel said she agrees that the Board does want feedback, but does wonder about protocol.
- ✓ Director Paolucci said he is glad to hear feedback and there are always things to work on. He said some of the concerns are due to the world we live in now. He feels schools need to be prepared in case an event ever happened.
- ✓ Director Backes said the district has a responsibility to make sure our schools are as safe as possible. She said there is also a liability issue involved as well.

### **15. ADJOURNMENT – MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:25 p.m.**

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

***JEFF PAOLUCCI, President***                      ***DEE LEYBA, Vice President***  
***KRISTIN BICKEL, Secretary/Treasurer***      ***ANGELA AYALA, Director***  
***KIDRON BACKES, Director***