



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

BOARD WRAP-UP

Board of Education Meeting

May 13, 2019

1. WORK SESSION – TITLE I DISCUSSION

2. ROLL CALL – Ayala, Backes, Bickel, and Leyba; Director Paolucci was absent

The Board and audience observed a moment of silence to honor the victims of the STEM School shooting.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. RECOGNITION OF THE 2019 VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN - The Board of Education recognized the following students for their hard work and achievement at La Junta Junior/Senior High School:

- 2019 Valedictorian – Caitlyn Dieckmann
- 2019 Salutatorian – Eleanor Ludwig

5. STUDENT RECOGNITION – STATE SCIENCE FAIR WINNER

The Board congratulated and presented Nariah Smith a certificate for receiving first place on her Science Fair project at the State Science Fair held in Fort Collins April 11-13, 2019. Nariah received a \$4,000 scholarship to CSU-Ft. Collins.

6. STUDENT RECOGNITION – STATE FBLA QUALIFIERS

Mrs. Shawna Frankmore, FBLA Sponsor, introduced the following students who qualified to attend the 2019 FBLA National Leadership Conference in San Antonio, TX:

- Renee Morlan - Web Design
- Mary Sanchez - Web Design and Chapter Challenge
- Sydney Copley - Peak V and Chapter Challenge
- Nathan Frankmore - Web Design, Peak V and Outstanding Chapter Award
- Sara Noll - Peak V and Outstanding Chapter Award

Each student was presented a certificate by the Board.

7. STUDENT RECOGNITION – MUSIC AND BLOSSOM FESTIVAL OUTSTANDING SOLOIST

The Board congratulated Amanda Rees for being named Outstanding Soloist at the Music and Blossom Festival held in Canon City May 1-5, 2019. This award goes to one performer who stood out to the judges at the contest. Ms. Rees said she plays the French Horn. She was presented a certificate.

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – AGENDA APPROVED AS PRESENTED

3. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Personnel

- **Toby Whatley - New Hire as General Maintenance employee for the 2019-2020 school year**
- **Jason Wilson - New Hire as General Maintenance employee for the 2019-2020 school year**
- **Daniel Lopez - New Hire as General Maintenance employee for the 2019-2020 school year**

9. NEW BUSINESS

I. Approve Classified Staff Employment Renewals

-Removed Anita Bloom and Vanessa Garcia

9. CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED

A. Personnel Approval

- Nancy Westfall - Resignation as Assistant Principal effective at the end of the 2018-2019 school year
- Meagan Shoemaker - New Hire as Primary School Teacher for the 2019-2020 school year
- Claudia Apodaca - Transfer from 4th Grade Teacher to Intermediate School Principal for the 2019-2020 school year

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- Julie Miller - Transfer from Intervention Teacher to Primary School Principal for the 2019-2020 school year
- Tristan Fredrickson - New Hire as Math Teacher at the Junior/Senior High School for the 2019-2020 school year
- Jill Begay - Transfer from 6th Grade Social Studies Teacher to Art Teacher at the Junior/Senior High School for the 2019-2020 school year
- Leigh-Ann Hooks - Resignation as Intervention Teacher at La Junta Intermediate School effective May 24, 2019
- Kathleen Cashman - New Hire as Bus Route Driver for the 2019-2020 school year
- Toby Whatley - New Hire as General Maintenance employee for the 2019-2020 school year
- Jason Wilson - New Hire as General Maintenance employee for the 2019-2020 school year
- Daniel Lopez - New Hire as General Maintenance employee for the 2019-2020 school year

B. Approve Out-of-District Students for the 2019-2020 School Year

10. MINUTES – April 8, 2019 Regular Meeting **APPROVED AS PRINTED**

11. FINANCIAL REPORT

Merinda Reisch, Business Manager, reviewed the fund balance comparisons from this year to last year. She explained there is an increase of \$1,700,000.00. Mrs. Reisch told the Board there has been issues with getting the software program to print the comparison, so it will be a cut and paste copy until the issue is resolved. Superintendent Lovato said the construction project, grant and bond is showing the increase of \$3,000,000. **FINANCIAL REPORT APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

12. PRESENTATIONS

- **Chartwells Food Service Update**

Cori Hanson, Chartwells Food Service Director, presented a one-year review to the Board.

Mr. Hanson began with an operational review. He talked about the app available for use called Nutrislice. He reviewed the use of the app, Nutrislice and said the total number of users is 207. He said he will work with parents next year on how to use the app. Mr. Hanson will also be offering surveys for students to comment on the food. This will help him better serve the students.

Next, Mr. Hanson gave a brief financial review. For the 2018-2019 year to date, over 250,000 meals have been served. He broke down the product cost per meal at \$1.10 and the labor cost per meal at \$0.60. The total reimbursement is \$740,000, with commodity funds at \$88,000.

Mr. Hanson shared the short-term goals for Chartwells for next year. He said his main focus will be staffing (getting the right staff into the right building), developing menus and including more student choices and surveys. Long-term goals consist of increasing high school participation, having a breakfast/coffee cart, having a grab and go lunch in the commons and expanding a la carte options.

Director Ayala said she likes the fact that student surveys will be completed next year. She asked how often they would be completed. Mr. Hanson plans on beginning with a quarterly release. Director Ayala also voiced a concern regarding lunch at the Primary School and making sure the students are eating a complete meal. Director Bickel commented that the survey needs to be appropriate at the primary level so the students can participate and understand the survey.

The summer lunch program was discussed. Mr. Hanson explained breakfast and lunch will be served at both the Primary and Intermediate Schools. The program will begin on June 3 and run until the third week in July.

Director Backes suggested a food service table at registration to explain the Nutrislice app to parents, have menus available, etc.

Mr. McNerney thanked Mr. Hanson and said he really goes out of his way to offer lunch to the Tiger Learning Center students.

13. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Superintendent Lovato gave a brief update on the Primary School construction project. He said the building is beginning to come together. Superintendent Lovato said he noticed a couple of leaks in the roof during the recent rain that were due to the flashing around the skylights not being complete. He said the south side is ready and is being primed and painted. The afternoon of May 23, the 2nd grade team and office staff will meet with the furniture supplier. On the east side there is a playground area, but the north side is probably the most confusing for people. It shows a bus loop and the kindergarten playground area. Overall there has been really good progress.

Superintendent Lovato and Mr. McNerney met with Mrs. Malouff last week. He said they are getting close on how they want the alternative program to look for La Junta students. He said right now he is projecting the alternative school to service students in grades 3-6 and 7-12, with a total of 50-60 students. The criteria for admission will be based on grades and behavior. Superintendent Lovato believes those students having behavioral issues will benefit immensely from a smaller environment.

Right now, East Otero School District pays between \$250,000 to \$400,000 annually for La Junta student to attend New Horizons Academy. He estimates the cost to run the alternative school will be approximately \$450,000 annually.

Superintendent Lovato explained he wants to create a catchy name for the alternative school. He wants to promote it as opportunities for students versus punishment. If a student is placed at the alternative school, they will have the opportunity to transfer back to the regular building and students will graduate with a high school diploma. The alternative school will be housed in East School. Superintendent Lovato said he is looking at purchasing a welding simulator and Art and PE will both be offered. He said the alternative school will evolve into its own school.

Superintendent Lovato took a moment to explain the tiered intervention process. He said BOCES will still offer a school for the third tier (most intensive) level of intervention students. Director Leyba asked about the difference between PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports), MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) and RTI (Response to Intervention). Superintendent Lovato explained PBIS and RTI both use a tier system and MTSS focuses on the whole child. In-school suspension will also be housed at the alternative school.

The alternative school will be funded through the general fund. No Title funds will be used. Superintendent Lovato said this is a commitment by the district. He stated there are some STEM monies available, as well as dropout prevention grants. Superintendent Lovato said any change is a risk, but he believes this is a risk worth taking.

Superintendent Lovato mentioned the SCAP Program is having a retreat on June 13th in Buena Vista from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. He said he will be working with the principals over the summer to solidify the action planning process (what have we tried, what have we learned, where are we going) and then will share this with the Board and accountability committees.

The Transportation Department recently had a compliance audit of funds received by the School Auditing Department at the Colorado Department of Education. The audit showed the district must repay the state a total of \$8738.42. This is due to coding.

Summer school letters are being sent home this week. Superintendent Lovato said Tiger Tots is not being held as in the past. He said this year we are focusing on students who are below level. There is a possibility of a T-2 transitional classroom for second grade students who aren't ready to advance. The possibility of retention is real. Junior High students will be working on credit recovery and could be retained if progress isn't made in summer school. High school students will be strictly credit recovery. Summer school will run from June 3 through June 27 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. for elementary and 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for the junior/senior high school students. Superintendent Lovato said he is looking at having a 10:1 teacher to student ratio with a paraprofessional in every room. He said the READ Act helps fund summer school. A poll for transportation needs is currently being taken. Also, literacy tutors are being looked at to come in for summer school.

Superintendent Lovato said the insurance company has been very good, but the district will face some costs due to the fire. Two storage units are on site already and temporary offices are on the way. The bus that burned was a 2000 model. The replacement value is not anywhere near the value of a new bus. Superintendent Lovato said this will be a very long process. The insurance adjustor estimates a 6 to 8-month rebuilding process. The roof has extensive damage. An emission relay switch was the cause for the bus catching fire.

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A special Board meeting will need to be scheduled for the end of May. This meeting will be related to the budget.

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. 2019-2020 Preliminary Budget Update (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

15. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Approve 2019-2020 Accreditation Contract (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- b. Approve Revised Policies IHBEA, IKA, JFABE, and KE on First/Revised Reading (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- c. Adopt Policy EHC on First/Revised Reading (Lovato) **ADOPTED AS PRESENTED**
- d. Approve Revised Regulation JFABE-R on First/Revised/Final Reading; Adopt New Regulation KE-R on First/Revised/Final Reading (Lovato) **APPROVED AND ADOPTED AS PRESENTED**
- e. Approve the Purchase of New Teacher Computers in the amount of \$98,211.09 and \$35,892.36 (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- f. Approve Out-of-State FBLA National Trip Request and Funding in the amount of \$5144.54. (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- g. Approve ESSA Compliance Form (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- h. Approve Generation Schools Network Diagnostic Review in the amount of \$15,000.00 (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- i. Approve Classified Staff Employment Renewals - Resolution 2019-3 (Lovato) **APPROVED WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MR. CROWTHER**
- j. Executive Session regarding student discipline per C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4)(h). **ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:16 P.M. MEETING RECONVENED AT 8:31 P.M.**

16. BOARD COMMENTS

- ✓ Director Ayala suggested the acronym TTALC (Tiger Trades Alternative Learning Campus) for the alternative school name.
- ✓ Director Backes stated her appreciation for all of our teachers, paras and staff. She also thanked the Administrative Professionals in the district. Director Backes congratulated all of our graduates. She enjoys seeing all the pictures of our students on social media and feels pride seeing so much going on. Director Backes suggested a Q and A night for parents regarding summer school. She would like the district to go the extra mile to communicate with parents. Director Backes said she is really excited for the alternative site next year. She said Safety Care is an amazing training for staff that will give them a few more tools in the classroom.
- ✓ Director Bickel said we have had a positive year and Chartwells has been positive. She said she does have concerns with the Primary lunches and has seen pictures of frozen foods, etc. Director Bickel has seen unappetizing food herself at the Primary. She mentioned maybe a quality control program would be good. Mrs. Reisch said she hasn't received any complaints and will look into it. Director Ayala also said she is concerned about the Primary School lunch. She said the Primary students can't advocate for themselves and she wants to make sure about portions, etc. She said she receives the same exact portion of food as her daughter.
- ✓ Director Ayala said the principal meet and greet meetings were phenomenal. She appreciated the chance to fill out a form to give her opinion. She feels that builds a good moral. Director Ayala thanked Superintendent Lovato for giving each one of our students the attention each one deserves.
- ✓ Director Leyba said it has been an amazing school year. She said she feels Superintendent Lovato and his staff does very well handling all situations. Director Leyba told Superintendent Lovato she appreciates everything he does because it is for the students. She would like the Meet and Confer and the Retirement Reception to be held on a work day, which allows all staff to attend. She would like any barriers to be moved away that the district can accommodate. Director Leyba wants the district to go back to drills for safety precautions. She said she was in the building when the recent lock out was implemented at the school. She said being in the building you wouldn't know there was anything going on outside of the building. She wants drills to continue so staff and students can handle these situations. Director Leyba wanted to state her appreciation to the community entities and the district for working together in coming up with a safety plan. She feels the district does a very good job at keeping our students safe.
- ✓ Superintendent Lovato thanked the Board for their comments. He said he has been working on improving the district since he first got hired and some of those things have been completed and are coming to fruition. Superintendent Lovato also mentioned the trust level from the buildings to the Board has immensely improved. He said the district has experienced some difficult things this year and he complemented the staff on finishing the year strong.

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- ✓ Director Leyba hopes there is not another school year with so many things going on at once. She said it is a pleasure and an honor to serve on this School Board.
- ✓ Director Backes would like students to actively participate at the Board meetings.

17. ADJOURNMENT – MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:05 p.m.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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