



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

BOARD WRAP-UP

Board of Education Meeting
December 9, 2019

1. WORK SESSION – UNIFIED IMPROVEMENT PLAN HEARING

The Board of Education reviewed the school's progress in implementing its Unified Improvement Plan (UIP) over the past year and determined whether the revised UIP adequately captured the needed improvements. The 2019-2020 draft UIP was discussed as well. Mrs. Apodaca stated the recent diagnostic review helped guide the focal points. The public was invited to attend to give their feedback.

2. ROLL CALL – Backes, Bickel, and Leyba. Director Ayala was absent and Director Backes joined via conference call.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – AGENDA APPROVED AS PRESENTED

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Approve Purchase of Metal Building for Bus Barn - Quotes attached 12-9-19

5. CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED

A. Personnel Approval

- Antonio Lucero - New Hire as Special Needs Bus Route Driver and Custodian for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year
- Jacque Collins - New Hire as Assistant Girls Basketball Coach for the 2019-2020 season
- Lance Mosness, Jr. - New Hire as Assistant Girls Basketball Coach for the 2019-2020 season

B. Approve Additional Substitute Teachers for the 2019-2020 School Year

C. Approve an Additional Out-of-District Student for the 2019-2020 School Year

D. Approve the District Advisory Charge for the 2019-2020 School Year

6. PRESENTATIONS

Anatoliy V. Glushchenko, Professor of Physics explained the Physics in a Box curriculum to the Board. He gave a background on what prompted him to love Science and to become a Scientist and eventually a Physicist. As a physicist, he explained he traveled the world and worked in many countries. He shared that students in Europe and Asia must take physics beginning in 6th grade and are required to take physics until 11th and 12th grades. At this time, physics can be an elective class. Mr. Glushchenko gave a demonstration of the hands-on curriculum he brought. He said the hands-on aspect of this curriculum helps students become excited about learning physics. Each kit has 100 experiments in it, as well as teacher online support.

7. MINUTES – Minutes of the Regular Meeting on November 18, 2019 **APPROVED AS PRINTED**

8. FINANCIAL REPORT

Merinda Reisch, Business Manager, said the expenses for November were \$1.3 million and the revenue was at \$1.2 million. She said that put the financials in the negative at \$112,000. Thirty touch screen televisions were purchased for the renovated Primary School. The funds will be supplemented by state funding. Mrs. Reisch also said the grant funds transfers will begin being made. In the next few months Title and grant funds will be coming in. The request for an audit extension is due to the fact that the auditor will be in and out during the month of December. An extension will allow time for completion of the audit. **FINANCIAL REPORT APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Regarding the Primary Construction project, Superintendent Lovato said the student/parent orientation will be on Tuesday, December 17. On Thursday, December 19, a community open house will be held. There are still several touch up items to be taken care of. A state inspection will occur next week.

The strategic priorities and Unified Improvement Plans were discussed during the work session. Culture, Curriculum, Retention of Staff and Sustainability of Growth are the four draft strategic priorities for the district. These priorities are required by S-CAP to develop the district's improvement website. There has been strategic priorities discussion with Building Accountability members as well as the District Advisory Council. The priorities will be finalized in January.

Mrs. Reisch explained the need for the audit extension in her Financial Report.

There will be Student-Centered Accountability Project (S-CAP) spring audits that staff will attend. At this time, Board members can't actively review. Superintendent Lovato said the next S-CAP board meeting is in January and he will suggest allowing Board members be able to participate in reviews.

The curriculum alignment and implementation process has begun. This was discussed at the DAC meeting and it will be a long process.

Director Leyba said she would like the state accountability process, the S-CAP process and the District Advisory Council charges to become a shared vision. She would also like to have a work session to discuss how to pull those together. Superintendent Lovato suggested a combined meeting with several entities all together. He did say the improvement website will be very informative for parents. Director Leyba suggested that maybe we can have the district CTE coordinator or whoever works on ICAP do a presentation for the board.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Approve Purchase of Metal Building for Bus Barn (Lovato) **APPROVED WHITE AND SONS BID NOT TO EXCEED INSURANCE ALLOTMENT WITH AMENDED MOTION**

11. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Approve Resolution to Certify Mill Levy as presented. Total mill levy has been certified at 24.679 (Lovato) **2019 MILL LEVY APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- b. Approve Purchase of Physics in a Box Kits (Lovato) **APPROVED THE PURCHASE OF TEN PHYSICS IN A BOX – ELECTRICITY AND MAGNETISM KITS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,000.00 AS PRESENTED**
- c. Approve No School Days for Primary and Tiger Trades Academy on December 18 and 19, 2019 and January 7, 2020. **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- d. Approve Revised Policies BC, BEDA and CBF on First/Revised Reading **APPROVED ON FIRST/REVISED READING AS PRESENTED**

12. BOARD COMMENTS

- ✓ Director Backes says she really loves the Physics in a Box. She said we have a lot of great Science teachers in the district and she hopes more of the modules can be added later.
- ✓ Director Bickel shared that the CASB (Colorado Association of School Boards) Convention was great and she really liked the key note speaker. She said this community is ahead of the curve on behavioral health. The BOCES break out session spoke about evaluations. She had a great networking luncheon. She said teachers teach to today's climate and student needs are different. She also stated that going to an hour long workshop doesn't negate the teacher's and administrator's experience and knowledge. She said you can get excited about things you learn at CASB, but just remember who the experts are.
- ✓ Director Leyba said this year at the CASB Convention there were so many break-out session she wanted to attend, but she didn't attend any behavioral health sessions since Director Bickel works in that field. She said in La Junta we are really ahead and feels the district has taken a serious look in improving our students mental and behavioral health. She said she attended the accountability sessions. She mentioned how can we pull it all together with S-CAP and Communities That Care (CTC) with the strategic plans and school climate. The teen stress session was impactful. We need to let our teens know it's okay to fail, but not to give up. She said in the break-out sessions, the conversation was greatly beneficial. Director Leyba went to the S-CAP session and was asked if she would like to help create an onboard/orientation module specifically for board members.

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- ✓ Superintendent Lovato commended Director Leyba on doing a great job on her presentation for CTC. He said he had a good conversation with a colleague on the S-CAP review. He feels the district needs to do more things out of the ordinary. He said networking with other superintendents was very beneficial to him.

13. ADJOURNMENT – MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:02 p.m.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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