



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

BOARD WRAP-UP

Board of Education Meeting
November 18, 2019

1. **ROLL CALL** – Ayala, Backes, Bickel, and Leyba.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **AUDIENCE**
Crystal Bates spoke to the Board regarding her concerns with a discipline issue and the chain of command not being followed at the Intermediate School.
4. **PRIMARY 2ND GRADE STUDENTS**
Mrs. Remick and her 2nd grade Math enrichment students gave a presentation to the Board and showed them their Financial Fitness Training, a financial literacy unit they've been studying. Students presenting were: Alyssa Darnell, Daymien DelRio, Astrid Downard, Chloe Escobedo-Hendrick; John Maes, Lilly Ojeda, Lillian Seaba and Abigail Kemner.
5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA – AGENDA APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
 4. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. **Personnel Approval**
 - **Viola Romero - Resignation as Paraprofessional at La Junta Jr/Sr High School effective October 19, 2019**
 8. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - C. **Declare Board Vacancy**
Letter of interest due date changed on resolution to 12-3-19 at 4:00 p.m.
6. **SWEARING IN/ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**
 - A. Oath of Office – Board Members Elected by Acclimation (Dellinger) **JILL DELLINGER ADMINISTERED OATH OF OFFICE TO KIDRON BACKES AND KRISTIN BICKEL**
 - B. Organizational Meeting to select officers of the Board (Board of Education) **BOARD OFFICERS ARE AS FOLLOWS:**
 - President – Dee Leyba
 - Vice President – Kristin Bickel
 - Secretary/Treasurer – Kidron BackesKristin Bickel will serve as the district's BOCES Representative, Dee Leyba will serve as CASB Legislative Representative/Voting Delegate.
7. **CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED**
 - A. **Personnel Approval**
 - Danette Saiz - New Hire as Custodian at the Junior/Senior High School for the 2019-2020 school year
 - Parker Bickel - New Hire as High School Assistant Football Coach for the 2019-2020 season
 - Pablo Martinez - New Hire as High School Assistant Football Coach for the 2019-2020 season
 - Dana Snyder - Resignation as Paraprofessional at the Primary School effective November 7, 2019
 - Ashley Tremain - Resignation as 7th Grade Science Teacher at the Junior/Senior High School effective December 4, 2019
 - Lyssa Newlin - New Hire as Paraprofessional at the Primary School for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year
 - Tabitha Kinney - New Hire as Paraprofessional at the Primary School for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year
 - Viola Romero - Resignation as Paraprofessional at La Junta Jr/Sr High School effective October 19, 2019

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

8. FINANCIAL REPORT

Merinda Reisch, Business Manager, told the Board the fund balance for October is attached to the agenda for review. She said the income is at \$2.2 million as well as the expenses being at \$2.2 million, leaving funds in the black at \$39,652.00. **FINANCIAL REPORT APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

9. MINUTES – Minutes of the Regular Meeting on October 14, 2019 **APPROVED AS PRINTED**

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Superintendent Lovato was pleased to inform the Board that the Primary renovation project is nearing completion. He said some furniture was moved in today and some boxes have been packed. He has been through the building every day and a lot of progress has been made. The preliminary punch lists are being performed now; these are the smaller items that need to be corrected before final completion. A fire inspection caused a 30-day change order and adjustments to the kitchen have to be made. Superintendent Lovato commended H.E. Whitlock for stepping up to get things completed. There was a concern with the newly planted sod not surviving, however, the weather has been cooperative. Open house scheduling is being worked on with an open house being scheduled for each grade level on separate nights, as well as a large community celebration.

A budget work session will need to be scheduled early in January in order to close out the adjustments by January 31. Superintendent Lovato asked the Board to check their calendars for a good date.

Superintendent Lovato gave a brief overview of the fall happenings. He is working on a community letter to share the status of the district. He is looking at the first week of December for completion of that.

Due to the shortage of CDL drivers, Superintendent Lovato shared with the Board that he will need to purchase more micro buses. He explained that sometimes additional routes can affect bus driver's hours, however, the current drivers and their hours will be protected. He said Mr. Jackson has done a good job as the mechanic.

Superintendent Lovato also mentioned that the classified salary schedule needs to be looked at in order to compensate our classified staff fairly.

An engineer is scheduled to look at the proposed bus barn sight

East Otero School District has received Gold Status for achieving exceptional vaccination rates. The district has a high number of students who are immunized.

Superintendent Lovato referenced the hit list situation that occurred last week. He explained there was no credible threat and assured that our students are safe. He also explained the process that is followed and why information was released when it was. He stressed student safety is the number one priority.

At last week's staff work day, Superintendent Lovato shared a motivational video with staff that he saw at a recent rural school conference he attended. He commented that the conference was beneficial and thanked the Board for allowing him to attend.

Director Ayala said she appreciated the follow up call to parents regarding the hit list situation. She also says she is anxious to see what the new building looks like. The bus routes are still a concern for her as she recently saw a school bus dropping students off at 5:00 p.m. She stated she would like to see students get home sooner.

11. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Certify Total FTE for October Count at 1415.5 for 2019-2020 (Lovato) **CERTIFIED AS PRESENTED****
- b. Approve Copier Purchase (Lovato) **APPROVED TASCOSA QUOTE #1 FOR \$17.98 PER COPIER AS PRESENTED****
- c. Declare Board Vacancy – **APPROVED RESOLUTION WITH AN AMENDED MOTION TO DECLARE BOARD VACANCY AS OF NOVEMBER 6, 2019****

12. BOARD COMMENTS

- ✓ Director Ayala reiterated how much she loved the Busy Bee district the 2nd grade students presented. She said she is always trying to introduce kids to real life scenarios. She also said the basics are important but this lets the kids aspire to be anything they want to be; it puts it within arm's reach and she appreciates that.
- ✓ Director Backes said during the work session in which our strategic goals and what they might be was discussed, watching Mrs. Remick's 2nd grade enrichment student's presentation showed what a competency-based education curriculum is and all of the content areas which are covered. Director Backes feels this type of curriculum would benefit our district. She thanked the 2nd grade students for their presentation. Director Backes thanked all of those who helped with the Veteran Day's ceremonies. She also stated Tiger Trades Academy (TTA) is still being confused as being similar to SEAL Academy. She would like the district to communicate the positives of TTA.
- ✓ Superintendent Lovato said the TTA students took a trip last week to Denver. The students went to Highlands Ranch STEM School, Children's Hospital and Lockheed Martin, where they were able to use some of the virtual reality equipment.
- ✓ Director Leyba again stated communication with parents should be through Infinite Campus and the district website. She wants communication to be clear, relevant and easy to find. She said TTA went to the Library today and toured it. She said she is excited to be part of this district as parent, a Board member and as a Tiger!

13. ADJOURNMENT – MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:49 p.m.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

DEE LEYBA, President

KRISTIN BICKEL, Vice President

KIDRON BACKES, Secretary/Treasurer

ANGELA AYALA, Director