



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

**BOARD WRAP-UP**

**Board of Education Meeting**  
**June 12, 2017**

1. **ROLL CALL** – Ayala, Leyba, Martinez, Paolucci, and Reeder

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **AUDIENCE-**

Diane Fowler approached the Board with questions regarding the 4-day school week. She wanted to know when the 4-day week will be evaluated and what the expected outcomes are. She also asked if new teacher hires are asked if the 4-day week is a contributing factor for their coming to work for East Otero School District. Superintendent Lovato said he is planning to put data together regarding attendance and testing data on the 4-day week schedule. He said he will give annual updates to the community. Superintendent Lovato also informed Ms. Fowler that new teacher hires are asked if the 4-day week contributed to their choice of employer.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA – AGENDA APPROVED AS PRESENTED WITH ONE ADDITION**

3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. **Addition to Personnel**

- **David Wilson - Resignation from Junior High Science Teacher at La Junta Junior/Senior High School effective June 8, 2017**
- **Michele Wilson - Resignation from Kindergarten Teacher at La Junta Primary School effective June 8, 2017**
- **Amanda Hawks - New Hire as Elementary Teacher at La Junta Primary for the 2017-2018 school year**
- **Iliana McMillan - Summer School ELL Paraprofessional at La Junta Primary School from June 12-30, 2017**

B. **Out-of-District Students**

**An additional out-of-district student was added for approval**

**Superintendent Lovato also added the following to the agenda:**

8. **NEW BUSINESS:**

**M. Discussion of Hiring Policies with possible First/Revised Reading**

5. **CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED**

**Personnel Approval**

- Jill Dellinger as District Designated Election Official for 2017 (Official Notice of Intent to Participate in Coordinated Election and Designation of Election Official is attached)
- Kaitlin Jackson - Resignation as 6th Grade Math Teacher at La Junta Intermediate School effective May 26, 2017
- Courtney Monarco - New Hire as 3rd Grade Teacher at La Junta Intermediate School for the 2017-2018 school year
- Paula Kerr - New Hire as Kindergarten Teacher at La Junta Primary School for the 2017-2018 school year
- Juanita Hinkhouse - Resignation as Reading Intervention Teacher effective May 26, 2017 and request to work one year under unique contract
- Kellie Flowerdew - Resignation as Special Education Teacher effective May 26, 2017
- Vernon Gonzales - New Hire as Industrial Arts Teacher at La Junta Junior/Senior High School for the 2017-2018 school year
- Ruthann Mercado - Resignation as 4th Grade Teacher at La Junta Junior/Senior High School effective June 2, 2017
- Nancy Westfall - New Hire as Assistant Principal at La Junta Intermediate School for the 2017-2018 school year
- Teresa Walz - Transferred from Assistant Principal to 6th Grade Math Teacher at La Junta Intermediate School for the 2017-2018 school year

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- David Wilson - Resignation from Junior High Science Teacher at La Junta Junior/Senior High School effective June 8, 2017
- Michele Wilson - Resignation from Kindergarten Teacher at La Junta Primary School effective June 8, 2017
- Amanda Hawks - New Hire as Elementary Teacher at La Junta Primary for the 2017-2018 school year
- Iliana McMillan - Summer School ELL Paraprofessional at La Junta Primary School from June 12-30, 2017

Approve List of Out-of-District Student for the 2017-2018 School Year

#### **6. MINUTES – May 8, 2017 Regular Meeting **APPROVED AS PRESENTED****

#### **7. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mrs. Reisch asked the Board if there were any questions or concerns regarding the May financial report. Director Leyba asked Mrs. Reisch to have copies of the Fund Balance Report available at the Board meetings for the public to follow along. **FINANCIAL REPORT APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

#### **8. PRESENTATIONS**

- **Building/Principal's Monthly Report**

- **John Haberman – La Junta Jr./Sr. High School**

Mr. Dan Nuschy attended the meeting and presented the monthly report for the Junior/Senior High School. Mr. Nuschy reviewed the Safe Schools Report for the Junior/Senior High School with the Board. He said enrollment is up from last year and he sees that trend continuing. He was pleased to report that suspensions were down around 30% from last year. Mr. Nuschy said a new tardy policy will be introduced for the 2017-18 school year, as tardies have become excessive. The plan is to assign after school detention to students who obtain four tardies a semester. There were 51 students who are attending summer school this year, with 31 being high school students and 20 junior high students. Summer school will be completed this week. He is currently working on the professional development schedule for staff. He is pleased that the Art and PE teachers will be working on vertical curriculum alignment with the Primary and Intermediate staff. Mr. Nuschy informed the Board that upgrades have been completed to the Potter Park and 22<sup>nd</sup> Street baseball fields. The upgrades were possible due to a partnership between the East Otero School District, City of La Junta, Otero County and Otero Junior College.

- **Brenda Woodyard – Intermediate School Principal**

Mrs. Woodyard told the Board that enrollment at the Intermediate School increased from last year. Currently, there are 476 students enrolled compared to 431 students last year. She said the average daily attendance rate is at 93% and this percentage seems to hold steady for the Intermediate School. Mrs. Woodyard gave credit to Ms. Chris Moreno, Student Advocate, for the good attendance rate. She said Ms. Moreno works hard monitoring tardies. Mrs. Woodyard took a moment to welcome Mrs. Nancy Westfall to the Intermediate School as the new Assistant Principal. She is excited and said Mrs. Westfall is aware of the behavior expectations for the Intermediate students. Summer school has also begun at the Intermediate School and there were a few students absent, as parents didn't realize summer school began today. She is expecting a better attendance outcome tomorrow. Mrs. Woodyard told the Board that herself and Mrs. Josie Salazar, Instructional Coach, have been looking at the Professional Development schedule for the Intermediate Staff. They are also looking into what CU Denver is offering. Director Ayala voiced her concerns regarding the testing data. She asked Mrs. Woodyard several questions on the intervention process. Mrs. Woodyard explained that her staff are currently trying new ideas to increase student achievement and bring students who are below level up to level. Director Ayala was also concerned that summer school was only offered to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students and not to 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. Mrs. Woodyard said she agreed and Superintendent Lovato said that will be looked into for next year. Director Ayala also mentioned retaining students and Mrs. Woodyard explained the process she follows to recommend retaining a student. Director Paolucci expressed his concern regarding the testing data as well. He feels students aren't receiving what they need to improve. Director Martinez requested a call be sent home to parents regarding the start date of summer school a day or two prior to starting.

➤ **Cindy Haberman – La Junta Primary School**

Mrs. Haberman said she is excited that for the 2017-18 school year, there will be six Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade classrooms and five 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classrooms. She would like to have six 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classrooms as well, but is unable due to lack of room in the building. Mrs. Haberman said currently average class sizes are around 23 students and she would like that number to be around 17 students. Mrs. Haberman reviewed her Safe Schools Report. She reported that the Primary School attendance increased by 1% from last year and her staff is on top of truancy for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students. She said suspensions decreased by ten from last year. Summer school started at the Primary today. Mrs. Haberman said there are 61 students in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades attending and 102 Tiger Tot students. There were 97 students in attendance for the first day and better attendance is expected tomorrow. Mrs. Haberman was pleased to announce to the Board that sixteen certified staff at the Primary School enrolled in Professional Development classes that were offered through CU Denver and all completed their courses. She said CU Denver is offering Professional Development courses again this year and the staff decided they all would like to take a course through CU Denver, as well as professional development of their choice. Director Leyba clarified that Tiger Tots was formally referred to as Panda Prep. This is summer school for incoming Kindergarten students. Director Paolucci had Mrs. Haberman explain the testing data.

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

Superintendent Lovato reminded the Board of dates and upcoming activities in the district as follows:

- Monday, June 12, 2017 - Summer School begins
- Wednesday, June 14, 2017 - District Accountability Meeting
- Friday, June 30, 2017 - Summer School ends
- Monday, July 10, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. - Regular Board Meeting
- Wednesday, August 2, 2017 - New Teachers Report
- Monday, August 7, 2017 - Teachers Return
- Tuesday, August 8, 2017 - Central Registration
- Monday, August 14, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. - Regular Board Meeting

Superintendent Lovato would like to schedule a special board meeting at the end of the month. He said he just received the consolidate application and the district will be receiving \$77,000 less in Title II funding. He did say there is a Title IV, which is new this year, and it is a flexible spending area where the district received \$15,000 in funds. He will be looking at areas to pare down due to decreased funding. Superintendent Lovato said he is looking into a beginning of year kick off for the community, as well as an end of year celebration. His hope is to get the community members more involved and promote positive community outreach. Superintendent Lovato was excited to announce that East Otero School District was awarded the BEST Grant for Primary School expansion and renovation. The district will have to match a portion of the funding. Superintendent Lovato said he has met with two financial firms and both have assured him that the current bond can be extended and no tax increase will be necessary. Director Martinez asked Superintendent Lovato if students who participate in the fairs will be penalized for attendance due to school starting early. Superintendent Lovato said those would be excused absences as long as the parent communicates with the school.

**10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. Approve the 2017-2018 Final Budget and Appropriation Resolution (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- b. Approve Revised Policies IKF, EF, EFEA, EFC, and ADF on second/final reading (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

**11. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Approve Revised Regulations GCAB-R-1 and GCBD-R on first/revised/final reading and Revised Policies IKF-2, GCCAA, GCCAB, GCCBA, GCBA, GCCA, GCKA, GCLA, GCLC, GDCA, GDCB, GD, GDBAB and GDD on first/revised reading (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- b. Approve District Logo Change (Lovato) **APPROVED ON A 3-2 VOTE**
- c. Approve 2017-2018 Accreditation Contract (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- d. Approve Intent for November Ballot Question (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- e. Approve District-Wide Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- f. Approve Purchase of New Lighting for the Junior/Senior High School Pool and Intermediate Gymnasium (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- g. Approve 2017-2018 CASB Membership Dues (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- h. Approve Intermediate School Parking Lot Repair (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

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- i. Approve Pearson Math Textbooks and Resources (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- j. Approve Renaissance Renewal (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- k. Award Food Service Management Contract to Sodexo (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- l. Award Maintenance Management Service Contract to GCG (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- m. Discussion of Hiring Policies with Possible First/Revised Reading (Lovato) **DEEMED INFORMATIONAL AND TABLED UNTIL NEXT MEETING**
- n. Executive Session regarding student discipline per C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4)(h). **ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AFTER 5-MINUTE BREAK AT 8:02 P.M. MEETING RECONVENED AT 8:09 P.M.**

### **13. BOARD COMMENTS**

- ✓ Director Martinez said she has been approached by a parent regarding a bullying support group that took place at the Junior/Senior High School. The parent didn't feel like the counselors acted upon information they were given by the students. Director Martinez asked that this be looked into.
- ✓ Director Ayala commented that she wants to make sure the students who are excelling aren't forgotten.
- ✓ Director Leyba said PTO and Accountability Committees need to be promoted, as that is where parent ideas come from.
- ✓ Director Paolucci would like to see the Panda removed from the outside wall of Central Office.

### **14. ADJOURNMENT – MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:16 p.m.**

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**JEFF REEDER**, President  
**ANGELA AYALA**, Secretary

**JEFF PAOLUCCI**, Vice President  
**DEE LEYBA**, Treasurer  
**TONI MARTINEZ**, Director