



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

BOARD WRAP-UP

Board of Education Meeting
March 13, 2017

1. **ROLL CALL** – Ayala, Leyba, Martinez, Paolucci and Reeder
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – **AGENDA APPROVED WITH A REQUEST TO MOVE THE REASSIGNMENT OF THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL/ATHLETIC DIRECTOR TO PRINCIPAL FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA TO NEW BUSINESS**
 2. **Opening Items**
 - D. **Student Recognition – State Wrestling Champion: Will Tyler**
 - E. **Colorado Close Up Presentation**
 3. **Consent Agenda**
 - A. **Personnel:**
 - J. Rick Lovato – Retirement as 6th Grade Instructor at La Junta Intermediate School effective May 26, 2017
 - Kendra England – Resignation as Social Studies Instructor at La Junta Junior/Senior High School effective May 26, 2017
 8. **Unfinished Business**
 - A. **Junior/Senior High School student days = 152 days (clerical error)**
4. **MASTER PLAN (RTA ARCHITECTS)**

Superintendent Lovato gave a quick recap on RTA's presentation for the public. The Master Plan found deficiencies at each district building. The Primary School was placed at the top of the list with the highest need. The amount needed for all upgrades is around \$38,000,000. The district has applied for a BEST Grant. If the grant is successfully obtained, the district's match is 28%. That would be about \$3.5 million dollars that would be on the November ballot as a bond issue. Superintendent Lovato encouraged anyone who would like to see the Master Plan to come to Central Office. He would be happy to answer any questions.
5. **STUDENT RECOGNITION – STATE WRESTLING CHAMPION: WILL TYLER**

The Board congratulated Will Tyler on placing first at the state wrestling meet in Denver. Mr. Haberman said Will is the 20th individual La Junta state champion. Mr. Haberman said Will also carries a 4.0 GPA.
6. **COLORADO CLOSE UP PRESENTATION**

Kendra England, Social Studies teacher at La Junta Junior/Senior High School, told the Board nine students attended the Colorado Close Up conference in Denver. Trinity Good explained to the Board there were many activities they attended. She said the group went to the Capitol building, the Denver Mint, and the Supreme Court. She said they were able to sit in a session while bills were being discussed. Trinity said this was a great opportunity and encouraged students to participate in this. Jordan Elam thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend.
7. **AUDIENCE**

Mr. Ed Vela commented on the outstanding boys' basketball coach. He said the kids did a really good job. He congratulated the team for getting as far as they did in the playoffs. Mr. Vela also thanked Superintendent Lovato for having microphones at the Board meetings and also for his article on the Master Plan.

8. CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED

Personnel Approval

- Andrea Vigil - New Hire as Special Education Paraprofessional at La Junta Junior/Senior High School for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year
- Evelyn Halfacre - Retirement as Intervention Instructor at La Junta Primary School effective May 26, 2017
- Tina Lucero - New Hire as Paraprofessional at Columbian Early Childhood Center (CDS) for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year
- J. Rick Lovato - Retirement as 6th Grade Teacher at La Junta Intermediate School effective May 26, 2017
- Kendra England – Resignation as Social Studies Instructor at La Junta Junior/Senior High School effective May 26, 2017

Approve Resolution Authorizing Signing of Checks/District Bank Accounts at TBK Bank, Colorado Bank and Trust and First National Bank

Approve an Additional Out-of-District Student for the Remainder of the 2016-2017 School Year

9. MINUTES – February 13, 2017 APPROVED AS PRESENTED

10. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Reisch gave a financial update for January. She said the February reports were just finished and were delayed due to illness in the office. They will be on next month's agenda. Mrs. Reisch said things are going smoothly and she is getting caught up on things. Director Paolucci asked about the food service fund. Mrs. Reisch said there is a meeting with Sodexo next week. She said she is not sure how the food service contract will look with Rocky Ford moving into a 4-day week as well. **FINANCIAL REPORT APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

11. PRESENTATIONS

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

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

Mr. Haberman informed the Board that the PARCC English/Language Arts testing will begin today, March 13 for grades 7-9. He said the third quarter is wrapping up and Parent/Teacher Conferences are set for March 15. There are several student writings entered in the OJC Arts Festival. Students will find out the results in April. Mr. Haberman said the Knowledge Bowl team has qualified for state. The Tiger Talkers will be competing at the state Forensics tournament March 17 and 18 in Denver. The boys' basketball team made it to the "sweet sixteen" playoff game. He said the wrestling team placed seventh at state. The Honor Band and Honor Choir recently performed at OJC. The La Junta Junior/Senior High School Drama recently presented their spring play titled, *Fools*. Mr. Haberman reported there were two seniors that are finalists for the Daniel's Fund Scholarship, Rayann Remick and Benjamin Meiklejohn and one finalist for the Boettcher Scholarship, Ana Mathews.

➤ **Brenda Woodyard – Intermediate School Principal**

Mrs. Woodyard thanked the Woodruff Memorial Library for purchasing the Tumblebooks program. She said since the students have started using the program, a total of 20,719 books have been read since September. A fine dining event was recently held at the Intermediate School. Mrs. Woodyard thanked Sodexo for creating the event and Board members, Mrs. Ayala and Mrs. Leyba for joining the students in the experience. Mrs. Woodyard said the quarterly meetings between Otero Junior College (OJC) staff and University of Colorado Denver have been being attended. The discussions have been about the TPrep (Teacher Preparation for Rural Education Partnership) program that is being offered at OJC. She explained that this program allows interested candidates to earn a BA degree in Elementary Education at OJC in four years while also having the opportunity to become established and connected in our local schools as they complete their required clinical hours. She is hoping La Junta will gain some teachers through this program. During the month of February, there were 40 major office referrals and ten suspensions. Last month, there were 16 major office referrals and four suspensions. Mrs. Woodyard said teachers continue to meet twice weekly during collaborations. During February, the discussion centered around: Accelerated Reading (AR) progress monitoring, Measures of Student Learning (MSLs) and the focus for the next few weeks, going over the PARCC/CMAS testing schedule, reviewing the PARCC/CMAS teacher manuals, coming up with a plan for collecting cell phones and smart watches during testing, etc. The last round of teacher

observations are underway. Mrs. Woodyard said the Intermediate School teachers are doing a great job with continuing to implement learned techniques from the Orton Gillingham, Depth and Complexity, and Kagan trainings. Mrs. Woodyard said the PARCC/CMAS assessments will be computer-based, with the math being paper/pencil testing. She thanked Mrs. Salazar for her hard work with the testing preparations. Mrs. Woodyard also thanked the staff, students, parents and community members that helped make the Wendy's Night a success. She said the Intermediate was able to make \$423.00 to put toward the AR incentives.

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

Mrs. Haberman informed the Board that teacher collaborations and data discussions continue every Tuesday and Thursday. She said teachers meet as a grade level to discuss student data collected from STAR, DIBELS, Pearson reading/writing, enVision math topics and unit tests and rubrics and how to proceed with instructional activities. Mrs. Haberman said these meetings are guided with the assistance of the Instructional Coach and/or Principal. Primary students continue to demonstrate a passion for reading and are surpassing their Accelerated Reading (AR) goals. The students enjoyed their AR incentive by having a bar-b-que at La Junta City Park. In Art, students participated in designing a back drop used for the family photos that were taken during the Sweetheart Luncheon in February. Mrs. Haberman said student's artwork is displayed on every grade level bulletin board. La Junta Primary School participated in the "Jump Rope for Heart" event in February. Students helped raise \$6827.06 as a school. Each student that participated in the event received different levels of prizes based on how much they were able to raise. Mrs. Haberman explained the Jump Rope for Heart program and said the Primary School received educational materials and lesson plans that focused on heart disease and stroke prevention, the importance of physical activity, and an anti-tobacco message. Beyond the educational materials, jump ropes were also received that were used for the event. A \$300.00 US Games Certificate was earned for the purchase new physical education equipment. Mrs. Haberman thanked East Otero School District, the Board of Education, the students and the community for their support. Mrs. Haberman said the "Sweetheart Luncheon", held on February 14, was well attended. She said 365 adults (grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends) and 26 siblings enjoyed a great meal and music by a harpist. The Kindergarten students participated in their annual program, "Singing Across the Seasons" in February at the OJC Ed Stafford Theatre. Mrs. Haberman praised Mrs. Belew on her efforts with the students. Mrs. Haberman was very pleased to announce the Second Grade Enrichment Science students were able to participate in the Science Fair. All six participants earned a 1st place score and medal and three of the students received special awards that were awarded in certain categories. Mrs. Haberman said the current enrollment is at 321 students. She said the focus for behavior remains rewarding positive behaviors. A continued reduction in office referrals and suspensions continue from this same time last year.

➤ **Auditor's Report**

Gary Waller, Auditor of Dixon, Waller and Company, explained results of the district's 2015-2016 audit. Mr. Waller stated the report was given a clean opinion with no qualifications, which is the highest rating that can be given. No action was needed or taken.

12. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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

- March 14, 2017 5th Grade Program
- March 15, 2017 Parent-Teacher Conferences at the Junior/Senior High School
- March 15-16, 2017 Parent-Teacher Conferences at Primary
- March 16, 2017 Class Pictures at Intermediate
- March 20-24, 2017 Spring Break (Central Office open from 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.)
- March 31, 2017 La Junta Open
- April 7, 2017 11:30 a.m. Release for K-6 Only
- April 10, 2017 Kindergarten Round-Up
- April 11, 2017 4th Grade Program
- April 14, 2017 Spring Holiday - No School (Central Office Closed)
- April 20-21, 2017 Tiger Relays
- April 28, 2017 EOSD Retirement Reception at La Junta Primary School

Superintendent Lovato said he has applied for a grant through the Donnell Kay Foundation. This grant helps 4-day school week communities provide programming for the 5th day. He said it is a very competitive process and

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there were 31 applicants. La Junta was selected as one of the 8 finalists. He said the grant would help fund possible programs in conjunction with organizations like La Junta Parks and Rec, Southeast Health Group, and Woodruff Memorial Library. There is a workshop that he will be attending on March 18 in Denver. Superintendent Lovato congratulated the Knowledge Bowl team for making it to the state competition and congratulated the Drama department on a job well done on the spring play, *Fools*.

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Approve the revised 2017-2018 Calendar (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- b. Approve revised Policies GBK and JII on second/final reading (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

14. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Approve revised Regulation JII-R on first/revised/final reading (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- b. Approve revised Policies BCB, BEDF, BID/BIE, DJ/DJA, DJE, DKC, EHB and GBEA on first/revised reading (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- c. Adopt Policies DAC, DJB and Regulation DJB-R on first/revised reading (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- d. 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.**
- e. Approve Principal Employment Renewals-Resolution 2017-1 (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- f. Approve the reassignment of Dan Nuschy from Assistant Principal/Athletic Director to Principal for the 2017-2018 school year (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

13. BOARD COMMENTS

- ✓ Director Leyba shared that she has received positive comments on the improved lighting in the gym.

14. ADJOURNMENT – MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:35 p.m.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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