

SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4
Monday, November 22, 2021
REGULAR BOARD MEETING—6:00 P.M.
TO FOLLOW (5:45) SPECIAL MEETING IN ELEMENTARY WORKROOM

- I. CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Springfield School District was called to order by Larry Duncan at 6:10 p.m.
- A. ROLL CALL:
1. MEMBERS PRESENT: Clinton Arbuthnot, Larry Duncan, Tyler Gibson and Kay Maes.
 2. MEMBERS ABSENT: Jennifer Esch
 3. SCHOOL PERSONNEL PRESENT: Richard Hargrove, Kyle Lasley, Leah Crane, Pam Hartley and Carey George.
 4. GUESTS PRESENT: Quinten George, Colby Cogburn, Jerri Shaw, Brian Shaw, Ryan Bray and Mike Cooper.
- II. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Superintendent Hargrove requested the Executive Session be revised to: Pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4) (f): for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter involving a teacher resignation and pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4) (b) for a conference with the board's counsel for the purpose of receiving legal advice concerning a personnel matter. He recommended the addition of items A. Resignation, B. Maintenance Supervisor and C. Assistant HS Girls basketball coach.
- III. APPROVE THE AGENDA: Clinton Arbuthnot made a motion to add the following to Executive Session: Pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(f): for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter involving a teacher resignation and pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4) (b) for a conference with the board's counsel for the purpose of receiving legal advice concerning a personnel matter and the addition of Items A. Resignation, B. Maintenance Supervisor and C. Assistant HS Girls basketball coach. Tyler Gibson seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- IV. ROUTINE ITEMS:
- A. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE October 18, 2021 regular meeting: Clinton Arbuthnot made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2021 regular meeting as presented. Tyler Gibson seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- B. FINANCIAL REPORTS: The board reviewed the November financial reports.
- C. CLAIMS PAYABLE – November 22, 2021: Tyler Gibson made a motion to approve the November 22, 2021 claims payable as presented. Clinton Arbuthnot seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- V. PUBLIC COMMENT:

IF YOU ARE HERE TO ADDRESS THE BOARD, PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING:

Welcome to the open forum portion of our meeting. We appreciate your interest in participating in this conversation time with the Springfield School District RE-4 Board of Education. A sign-up sheet was provided at the entrance to the Board meeting for all persons wishing to address the Board. It is requested that comments be limited to five minutes per speaker. Patrons are invited to share comments with the Board in an orderly manner that is consistent with the respect and dignity that should be part of a Board of Education public meeting. The Board will require that speakers and audience members adhere to basic standards of civility and, with limited time available, as the Board President, I may need to limit or terminate discussion to maintain decorum or to give as many people as possible the opportunity to speak. The Board will not take any action during this time. It is the preference of the Board that comments concerning District personnel be addressed in executive session. Discussion of individual students must occur in executive session. Please inform the Board if you intend to make comments concerning District personnel or students so those comments may be heard in executive session.

Several guests spoke to the board about various concerns they have, with the majority of comments related to student safety. They expressed their desire for students to be safe and feel safe at school and had questions about what procedures the district employs to maintain a safe environment. There were also questions asked about the district's hiring policies and procedures. Board members and administration shared information related to the expressed concerns and questions and urged everyone to speak personally with an administrator in regards to specific instances.

- A. CORRESPONDENCE: None

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. PLACE CASB SPECIAL POLICIES OF OCTOBER 2021 INTO 2ND READING: Mr. Hargrove recommended that the board place policies into 2nd reading. Before finalizing he would like to further research some of the changes and discuss them with the board at the next regular meeting. Clinton Arbuthnot made a motion to place October 2021 CASB Special Policies into 2nd reading. Kay Maes seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- B. UPDATE BEST PROJECT: Mr. Hargrove reported that unexpected asbestos abatement in the outside concession building put the project about 10 days behind. Utility reconnects are being completed so the wrestling room and art/concession buildings can be demolished. Rooms 1, 2 and 3 will be demolished in next 30 days. To make-up for the 10 day delay, plans are to start digging and preparing foundation site simultaneously while demolition is ongoing. Ground breaking is still being planned for some time in December. Board members reiterated their desire to see a list of any local companies who have been contacted or showed an interest in bidding on any areas of the project.
- C. COVID UPDATE: the elementary school had a moderate outbreak in students and teachers during the month, but it has let-up. The high school experienced only a few positive cases.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. APPROVE ADDITION TO SUBSTITUTE LIST: Superintendent Hargrove recommended that Mike Stafford be approved to be hired as a substitute teacher. He has completed his background check and been issued a current substitute certification from the Colorado Department of Education. Tyler Gibson made a motion to approve Mike Stafford as a substitute for the Springfield School District. Kay Maes seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- B. APPROVE BENEFIT HEALTH ADVISOR/ANTHEM AS OUR GROUP INSURANCE CARRIER
Three companies were contacted to submit bids for the district's group insurance. No response was received from 2 of the companies. Anthem presented plans similar to last year's plans with premiums going up from 10 – 12%. Mr. Hargrove recommended approving Benefit Health Advisor/Anthem as our group insurance carrier. Clinton Arbuthnot made a motion to approve Benefit Health Advisor/Anthem as the group insurance carrier for the Springfield School District. Kay Maes seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- C. DISCUSS AND APPROVE MeTEOR EDUCATION AS FF&E VENDOR FOR BEST PROJECT:
Two companies: Office Scape and MeTEOR were interviewed for the Furniture, Fixture & Equipment vendor for the BEST construction. Committee members felt MeTEOR was more willing to offer help and prepare a design based on the budget. Mr. Hargrove recommended that MeTEOR be approved as the FF&E vendor. Kay Maes made a motion to approve MeTEOR Education as the Furniture, Fixture and Equipment vendor for the BEST project. Tyler Gibson seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- D. DISCUSS AND APPROVE ADDING PARA FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE 21 – 22 SCHOOL YEAR
Superintendent Hargrove discussed with the board the need for another SPED para in the elementary. He stated that this was a situation he knew might arise so the n additional salary was included in this year's budget. He will contact some possible candidates and ask for hiring approval at December meeting.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4) (f): for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter involving a teacher resignation and pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b) for a conference with the board's counsel for the purpose of receiving legal advice concerning a personnel matter.

- A. Resignation
- B. Maintenance Supervisor
- C. Assistant HS Girls Basketball Coach

Mr. Hargrove and the board members entered executive session at 7:17 p.m.
Mr. Lasley and Mrs. Crane were invited to executive session later in the session.
The board and administration returned to regular session at 8:40 p.m.

IX. ACT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Hiring of POSITION: Mr. Hargrove recommended Ray Schmidt for the position of Maintenance Supervisor. Tyler Gibson made a motion to hire Ray Schmidt as the Maintenance Supervisor. Kay Maes seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

B. Hiring of POSITION: Mr. Hargrove recommended Breanna Hendricks and Samantha Thomas as assistant high school girls' basketball coaches. Clinton Arbuthnot made a motion to approve Breanna Hendricks and Samantha Thomas for assistant high school girls' basketball coaches. Kay Maes seconded the motion. Motion passed.

C. Separation Agreement: Tyler Gibson moved to approve the separation agreement in substantially the form presented and to authorize Larry Duncan, Board President, to sign the separation agreement on the board's behalf. Clinton Arbuthnot seconded the motion. Motion passed.

X. REPORTS

A. ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL – LEAH CRANE: Mrs. Crane distributed her November Principal's Report to the board members and reviewed all the items listed. (report attached). Items included information on the Early Literacy Grant, approval of Amplify Assurances, Measures of Student Learning, Fire Drills, Friday School, a discipline report and upcoming events.

B. JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH PRINCIPAL – KYLE LASLEY: Mr. Lasley reviewed his written November Board Report. (report attached) He discussed ideas being considered to promote more student accountability. He reported that JH basketball has begun and HS basketball will start with the RL Ballard tournament. He expressed his concern with staff fatigue resulting from several factors including the extra work involved with quarantined students combined with regular short staffing issues. He stated they are doing a tremendous job, but it is taking its toll. There is a student petition being debating in regards to changing the JH mascot from Shorthorn to Longhorn. Depending on the outcome of student voting, the petition may be presented to the board at the next board meeting.

C. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – RICHARD HARGROVE: Superintendent Hargrove gave an update on October count. Total count is down by 12 from prior year. State averaging should help, and if the state passes a supplemental budget we might not see a decrease in funding. He explained that our insurance company has been unable to find someone willing to commit a day to come to the district to administer flu vaccines so the district will not be offering this benefit to employees this year. He reported that due to health concerns districts were given the option to attend the BOCES conferences remotely this year. Our teachers chose to participate remotely and viewed the 2 excellent keynote speakers who provided some quality information. He invited the board members to the STA Christmas Party scheduled for December 11, 2021. The 2022 mill levy will need approved before the regular December meeting. A special meeting will need to be scheduled.


XI. OTHER ITEMS TO DISCUSS: None

XII. BOARD MEETING DATES:


1. REGULAR BOARD MEETING – DECEMBER 20, 2021

XIII. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD: None

XIV. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned by consensus of the board at 8:50 p.m.


Larry Duncan, President


Tyler Gibson, Vice President


Clinton Arbuthnot, Secretary


Jennifer Esch, Treasurer


Kay Maes, Director