

HUMBOLDT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
310 East Fourth Street
WINNEMUCCA, NEVADA 89445

The regular meeting of the Humboldt County Board of School Trustees was held February 10, 2009 at 4:30 p.m. in the District Office Boardroom.

Board members present were: President-Shelly Noble, Clerk-Kris Stewart, John Seeliger, Ann Miller, John Hill, Boyd Betteridge, and Andrew Hillyer.

Others in attendance were: Superintendent Mike Bumgartner, Asst. Superintendent Dave Jensen, Attorney John Doyle, Sylvia Covarrubias, Julie Dins, Barbara Duncan, Ray Parks, Ray Garrison, Kim Rust, Samantha Burns, Shay Cary, Alyxia Corley, Diana Gomez, Lindsay Hatler, Tessa Kampf, McKenzie Maddox, Leandra Miller, Garrett Plumb, Megan Rehberg, Alex Roark, Cristal Venzor, Angel Ward, Meg Wilson, Homero Zolorio, Frankie Peterson, Nicole Maher, Jeff Dawson, Pat Cook, Sandra Matheny, Tracy White, Mike Snow, Heather Gula-Humboldt Sun, other interested persons and Secretary Paula Wright.

President Noble opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Correspondence: None

Mrs. Watts asked that a correction be made to the January 27, 2009 minutes. Under the agenda item "Lowry High School Update", it was reported that the Letterman's Club resurrected the Letterman's vs faculty basketball game, when in fact it was the Leadership Class.

Mrs. Stewart moved to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2009 meeting with the corrections noted. Mr. Seeliger seconded, motion carried.

Special Recognition – Winnemucca Jr. High School Art Extravaganza

Mr. Bumgartner welcomed the Winnemucca Jr. High School artists to the meeting and thanked them for their artwork which hangs in the District Office hallway and boardroom. Mr. Bumgartner presented each student with a certificate of excellence. Everyone is encouraged to view the artwork. Great job!

4:40 p.m. Mrs. Stewart moved to go into a closed session to discuss the suspension or expulsion of three students pursuant to NRS 392.467. Mr. Seeliger seconded, motion carried.

Discussion and Possible Action – Closed Session to Discuss the Suspension or Expulsion of Three Students Pursuant to NRS 392.467 - Ray Garrison, Ray Parks

4:49 p.m. Mrs. Stewart moved to return to open session pursuant to NRS 392.467. Mr. Hill seconded, motion carried.

Superintendent's Report

1. The Millennium Scholarship is under scrutiny. High school principals will be surveyed to assess the effectiveness and usefulness of the scholarship. This year, seniors will be surveyed to determine if some who qualify for the scholarship have actually planned to attend school out of state.
2. Mr. Bumgartner will be bringing a Declaration of Support for the iNVEST '09 proposal to the Board at the February 24th meeting. The Superintendents and NASB are requesting all 17 school boards

adopt and sign a Declaration of Support for the proposal, which will be shared with the governor and the Legislature.

3. Legislative Update-
 - a. A Bill Draft Request is in place to reverse the requirement for the Superintendent Evaluation to be done in a public session. Superintendents voted unanimously to not support the bill draft. They believe a public evaluation, while at times uncomfortable, builds public trust and should remain in place.
 - b. February 16th – There will be an Assembly Education Hearing to discuss increasing graduation rates.
 - c. The NASS (Superintendent Association) is drafting another letter to the Governor expressing concern about the 6% salary reduction for employees.
4. Video Conference with Senator Harry Reid: Senator Reid stated that the US is in a severe recession and the Legislature and President are attempting to avert a depression. He has been watching the budget process in Nevada. He is appalled by the budget cuts in Nevada, especially to education, and what it is going to take to bring the budget into line. He noted, proposed in the stimulus bill, \$79 billion for state stabilization funds-\$510 million to Nevada. He also noted \$88 million to Nevada for school infrastructure improvement. Since that video conference those amounts has been taken out of the bill. The bill is getting strong resistance from Republicans and he felt it may die.
5. Meetings with Dean Rhoads and Don Gustavson
 - a. Mr. Bumgartner asked them several questions:
 - i. What are your thoughts on the Governor's proposed budget? Both felt it was not going to pass as written; some items would need to be changed.
 - ii. What changes should occur to the budget? One said there is talk meeting the shortfall through a combination of reductions and raising revenue. The other stated "no new revenue over my dead body".
 - iii. How will the stimulus bill affect the state budgeting process? Both said the stimulus bill would need to go through significant changes, but if some money did come to Nevada, it could help us. One noted that "the stimulus bill is unconstitutional and should never pass"

Activity Report

1. January 26-28th - Met with Principals on progress of evaluation goals
2. January 30th -Preliminary discussions with Mr. Jensen regarding possible budget reduction scenarios
3. February 2nd – Met with Mr. Novi and elementary Principals (K-6) to discuss common areas of focus, consistency of program expectations, and best practices.
4. February 2nd – Met with Jessie Westmoreland- NNRPDP regarding the significant budget reductions with NNRPDP and the working relationship for the remainder of the year. One of the items slashed from the Governor's budget was NNRPDP, approximately \$70 million. Humboldt County alone sees a benefit of approximately \$500,000 from NNRPDP in sub stipends, professional development, employment of a local trainer, and support of one-half of our leadership stipends.
5. February 4th -Visited a middle school hands on technology lab in Reno, which teaches integrated science skills, and stresses higher order thinking and collaboration in problem solving.
6. February 4th - Superintendent Meeting- Reno- Fireside chat – workshop- how building design affects student achievement.
7. February 5th - Superintendent Meeting- Carson City- State Department of Education
8. February 5th - Met with Legislators
9. February 6th - Building Naming Committee meeting – a draft proposal was written
10. February 9th - Meeting with Vince Mendiola regarding possible areas for cost savings in district athletics

11. February 9th - Meeting with association presidents regarding budget reduction timelines - open discussion about concerns.

Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of Warrants

Mr. Seeliger moved to approve the warrants as presented. Mr. Hill seconded, motion carried.

Discussion Only – School Safety Update, Including the Status of School Crisis Plans – Jeff Dawson

Officer Dawson presented the Board with an update of incidents from January 5th to date. They include; 1) two car keyings resolved from September, 2) locker room thefts are on the rise, 3) two arrests for wandering the locker room during class, 4) educational neglect reports at Grass Valley, Sonoma Heights and Winnemucca Jr. High, 5) truancy citations issued, 6) subpoenas, 7) two arrests for failure to appear for truancy court, 8) three fights at Lowry, 9) one arrest for probation violation, 10) three threats to school violence (two at Lowry and one at Winnemucca Jr. High), 11) gas leak at Lowry, 12) one broken window, and 13) assault with a deadly weapon at Winnemucca Jr. High, at which time a fight occurred and there were other weapon related incidents. Officer Dawson briefly went over the protocol as to how reports/incidents are forwarded to him.

Officer Dawson will be presenting bullying and pedestrian safety training at Sonoma Heights Elementary. On occasion, at a parent's request, he will conduct meetings to help change a student's behavior.

Officer Dawson sits on the Drug Court board. They meet every two weeks at the Juvenile Detention Center. He also coordinates the Teen Court program for Humboldt County Juvenile Department. The next cases will be held February 18th if anyone is interested in attending.

The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office just acquired a drug dog. It is hoped that school visits can be reinstated.

During spring break, Officer Dawson will be providing the police department with police mountain bike training.

We will be creating a crisis response district level team. State law requires that one school board member, one school administrator, one certified employee, one classified employee, one local law enforcement representative, and one school police officer be appointed to the team. The team may include other members if desired.

Discussion and Possible Action – Discussion Concerning Possible Retention of Kafoury and Armstrong and Discussion of Contract Provisions – Dave Jensen

The District's contract with Kafoury, Armstrong expired in June. Mr. Jensen asked what process the board wanted to take in establishing a continued relationship with Kafoury, Armstrong or if they wanted to go out to bid for services.

Mr. Jensen noted that we have had a long-standing relationship with Kafoury, Armstrong, which has been a positive one. If it is the Board's desire to continue with services from Kafoury, Armstrong, Mr. Jensen will ask them to submit a proposal for continued services for a one year, three year and five year contract.

There was a brief discussion as to whether the District should go out to bid to show transparency of doing business. Other professional services in the district are taken out to bid on a regular basis.

Mr. Hill moved to retain the services of Kafoury, Armstrong as the District's auditors and for Kafoury, Armstrong to submit a proposal for a three-year and five-year contract. Mrs. Miller seconded. Those in

favor: Mr. Hill, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Seeliger, Mrs. Noble. Those opposed: Mrs. Stewart, Mr. Hillyer, Mr. Betteridge.

Discussion Only – Review of Revenue Comparisons and Preferred Meals Testing – Barbara Duncan

Mrs. Duncan served the Board samples of two meals we currently serve through the Preferred Meals program. She also provided an overview of how the meals (Preferred Meals) are prepared and served. One employee can prepare, serve and clean up in approximately three hours, saving on costs. The pre-packaged meals, utensils, condiments, trays, freezers and ovens are all included in the \$2.19 cost to the district.

A comparison showed lunches served have increased at Winnemucca Grammar School for the 2008-09 school year and are fairly consistent at Sonoma Heights from the previous school year to the current year. There was a decrease at French Ford Middle School for the same time period. The food service department began offering preferred entrees and a fresh fruit and vegetable for lunch at French Ford and sales have increased.

She presented a brief overview of mylunchmoney.com, which is an online pre-payment system allowing parents to prepay for their child's lunch.

Mrs. Duncan reported that labor and benefits are her department's largest cost. She presented the Board with a comparison of the numbers served with the breakfast program at Grass Valley, Sonoma Heights, Winnemucca Grammar and McDermitt from October 2007 to October 2008. The number of participants has decreased at all schools. The numbers are decreasing for several reasons. One reason is that schools do not have the staff to monitor students at 7:30 a.m., therefore, students are being asked not to be at school until 7:45 a.m. Breakfast is served from 7:45 to 8:15 a.m. A majority of students do not arrive at school until 8:00 a.m. or after so are not taking advantage of the breakfast program.

Mrs. Duncan felt that restructuring the menus at Lowry and Winnemucca Jr. High would allow the food service department to cut the five entrees currently being offered to three entrees. This would cut down on inventory, cut food costs and cut labor costs. Mrs. Duncan would also like to offer Preferred Meals at Grass Valley and McDermitt Combined for the 2009-10 school year, also cutting costs for her department.

There was discussion whether to retain the breakfast and/or lunch program or if some reductions or alternatives could be made to each program. Mr. Jensen noted that he would be bringing a recommendation to the Board at a later date.

Discussion and Possible Action – Adoption of Building Naming Policy – Mike Bumgartner, Mike Snow

Mr. Bumgartner provided the Board with a draft policy for naming of educational facilities. A seven member committee was selected to review similar policies and to draft a policy for board approval. There was some contention among the committee regarding the policy, but a policy was drafted. Mr. Snow, a committee member, went over the policy.

The Board will establish a Facilities Naming Committee, which will review and recommend for final approval to the Board the name of the individual that has been submitted for consideration to have a facility or portion of a facility named for. Committee members will serve for one year. The committee will include; 1) one parent of a child who will attend the new school or currently attends the school where a portion of the building is being named, 2) one administrator, 3) one member of the HCEA, and 4) one member of the HCSSO.

The nominating party will complete a School District Facility Name Application form. The application form will then go to the Facilities Naming Committee for consideration. Some of the criteria in the policy include: 1) New high schools will be named for locality or region, they will not be named for individuals, 2) elementary, middle or junior high schools will be named for locality or region, educators, pioneers, or prominent citizens of Humboldt County, 3) portions of school facilities may be named for former District employees or citizens who have made specific contributions to education in Humboldt County, 4) District personnel will not be considered while actively employed, 5) board members may not be considered while actively serving on the board, 6) names will not be considered if there is an existing public facility that already bears their name, 7) elected officials will not be considered while they are actively serving in public office, and 8) facilities, or portions of, may be named in honor of a significant benefactor or name submitted for nomination by a significant benefactor, with additional criteria to be met.

Mrs. Stewart moved to adopt the naming of educational facilities draft policy, with typos corrected, as presented. Mrs. Miller and Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried.

Discussion and Possible Action – Approval to Establish a Capital Project Fund Entitled District Bond Initiative 2008– Dave Jensen

Mr. Jensen sought the Board's approval to establish a capital project fund to allow deposit of our bond revenues. All funds relative to the bond sale have been received and establishing the capital project fund will allow us to track the funds appropriately.

Mr. Hillyer moved to approve the establishment of a capital project fund entitled District Bond Initiative 2008. Mr. Seeliger seconded, motion carried.

Discussion and Possible Action - Health Insurance Update: Current Funding Review – Dave Jensen

A recap of the self-funded insurance plan for December 2008 showed total funds deposited of \$747,150.45, which includes the \$500,000 transfer approved by the Board. Expenditures for the same month totaled \$752,426.65. Currently, after all costs have been accounted for we have a balance of approximately \$24,000. For the moment, all claims are zero.

Mr. Jensen provided the Board with a summary benefit analysis; the largest incurred costs are in outpatient surgeries at \$195,284. Also, provided was a copy of the District's stop loss report. Thus, far we have two employees who have exceeded the stop loss threshold and another employee whose claims the District is monitoring. The District will see a reimbursement of \$68,697.79.

At a previous meeting, the question was asked if our third party administrator was receiving our funds, putting them in a bank account and drawing interest rather than paying our claims. Mr. Jensen said funds are not being held by the third party administrator and claims are being paid.

Mr. Jensen briefly went over a self-insurance fund recap; revenue vs expenditures.

The Insurance Committee met and is strongly considering the viability of being self-insured vs going to a fully insured program. The committee reviewed bid proposals from St. Mary's and Anthem Blue Cross. The committee felt most comfortable with the St. Mary's Beyond Plan 500. The Board was provided information showing the comparisons between the District's current plan and the St. Mary's plan.

Mr. Jensen noted his concern in going with a fully insured program is the flow through period when the District will be responsible for any and all claims incurred up to the date of transfer from the current plan

to the fully insured plan. The District would incur double insurance costs for a period of time, possibly up to a year.

Once again, Mr. Jensen expressed his concern of an unfunded liability to the District if we cannot control rate increases going to a fully insured program.

Board/Staff Comments:

1. Mr. Seeliger noted that the Nevada Association of School Boards (NASB) is asking school districts to pass a resolution in support of iNVEST '09.
2. Mrs. Stewart asked that the Board be allowed to give input on the budget reduction timeline prior to the process of meeting with principals and associations.
3. Mr. Bumgartner noted that, at one time, it was hoped to have a budget reduction timeline proposal to the Board by March 10th. In preparing the timeline, some factors surfaced that will make it impossible to have the timeline to the Board on March 10th. A preliminary proposal will be established, meetings will be held with site administrators and association presidents to discuss the process. A Board retreat will be scheduled for March 9th to discuss more specifics for a budget reduction. Another Board retreat will be scheduled for March 18th and a list of reductions/cuts will be established. A final proposal will then be brought to Board at the March 24th meeting.
4. Mr. Jensen noted that he attended the Association of School Business Officers Conference in Chicago on February 4-6, 2009 as part of a scholarship he received. He has been asked to give a presentation, associated with his desertion results, and findings of the impact of RTI in Humboldt County School District as part of a national conference in Denver, March 11-13, 2009.
5. The District replaced a heating/cooling unit at Lowry High School, which was the cause of the gas leak.
6. Clerk of the Works, Mike Mitchell and his associate, Kevin Monsey, have visited most schools. Mr. Jensen and Mr. Norcutt are scheduled to meet with them on Thursday, December 12th.

Adjourned 7:35 p.m.

Submitted by Secretary, Paula Wright


Clerk, Kris Stewart