

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

A special meeting of the Humboldt County Board of School Trustees was held March 9, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in the District Office Conference Room.

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

Others in attendance were: Superintendent Mike Bumgartner, Asst. Superintendent Dave Jensen, Mary Keith-HCEA President, Diane Seeliger, Frankie Peterson, Dee Hotzel, Shelly Smith, Ray Parks, Jeanne Moline, Nicole Maher, Nancy Swindle, Jennifer Bergenheier, other interested persons and Secretary Paula Wright.

President Noble opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: None

Discussion Only – Overview of the FY2009-10 Budget

Mr. Bumgartner began by saying that all information being presented is preliminary. When the budget reduction process began in November there were several specific goals set by the board and administration; 1) as much as possible, minimize the impact on classroom learning, 2) as much as possible, preserve employment opportunities for HCSD employees and 3) make decisions based on what is best for students.

Community themes gathered from the community forums included: 1) minimize impact on classrooms, 2) preserve class size and 3) preserve extra curricular activities for students.

Mr. Jensen provided an overview of the Nevada Plan and Distributive School Account (DSA). The Nevada Plan has been in operation for many years. The last time there was a serious revision to the plan was in 1972. The validity of the plan came under pressure in 2000, modifications were made and a revised model was finalized in December of 2006. Under the model there is equitable application of funding, but not necessarily adequate funding. He then went over the guaranteed funding process based on the revenue of the district, in addition to other revenue sources outside of the guarantee, which make up the total resources included in the operating budget.

We are still in declining enrollment and funding levels have been reduced. 2010 will provide an 8% DSA decrease to \$6,124 per pupil or an approximate loss of \$1.9 million. 2011 is reflecting a \$1 DSA increase over 2010; however, health care, facilities insurance and PERS costs are increasing. Annually, the District projects staff roll-ups at a cost of approximately \$600,000. Currently, the Governor's budget plan is showing a 6% salary reduction and a freeze on step and lane changes. The District has not factored in the 6% salary reduction in their proposed budget, because that is a negotiated item. The 6%, however, has been factored in elsewhere in the budget. Also taken into consideration is the increase to PERS of 1%.

Mr. Jensen briefly reviewed; 1) the significance of the Local School Support Taxes (LSST), 2) staffing trends for administrative, certified and classified, 3) a ten year enrollment history and 4) special education statistics and needs.

Discussion Only – Discussion of Areas for Possible Reduction in the FY2009-10 Budget

Mr. Bumgartner and Mr. Jensen reviewed a very tentative proposal to meet the anticipated \$1.9 million budget reduction. The discussion reviewed areas in which reductions are proposed that will least impact the classroom.

Areas to save money, either by reduction or by elimination:

Programs: Summer school (\$20,000), Leadership stipends (\$32,000), accounting support (\$15,573), athletics (\$60,000), professional development (\$20,000, leaving \$20,000), school budgets (10% reduction), early incentive (\$170,000), rural 4 day week (\$11,907), clubs/extra curricular (\$10,000), mentoring (\$25,000), cell phones (\$15,858), subs/professional development (\$15,000), district cars (\$1,380), and after school program (\$29,959, leaving \$10,000 for Lowry High School's credit remediation program). These items total \$506,677.

Areas to reduce by attrition:

Classified: Two bus drivers and one TBA position (\$46,537), one electrician (\$55,649), one district office accounting position (\$51,649), one PASS aide (\$25,390), one building and grounds (\$57,789) and seven TBA district aides (\$86,180). The district aides are positions that are built into the budget for possible unexpected need, such as, special education.

Certified: Lowry math position (\$89,676), Winnemucca Jr. High PE (\$92,014) and rural principal (\$119,553). The positions through attrition will save the District \$624,437.

The total amount of savings to the District would be \$1,131,114, without affecting classrooms, except, those positions that were reduced through attrition.

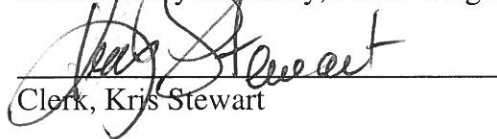
In order to meet the \$1.9 million budget reduction additional positions will need to be reduced. The District is currently looking to reduce classified positions totaling \$115,871 and certified positions totaling \$832,928. These are all only preliminary figures.

The board was asked to provide feedback and discuss alternative areas for consideration.

Specific areas for possible reduction will be discussed at a special meeting on March 18th.

Adjourned 6:45 p.m.

Submitted by Secretary, Paula Wright


Clerk, Kris Stewart