

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

The regular meeting of the Humboldt County Board of School Trustees was held August 10, 2010 at 4:30 p.m. in the District Office Boardroom.

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

Others in attendance were: Superintendent Mike Bumgartner, Asst. Superintendent Dave Jensen, Attorney John Doyle, Kelly Novi, Joyce Sheen, Chad Dickason and Steve Hamilton with Hamilton Solar and Secretary Paula Wright.

President Noble opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Correspondence: None

Minutes: Secretary, Paula Wright, noted a correction to the minutes of July 27, 2010. Under the agenda item "Approval of K-6 Minimum Days...." the listed day of December 12th should actually read December 9th.

Mrs. Stewart moved to approve the July 27, 2010 minutes as presented with the correction. Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Meeting August 5th

1. Joyce Haldeman and Mary Pierzinski- Survey of Nevada School Districts-Impact of Budget Cuts for Education at 10%, 25% and 45%-Preliminary Result:
 - a. The current impacts:
 - i. Closed schools in some districts
 - ii. 4 day school week in some districts
 - iii. After school programs eliminated in most districts
 - iv. Reductions to arts and electives
 - v. Employee layoffs in every district
 - vi. Reduction on AP and Honors classes
 - vii. Increase in class sizes in most districts (Nye Co. is expecting at an average of 35 students per class)
 - b. Future cuts could:
 - i. The potential to bankrupt and shutdown some districts
 - ii. Further increase to class sizes
 - iii. Complete elimination of arts programs
 - iv. Closing of schools
 - v. Shortening of school year
 - c. Comparison of Reid and Sandoval Education Platforms
 - i. Mr. Bumgartner provided the Board with a handout

2. NRS 218D.205-and the Clark County School District Graduation Priority Act- Bill Draft Request's Joyce Haldeman
 - a. Designed to address the high dropout rate. It targets changing current statutes that seem to be working against students who are struggling in high school.
 - b. Targets making greater accountability for parents
3. Clark County School District Bill Draft Request -Weighted Pupil Funding Bill
 - a. Proposes changes to the Nevada Plan in anticipation for greater funding for education in 4 years.
 - b. Declares weighting for groups of students that traditionally require more funding
4. Brian Sandoval, candidate for Governor was a speaker at the Superintendent's meeting
 - a. Feels there is a void in leadership, hence why he is giving up his judgeship to become a candidate for Governor
 - b. Feels the state is not going in the direction it should
 - c. Feels that raising taxes is the worst thing that we can do in a time of recession
 - d. Wants no layoffs or cuts to vital services
 - e. Wants shared responsibility-cuts to pay for government employees and concessions on part of association and unions in order to get that accomplished. When asked what he will do to facilitate unions to agree to concessions, he did not know but, stated there are clauses in statutes that would allow emergency steps to be taken
 - f. Superintendent's made a point that if the Regional Professional Development Program disappears, the vast majority of professional development will also disappear in most districts.
 - l. One Superintendent asked "how do we provide quality education with further cuts to school district budgets?" Mr. Sandoval stated he understands that there is tension. He went on to say he intends to bring new business as a long term solution, but did not specifically address the question that was asked.
5. The National Legislature passed a \$23 billion jobs bill. Dr. Keith Rheault, Superintendent of Public Instruction, said that Nevada may receive \$80-83 million. This could bring money to the District, just don't know how much.

Activity Report

1. Summer Projects:

- a. **Lowry- Boilers-** Old boilers removed new ones to be installed soon. Since the new boilers take up less space, the room where they are currently housed will be divided into two rooms, one to be used for storage of equipment.
- b. **Kitchen Projects-** The Health Department mandated the installation of floor sinks in the kitchen and a grease trap for processing of grease waste before it's placement into the sewer system. Project is nearly complete. **Fire Sprinkler system-** Nearly complete. Installation of new ceiling tiles remains.
- c. **Sonoma-** Asbestos abatement complete. New tile floor in K-2 wing is complete. Abatement and tile floor in 3-4 wing are complete. All classroom furniture has been moved back to classrooms- many teachers are working on their classrooms.
- d. **Orovada-** New floor installed.
- e. **Denio-** New floor installed.
- f. **Grammar School-** Portable classroom from Sonoma has been moved to Grammar to address increases in enrollment and possible future overcrowding. Portable has been placed on site and is currently being readied for students and for compliance with construction codes.

2. Humboldt County Emergency Planning Committee- Dave Jensen's term on this board has expired and Jeff Dawson has been appointed to represent the District on this committee.
3. Administrators meeting - August 12th and 13th. Two days professional development in the areas of Special Education Law, Positive Employee Relations and Employee Discipline, Nevada Educational Law and potential legal issues.
4. The vision and mission statement banners have been hung in the district boardroom.
5. Mr. Bumgartner has been working on guidelines for long term suspensions
6. NCCAT Trainings for Junior High- August 16th- Nevada DOE will provide training for Winnemucca Jr. High Committee Members and central office staff. French Ford will not have to participate in the training since they have made AYP two years in a row.
7. Gathering of data for the Rural 4 Day School Week Committee
8. Mr. Novi has been working on the A+ program, the District's Online School- trainings for staff, guidelines for students and staff
9. Certified Resignations- One at McDermitt and one at Junior High. Both will be posted as a one year only position.
10. Staff Surveys to be completed in September and October.
11. Teachers return on Thursday, August 19th
12. First Day of School- August 23rd

Travel Update

1. Superintendent Meeting- Reno- Thursday Sept 2nd

Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of Warrants

Mrs. Stewart moved to approve the warrants as presented. Mr. Hillyer seconded, motion carried.

30 minutes – Discussion and Possible Action - Review of Tier 2 and Tier 3 Awards for Solar Systems from NV Energy and Consideration of Medium Term Financing to Fund the Project Up to \$2.6 Million, Pending Submission of Rebate from NV Energy – Dr. Dave Jensen, Chad Dickason, Steve Hamilton

Dr. Jensen noted that the item was placed on the agenda for the Board's direction and interest in increasing the District's expansion of the solar projects. The Board was provided a breakdown of the kilowatts awarded by school site. The District has been awarded rebates from NV Energy totaling 623 kilowatts, with an approximate value of \$3,115,000. The rebates are distributed among three distinct program years and based upon current program rules and are payable either at completion of the project, July 2, 2011 or July 1, 2012. The District, because of the current economic situation, does not have the funds to float the project until the rebates are received. An alternative would be that the District would need to consider medium term financing. If the Board is interested in the process of seeking medium term financing, first and foremost, the District will need to insure to our voters and constituents that the Roll-Over Bond monies will not be used for this project. Dr. Jensen has been working with Marty Johnson, JNA Consulting Group, to gather information as to the options the District may consider to acquire the approximate \$5,675,000 to complete all projects at one time. The District would be looking at a 5-10 year payoff period with interest rates sitting at approximately 3.5% on 5 year financing and 4% on 10 year financing. The energy savings and the cost to the District will all need to be taken into account.

(Option 1, approved by the Board) The District has already been awarded 173 kilowatts of rebates for Tier 1. These rebates are payable immediately upon completion of the project. Total cost of this project is \$1,030,000 with a rebate of \$865,000, leaving an actual cost to the District of \$165,000. The District was originally planning to take the \$165,000 from the Building and Sites budget, however, if

the District chooses to move forward with Tier 2 and Tier 3, it may be possible to collapse the projects together and fund the entire amount through financing.

Option 2: Installation of all currently allocated rebates, totaling 623 kilowatts. The expected cost will be approximately \$3,570,000, while the rebate is \$3,115,000 leaving \$455,000 to be financed. The annual energy savings would be approximately \$125,000 (approx. \$2.5 million over 20 years) and would pay for itself in approximately 3.6 years through energy savings.

Option 3: Installation of all currently allocated rebates, totaling 623 kilowatts and requesting an additional 400 kilowatts worth of rebates. The expected cost of these systems, if installed separately, would be approximately \$6.1 million, however if installed together would bring the cost down to approximately \$5,675,000. The rebate will be approximately \$5,115,000, leaving approximately \$560,000 to be financed. The annual energy savings would be approximately \$200,000 and would pay for itself in approximately 2.8 years through energy savings.

There was discussion amongst the Board regarding the term of the financing and maintenance of the systems. It was suggested an escrow account be established for the project (if approved) and that specific benchmarks be established. Marty Johnson, JNA Consulting Group, assured Dr. Jensen that, once the oversight board that oversees all of the agencies (Nevada Energy included) has allocated rebates, there is no way for them to be withdrawn.

Dr. Jensen asked the Board to approve or disprove moving forward with the investigation of seeking financing for the 1000+ kilowatts. If the Board approves moving forward with the investigation, a notice will be placed in the Humboldt Sun for a public hearing at the August 24th board meeting. This will allow the Board to inform the community of the District's desire to move forward with financing of the solar systems and to give the public the opportunity to provide input. The Board will be asked to give a final decision at the August 24th meeting.

Mr. Hillyer moved to proceed with an investigation of the financial impact of Option III. Mrs. Stewart seconded, motion carried.

Dr. Jensen was asked to provide a brief explanation of the proposed project to accompany the notice of the public hearing in the Humboldt Sun.

5:30 p.m. Break

5:39 p.m. Back to regular session

2 hours - Discussion and Possible Action – Establish Board Goals for the 2010-11 School Year

Mr. Novi facilitated the discussion. After their discussion the Board came up with the following goals.

District Goals:

1. To increase student achievement for struggling and underachieving students.
2. Make the Humboldt County School District website an effective communication tool.

Board Goals:

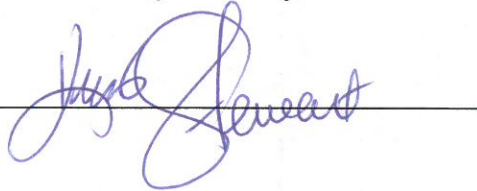
1. Vision and plan for CTE programs
2. Vision for outlying schools

Comments:

1. Mr. Hill thanked Mr. Novi for a job well done on facilitating the discussion regarding the establishment of the District and Board goals.
2. Mr. Betteridge asked why work was being done to the street around Grass Valley School. He noted that it appears the street is going to be a mess, with the sand and oil mixture recently laid. Dr. Jensen said that a different agency was doing the work on the street, not the school district.
3. Mr. Hillyer noted there will be some regulatory changes made to the NIAA's regulations. A change to the regulation relating to athletes and concussions is one of the areas being addressed. Also, being addressed is who the NIAA recognizes as medical personnel on the sideline and who can make medical calls. Mr. Hillyer is working with Mr. Jeppsen on the protocols to be used in allowing athletes to return to play. Mr. Hillyer will return to the Board with a full update as the changes are finalized.
4. At a previous board meeting Mrs. Stewart mentioned the "Character Counts" program through Josephson University. Mrs. Kennedy emailed Mrs. Stewart telling her that she used the program for several years while at Lowry High School and that Mr. Lindsay is using the program at French Ford.
5. Mrs. Stewart suggested the NASB nominations for Administrator of the Year and Veteran Board Member of the Year be acknowledged by issuing a press release to the media, even if they are not selected for the honor.
6. Dr. Jensen informed the Board that a notice will soon appear in the Humboldt Sun notifying the public of the District's first public auction for surplus items.

Adjourned 7:26 p.m.

Submitted by Secretary

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jill Stewart", is written over a horizontal line.