

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

The regular meeting of the Humboldt County Board of School Trustees was held November 23, 2010 at 4:35 p.m. in the District Office Boardroom.

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

Others in attendance were: Superintendent Mike Bumgartner, Asst. Superintendent Dave Jensen, Attorney John Doyle, Heather Gula-Humboldt Sun, Nicole Maher, Mike Mitchell, Kevin Monsey, Lisa Evatz, Jennifer St. Germaine, Dorene Kitras, Tammy Francis, Sandy Cipra, Dave Radtke, Sheila Crawford-Bunch, Heidi Renteria, Pilar Herrera, Teresa Berish and Secretary Paula Wright.

President Noble opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Mr. Seeliger moved to approve the minutes from the November 9, 2010 meeting as written. Mr. Betteridge and Mr. Hill seconded, motion carried. Those in favor: Mr. Seeliger, Mr. Betteridge, Mr. Hill and Mrs. Noble. Mr. Hillyer was not present.

Public Comment – Discussion Only - None

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Meeting November 8, 2010 in Las Vegas

1. Dr. Rob Slaby with Storey County was named Superintendent of the Year – Mr. Slaby is in his 30th year in the Superintendent position
2. State Superintendent Report- Dr. Keith Rheault
 - a. New Clark County Superintendent- Mr. Jones- he was the former State Superintendent in Colorado.
 - b. Currently the Department of Education is putting a place holder in the FY2012 and FY2013 budgets at a 10% reduction. This does not mean there will be a 10% reduction, but rather, this is merely a point of reference. There is no indication at this early date about cuts to education.
 - c. One Shot programs left:
 - i. All Day Kindergarten
 - ii. Textbooks/Library Books
 - iii. Technology Dollars
 - iv. Career and Technical Education Dollars
 - d. There is some talk of Governor Elect Sandoval seeking to “reset” the budget back to the level of FY2007. In fact, Gov Sandoval has requested a meeting of all 17 Superintendents on December 7th to discuss his strategy and ideas for education.
3. Legislative Update- Joyce Haldeman- Clark County School District
 - a. Handed out charts related to the new composition of the Assembly and Senate. About 40% are new or are in new positions.
 - b. Senator Bill Raggio will not be a party leader and has withdrawn from the Senate Finance Committee.
 - c. The talk is that there must be cuts to the budget, new taxes, or a combination of both in order to fill the budget gap of \$3 Billion.

- d. The analysis concludes that 3 Senators may be inclined to cross party lines on voting: Raggio, McGinnis, and Rhodes, who have reached term limits.
- e. This is shaping up to be the most demanding and contentious session yet.
- 4. "Campaign for the Future"- Zhan Okuda-Kim- Clark County School District Student Leader
 - a. Wants student councils across Nevada to submit pictures of students at work in schools for a presentation to the Legislature next year.
- 5. Legislative Committee on Education Bill Draft Resolution List- Review
- 6. Nevada Vision Stakeholder Report-
 - a. Another group separate from the Governor's Committee that has put forward a vision for education and how it dovetails with a broader strategic plan for Nevada.

Activity Report

- 1. November 10th- Met with the President of the Washoe County Administrator Association regarding a new Principal Evaluation System they are piloting this year.
- 2. November 10th- Visited two Washoe County School District Middle Schools to learn about new models for teaming and "small learning communities". Mendive Middle School and Billingshurst Middle School.
- 3. November 10th- Attended a partial session of the SPARTAN project (Emergency School Planning). Jeff Dawson and Bev McNamara were in attendance all day. The focus was on organizing plans, documents and information related to Humboldt County School District Crisis Response Plans, utilizing a website specifically created for the District.
- 4. November 10th-Attended an educational book signing at the Boys and Girls Club in Sparks. "12 Keys to Engaging At Risk Students" by Bruce Stewart.
- 5. November 12th- Interview with KWNV-State if the HCSD and PSA for the Special Rural Board Meeting on November 16th.
- 6. November 12th- Met with Jeff Dawson and Jack Smith (PASS) regarding safety concerns for students attending PASS school.
- 7. November 16th- Met with Diane Putnam, Winnemucca PD Police Chief Bob Davidson, Undersheriff Kurtis Kull, and selected city council members to discuss procedures that will be used with juvenile offenders and the guidelines that must be followed when Lowry or District students are found in violation of NIAA rules at an off campus venue.
- 8. November 19th- Administrative PLC Meeting- Discussed rollout of the Common Core Standards, Process for the serving of Warrants in our schools, Bond and Solar Update, progress on board goals, alignment of 504 plans, looping in our schools, and miscellaneous business items.
- 9. November 22nd- Played the Star Spangled Banner at Lowry High School, who was hosting the Northern Nevada Student Council Conference.
- 10. November 23rd- 2 Hour delayed start.

Travel Report

- 1. Next Superintendent Meeting- Reno 11/30-12/2. The focus will be creating the iNVEST 2011 proposal for presentation to the Legislature in February.
- 2. December 6-7th- Mr. Bumgartner, Dr. Jensen and five other District employees and board members will attend the SPARTAN Conference in Las Vegas. All expenses paid by the state SPARTAN Grant. The purpose is to review the Crisis Response progress and plans from other school districts in the state of Nevada.
- 3. December 8th-Mr. Bumgartner, Dr. Jensen, Mr. Novi, Mr. Lords and several instructional staff will attend the IC Conference in Reno. The goal will be to identify the next steps necessary to move to the next level in the implementation of the IC program in the District. All expenses paid by the Department of Education.

Discussion Only – Winnemucca Grammar School Update – Dorene Kitras

Winnemucca Grammar School's mission is to provide knowledge and skills in a positive environment which enables each student to make a productive contribution to society.

The Winnemucca Grammar School is a Title I school and was awarded the national Blue Ribbon Status by the U.S. Department of Education on November 3, 2009. The school has four sections of all-day kindergarten giving students a better change to acquire the necessary skills for first grade. MAPS assessments are given in grades 1-4 three times a year to more effectively pinpoint student needs and monitor growth. Teachers are using data to drive their standards based instruction and student achievement is the focus. Students are recognized for their accomplishments in each grade level at monthly "BUG" awards assemblies. Since the 100 Book Challenge has been implemented, it has increased a love for reading and has produced dramatic results. The Parent Teacher Organization (FROGS) continues to be an important part of the school and school events increase parent involvement. Ninety-nine percent of parents attend parent/teacher conferences.

Mrs. Kitras briefly went over the 3rd grade CRT math and reading scores. The goal of the administration and staff at Winnemucca Grammar School will be to increase yearly academic growth by; 1) continuing to refine their Literacy Blocks, 2) continuing professional development with Fred Jones to increase discipline, motivation and responsibility, and 3) continuing to utilize data from MAP Testing and Data Cycles. Mrs. Kitras provided the Board with a brief video clip of Dr. Fred Jones, a motivational speaker the staff is using for professional development.

Discussion Only – Bond Project Review and Future Bond Projects – Dr. Jensen, Mike Mitchell, Kevin Monsey

When we first began two years ago, Herschenow and Klippenstein came in and identified approximately \$25 million worth of projects, in their opinion, that needed to be done at our eleven schools. The Board and community members were able to narrow the list down and approximately \$8.5 million worth of projects were identified. The school district went to the voters in support of approval for a ten year rollover bond. The District received \$2.9 million up front and the remainder would be on a Pay-As-You-Go, as the District addressed projects. The Board was provided a summary, by school, of the prioritized list of projects that were identified and the progress that has been made over the course of the last two summers. The majority of the items identified have been completed.

The Bond Oversight Committee was reconvened and a discussion took place to identify the next proposed projects for the upcoming year. One of the items brought up by staff during the initial prioritization was the need for air conditioning in all facilities. It was determined that the first items that needed to be addressed were the "envelope issues" (windows, roofs, doors); this would allow us to be more energy efficient. The District will develop a game plan in order to accomplish putting air conditioning in all facilities. The District proposes that in approximately three years the district will have saved enough through our Pay-As-You-Go that we can implement air conditioning in the elementary schools and then move forward as we "bank role" funds in the Pay-As-You-Go program for the remaining schools.

Since the original bond approval, the District had available \$2.9 million in bond funds, \$1.1 million in Pay-As-You-Go funds, \$441,000 in ARRA funds and approximately \$600,000 in capital project funds. Mike Mitchell went over the completed projects by school and a list of the proposed projects for summer of 2011.

Dr. Jensen noted that the Office of Civil Rights recently toured the schools and found several areas at McDermitt Combined and Lowry High School that were not up to ADA compliance. The District will have three years to bring those areas into compliance.

Dr. Jensen stated that Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Monsey have been extremely helpful to the District and have done an outstanding job.

Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of Warrants

Mr. Hill moved to approve the warrants for payment. Mr. Seeliger seconded, motion carried.

Discussion and Possible Action – Approval to Submit School Improvement Plans – Kelly Novi

Each school is required to submit their School Improvement Plan to the Department of Education no later than December 15th of each year. Mr. Bumgartner reported that all plans are in the final stage of revision. Dr. Jensen and Mr. Novi worked to make sure that each improvement plan reflected the newly adopted vision statement, mission statement and goals of the Board. Dr. Jensen and Mr. Novi reviewed each school improvement plan and one or both met with each principal to review the plan. Suggestions were provided to the principals, which they took back to their school improvement team and have resubmitted.

The Board was also provided a copy of the District Improvement Plan. The District Improvement Plan identifies five priority areas that will be focused on: Curriculum and Instruction, parental involvement, technology, funding and communication. Curriculum and Instruction: To ensure every student makes a year's growth or more during the 2010-11 school year. Parental Involvement: To ensure every student makes a year or more growth it is imperative that a plan for increasing parental involvement be developed. Technology: Insufficient access to 21st century curriculum. Communication: Increase communication between transition years to discuss what students need to be successful at the next level. Funding: Continued reductions in state level funding fails to adequately meet the needs of the District as reflected by reduced personnel despite increased populations, increased class sizes, reduced opportunity to supplemental services, outdated textbooks, again technology and reduced opportunities for professional development. It is becoming more difficulty to maintain special education compliance as we lose personnel due to decreased funding.

Mr. Seeliger asked if the District was going to evaluate how we use what we currently have in regards to technology. He said he has received some feedback from teachers that elementary age students are only receiving five hours of computer time a quarter. If computer rooms in the elementary setting are only being used an average of 1-2 hours daily, he felt usage of what we currently have should be considered before additional funds are used.

Dr. Jensen briefly went over Winnemucca Grammar School's School Improvement Plan, which was being used as an example. The Board will be provided an electronic copy of all School Improvement Plans and the District School Improvement Plan once they are finalized.

Mr. Seeliger approved the School Improvement Plans and the District School Improvement Plan. Mr. Hillyer and Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried.

6:35 p.m. Break

6:42 p.m. Back to regular meeting

Discussion and Possible Action – Approval to Cancel the December 28, 2010 Board Meeting – Mike Bumgartner

Mr. Bumgartner asked the Board to consider cancelling the December 28th meeting.

Mr. Seeliger moved to cancel the December 28, 2010 board meeting. Mr. Hill seconded, motion carried. Those in favor: Mr. Seeliger, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Noble and Mr. Betteridge. Mr. Hillyer had left the meeting prior to this agenda item.

Discussion and Possible Action – Discussion of Board Goals for School Year 2010-11: Discussion of District CTE Programs

No new information.

Discussion and Possible Action – Discussion of Board Goals for School Year 2010-11: Discussion of Rural Schools– Mike Bumgartner

Mr. Bumgartner asked the Board's impressions of how the rural school meeting went and suggested they formulate a format for the next meeting to be held in January. Board members liked the format used at the meeting and it was suggested that, if the same format is used at the January meeting, they break into smaller groups.

Input gathered at the November 16th meeting will be compiled and addressed at the January meeting. Another item that will be addressed is that some of the data presented by the audience at the November 16th meeting was incorrect. Mr. Bumgartner and Dr. Jensen will get together and draft a proposal for the next meeting, which will be brought to the Board at the December 14th meeting for review.

A comment that came out of the meeting was the suggestion that District administration attempt to get out to the rural communities more often. Dr. Jensen said that he and Mr. Bumgartner plan to do that.

Discussion and Possible Action – Superintendent Evaluation

Mr. Seeliger thanked everyone for completing the superintendent evaluation. The format of the evaluation will be changed next year. Mr. Bumgartner received his highest evaluation on values, ethics and leadership. His lowest evaluation was human resource leadership. His overall average rating was a 3.9. Mr. Seeliger noted that they are very happy with Mr. Bumgartner's performance and appreciate him putting students first.

Mr. Bumgartner said he appreciated all the comments that were provided on the evaluation.

Mr. Hill moved to accept the superintendent evaluation as presented. Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried. Those in favor: Mr. Hill, Mr. Betteridge, Mr. Seeliger and Mrs. Noble. Mr. Hillyer had left the meeting prior to this agenda item.

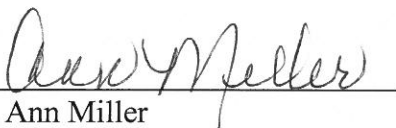
Board/Staff Comments:

1. Mr. Hill wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and said he would not be in attendance at the December 14th meeting. His daughter is graduating from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He closed with wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
2. Mr. Betteridge said that, at the November 16th meeting, a Denio resident noted that a district employee went out to Denio two days in a row for a short period of time each trip. The resident felt that, in these financial times, the District should consider a better use of time for employees. He also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

3. Mr. Seeliger and Mrs. Deputy attended the NASB Conference in Las Vegas and will cover some of presentations at the December 14th meeting.
4. Dr. Jensen reported a "late start" on Tuesday, November 23rd because of weather. We had a bus stuck on Herschell Rd. while Hwy. 95 was closed for a period of time. The district will make modifications if future delays are warranted.
5. Dr. Jensen noted that, as part of the storm that hit Saturday night, several large limbs on the elm tree on the south side of the building came down, blocking the entire sidewalk. If the tree can be saved, it will just be topped.
6. Mr. Bumgartner thanked the Board for their time and comments on his evaluation. He will use the comments to improve himself and his work.
7. Mr. Bumgartner reported that discussions have begun with principals and soon with teachers regarding "looping". Looping is when teachers have a group of students for more than one year. He said he sees some very strong advantages to this. It increases the effective time teachers have with students, by eliminating getting to know the students and they don't have to do assessments. The biggest concern will be having a difficult class for a second year; however, Mr. Bumgartner noted that when they tried this at a school he taught at in Reno, after approximately two weeks into the second year, the teacher felt the second year was better than anticipated. This more than likely came from a better relationship with those students. The program showed a 75% drop in discipline.

Adjourned 7:15 p.m.

Submitted by Secretary, Paula Wright


Clerk, Ann Miller