

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

The regular meeting of the Humboldt County Board of School Trustees was held December 14, 2010 at 4:30 p.m. in the District Office Boardroom.

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

Others in attendance were: Superintendent Mike Bumgartner, Asst. Superintendent Dave Jensen, Attorney John Doyle, Heather Gula-Humboldt Sun, Joyce Sheen-Silver Pinion Journal, Katrina Betes, Ronda Havens, KC Harrison, Nichole Maher and Secretary Paula Wright.

President Noble opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Correspondence:** None

**Minutes:** Mr. Seeliger moved to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2010 meeting as written. Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried. Mr. Hillyer was not present.

Mr. Seeliger noted that on page 5 of the November 23, 2010 minutes, under Discussion and Possible Action – Superintendent Evaluation, that the second paragraph sentence was not complete. Mr. Seeliger moved to approve the minutes of the November 23, 2010 meeting with the noted corrections. Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried. Mr. Hillyer was not present.

**Public Comment:** None

**Superintendent's Report**

1. iNVest 2011
  - a. Hold the line on funding-no reductions if possible
    - i. Makes no sense to ask for more money given our current economic situation
    - ii. iNVest will contain data that shows Nevada has about a \$1 Billion funding gap for K-12 Education in order to meet the national average.
  - b. Ask for Help from Legislators to improve Teaching and Learning
    - i. Revise the current teacher and administrator evaluation systems
      1. 4 levels instead of the current two (satisfactory or unsatisfactory)
      2. Strong student achievement component
      3. Examine tenure
      4. Expedite process for termination of ineffective administrators, teachers and staff.
    - ii. Expand funding for technology and distance learning
    - iii. Nurture and extend teaching skills
  - c. Create a long term plan to stabilize funding for education
2. NASB Report- Dotty Merrill
  - a. NASB Conference on January 21-22, 2011
  - b. The Board was provided a copy of the NASB Newsletter
  - c. Comments from the New Board Member Orientation November 18, 2010

- d. New timeline for NASB Award Nominations- August 15, 2011
- 3. State Superintendent Report- Keith Rheault
  - a. The State is planning to initiate a new plan for determining AYP, which will be a growth model.
    - i. Will measure one year of growth for each student
    - ii. Schools will receive data showing the amount of growth students, as a group, made in each school as opposed to the current system, which shows how many were proficient or non-proficient
    - iii. Data may be used in teacher and administrators evaluations
    - iv. The model is based upon the one used in Colorado
    - v. Only students enrolled on count day will be measured
- 4. Legislative Update- Joyce Haldeman- Clark County School District
  - a. Economic Forum- Met and determined that Nevada will have approximately \$5.3 billion in revenue in the 2012-2014 biennium, leaving about a \$3 billion shortfall, as predicted
- 5. Meeting with Governor Elect Sandoval 12/7/10
  - a. Three areas he spoke to: Budget, Legislative Package and the recommendations of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Education
  - b. Budget- He advocates for a minimum of a 10% reduction
  - c. Asked to work closely with Educators to improve schools
  - d. Asked what, besides money, he could do to help school district superintendents
    - a. Help with statutory deadlines, April 15- Tentative Budget, May 1- notification of employees
    - b. Negotiations at state level
    - c. Changes to Net Proceeds of Minerals provisions
    - d. Quit unfunded mandates
    - e. Collective bargaining- make it subject to open meeting laws
  - e. New Governor clearly advocates for school vouchers, which superintendent were strongly against, for school grading system, which superintendents support only if there is **one** grading system in place, and expansion of charter schools, which superintendents supported only if charters are required to operate under the same rules and expectations as public schools.

### Activity Report

- 1. Nov 29<sup>th</sup>- Attended an NNRPDP Governance Board meeting
- 2. Nov 29<sup>th</sup> - Leadership Team Meeting- discussed looping, common core standards
- 3. Nov 30<sup>th</sup>- Met with Jeff Dawson regarding the next steps in our Crisis Response
- 4. Dec 1<sup>st</sup>- Visited Billingshurst Middle School in Reno to observe the teaming and looping structure
- 5. Dec 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> - Superintendent Meeting- strategic planning for the 2011 legislative session and iNVEST proposal
- Dec 7<sup>th</sup> - Meeting with Brian Sandoval in Reno
- Dec 8<sup>th</sup>- Instructional Consultation Training in Reno- attended by Deanna Owens, Anita Rolando, Steve Jensen, Kelly Novi, Tim Connors, Janet Kennedy and Mr. Bumgartner
- Dec 9<sup>th</sup>- Met with Gene Hall, UNLV Professor concerning the IC Program evaluation. The IC Program in Humboldt County received very high marks in all areas
- Dec 10<sup>th</sup>- Administrative Meeting- discussed looping, truancy
- Dec 11<sup>th</sup>- Leadership Team Meeting- Discussed looping, Superintendent Report, common core
- Dec 12<sup>th</sup>-
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2. Superintendent Cabinet Meeting in Las Vegas- January 7<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>t</sup> Mr. Bumgartner, Dave Jensen and Kelly Novi will attend. All expenses paid by the Nevada Association of School Administrators

**Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of Warrants**

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

**Discussion and Possible Action – Approval for the McDermitt Combined School to Administer the American Drug and Alcohol Survey – Mike Bumgartner, Dave Jensen**

Mr. Bumgartner noted that he was initially concerned about the potential for individual students being identified on the survey because of McDermitt's low student population. A call to the Tri-Ethnic Center found that every precaution is taken to make sure students cannot be individually identified.

Mrs. Miller read the resolution into the minutes: "Whereas, alcohol and drug abuse/use and its related consequences have had a negative impact on the health, well being and quality of life of many American Indian youth, contributing significantly to incidents of crime, violence, school dropouts, illness and death in many communities. Whereas, reliable and accurate data on current rates of drug involvement allows the identification of emerging trends and patterns that not only establish local baseline data, but allows knowledgeable development of specific strategies to decrease deviant behaviors and increase quality of life for school youth. Whereas, the implementation of the American Drug and Alcohol Survey in school classrooms grades seven through twelve will provide the type of data needed to establish reliable and accurate rates and patterns of use. Now, therefore be it resolved, the Humboldt County Board approves and supports the implementation of the American Drug and Alcohol Survey in school serving children in the district."

Mrs. Miller moved to approve McDermitt's administration of the American Drug and Alcohol Survey. Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried.

**Discussion and Possible Action – Approval to Augment the FY2010-11 Budget – Dr. Dave Jensen, Ronda Havens**

This will complete the use of the old AS400 and adjustments from this point forward will be made in the new Visions system.

Dr. Jensen went over the budget and presented the amendments to the FY11 Budget as follows: Resolution #1) authorization of transfer of appropriations by increasing the General Fund by \$183,056, Resolution #2) a increase in the Debt Service of \$444,293, Resolution #3) an increase in Special (Other) Funds of \$579,831, and Resolution #4) a decrease in the Internal Service Fund of \$20,982.

Dr. Jensen thanked Ronda Havens for the number of hours she spent in preparing the budget.

Mr. Seeliger moved to approve Resolution #1, increasing the General Fund by \$183,056. Mr. Hillyer seconded, motion carried.

Mr. Hillyer moved to approve Resolution #2, increasing the Debt Service by \$444,293. Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried.

Mr. Seeliger moved to approve Resolution #3, increasing the Special (Other) Fund by \$579,831. Mr. Hillyer seconded, motion carried.



Mr. Hillyer moved to approve Resolution #4, decreasing the Internal Service Fund by \$20,982. Mr. Seeliger seconded, motion carried.

**6:15 p.m. Break, 6:23 p.m. Return to meeting**

**Discussion Only – Fiscal History and Analysis Review – Dr. Dave Jensen**

Dr. Jensen provided the Board with the following information: 1) a graph comparing the general fund revenue vs expenses for the period 1999-2010, 2) general fund cash flow 1999-2010, 3) general fund average daily balance for expense and revenue, 4) general fund cash flow history and the number of days of operating expense money 1999-2010, 5) Net Proceeds of Mines historical data, 6) salary and benefits as a percentage of the total general fund expenditures for 1999-2010 by staff classification, 7) administrative, certified and classified staffing by site.

Dr. Jensen also noted that the District has been given preliminary notification that PERS will be increasing by 2.25%. This is the most significant increase to PERS in many years.

**Discussion Only – PowerPoint Presentation Regarding “Looping” – Mike Bumgartner**

“Looping” is the practice of a teacher staying with the same class for more than one year. Mr. Bumgartner is looking for ways to increase student achievement that is also cost effective.

Some of the benefits of “looping” would be; 1) “getting acquainted” time is drastically reduced, 2) content instruction begins almost immediately in the looping year 3) time savings range from a minimum of one month to as much as one full quarter, 4) strengthens relationships between teacher and students, 5) things lost in transition from one classroom or grade to another are more easily maintained, 6) student motivation, 7) teacher motivation and accountability and 8) increased learning. “Looping” is currently being used in special education, music, sports and at the rural schools and McDermitt Combined School.

Disadvantages include; 1) may require more resources for teachers, 2) new students entering the system, 3) ineffective teacher, 4) poor match between teacher and student, and 5) teacher adjustment to two years of curriculum.

Discussions are currently taking place with site administrators and the leadership team, who in turn take it back to their colleagues. After input from staff is gathered and considered, District administration would like to initiate “looping” on a pilot basis if supported.

Mr. Seeliger expressed his concern regarding placing a student with an ineffective teacher for two years. He asked when District administration wanted to implement the “looping” pilot program. Mr. Bumgartner said he would like to begin the pilot next school year. Mr. Seeliger asked how the District was going to deal with ineffective teachers. Mr. Bumgartner said that, he believes by the second year of looping, those teachers will become more familiar with the students, strengthening the student/teacher relationship.

Mr. Hillyer asked if Mr. Bumgartner has given any consideration in addressing ineffective teachers by, either, moving several staff members from one school to another or moving administrators from one school to another. Mr. Bumgartner said he did not feel that turning the school system “upside down” to deal with just a few teachers would be beneficial; such moves would have unintended consequences including a break up PLC relationships established at their school sites

Mrs. Miller agreed with Mr. Seeliger, saying that she believes students benefit by exposing them to a new experience every year. Mr. Seeliger asked if District administration considered sending out a survey asking parents if they would be willing to have their child remain with the same teacher next year.

Mr. Bumgartner said he would like to continue discussions on "looping".

**Discussion Only – Legislative Update and iNVEST 2011 – Mike Bumgartner**

This agenda item was discussed under the Superintendent's report.

**Discussion and Possible Action- Approval of the Lander County Tuition Agreement – Dr. Dave Jensen**

We currently have one student residing in Valmy, attending school in Battle Mountain. The tuition agreement asks for \$800 per student. Humboldt County School District does not provide transportation.

Mr. Seeliger moved to approve the Lander County Tuition Agreement as presented. Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried. Mr. Hillyer opposed.

**Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of the Malheur County Tuition Agreement – Dave Jensen**

We currently have thirteen students attending school at McDermitt Combined School from Malheur County. For each student we serve, we receive \$7,913 per student. Humboldt County School District provides the transportation for these students. Mr. Doyle asked if the District, did in fact, include transportation costs in the formula used to determine the per pupil cost for tuition. According to statute, it specifically states that transportation costs must be paid by the Board of Trustees of the school district in which the pupil/s resides. Secretary, Paula Wright, said she would provide Mr. Doyle with a copy of the formula used to arrive at the tuition figure.

The agenda item was tabled until the January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, allowing Mr. Doyle time to review the agreement.

**Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of the Pershing County Tuition Agreement – Dr. Dave Jensen**

There are currently 193 Pershing County students attending school in Humboldt County. We receive the DSA for each student. Pershing County provides the transportation and also provides us a tuition amount of \$239 per student or \$46,127.

Mr. Seeliger moved to approve the Pershing County Tuition Agreement as presented. Mr. Hillyer seconded, motion carried.

**Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of a Miscellaneous Leave Request for Kim Brooks – Dr. Dave Jensen**

Mrs. Brooks approached the Board at the beginning of the current school year asking for permission for miscellaneous leave, consistent with the negotiated agreement. That miscellaneous leave was granted for a period of one semester. Mrs. Brooks is now fulfilling her student teaching through Great Basin College and is asking for additional leave for the remainder of the school year. She could possibly return as early as March 18, 2011 to her position at Lowry High School. The negotiated contract does allow up to one year of miscellaneous leave.

Mr. Seeliger moved to approve the miscellaneous leave request for Kim Brooks. Mr. Hillyer seconded, motion carried.

#### **Indian Policies and Procedures – Dr. Dave Jensen**

Dr. Jensen provided the Board with a draft of the Indian Policies and Procedures that is required for the Impact Aide Grant application. The policy provides tribal officials and parents of Indian children the opportunity to comment on the participation of their children in all programs and activities offered by the District. On an annual basis, the District is required to review the policy and procedures and bring it to the Board for their review and approval. Prior to the Board, the policy and procedures is brought before the Tribal Committee, Indian Ed Committee and requires signatures from the school board president, superintendent, the Title VII parent committee (Indian Ed Committee) and the Chairman of the Tribe.

The Indian Ed Committee has recommended some changes to the policy. Dr. Jensen is currently reviewing those recommendations and working with the Indian Education Committee on final adjustments. The Impact Aide collection process has been completed and the Indian Policy and Procedure is the only item that needs to be finalized. The Board will be provided a copy of the final policy for approval.

The item was not agendized as an action item; therefore, it will be brought back to the Board at the January 11, 2011 meeting.

#### **Discussion and Possible Action – Discussion of Board Goals for School Year 2010-11: Rural Strategic Plan and Discussion of Special Meeting Held in Orovada November 16, 2010, to Include Community Feedback, Questions Raised by Community Members and Possible Solutions Proposed by the Community- Mike Bumgartner**

Mr. Bumgartner suggested using the same format for the January 18<sup>th</sup> meeting that was used at the November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. The information gathered at the November 16, 2010 meeting will be reviewed to confirm with the community the Board's perception of that information. One item that needs to be addressed at the January meeting is how property taxes are allocated and the Nevada Plan will need to be revisited. A question and answer period will be held and Mr. Bumgartner noted that, during this time, some misperceptions that were given at the November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting could be addressed. The Board could then determine whether another meeting should be held and, if so, a date for that meeting can be set.


#### **Board/Staff Comments:**

1. Mr. Betteridge, referring to the 2010-11 NSEA Legislative Agenda, focused on their priority of changing Nevada's tax policy to a more broad based business tax, which they say will more fairly tax Nevada citizens. The tax will focus on retrieving revenues from mega-corporations who profit from Nevada's citizens, but (according to NSEA) do not pay their fair share in taxes. Mr. Betteridge felt the proposal was bogus. "What is a fair share?"
2. Mr. Hillyer reminded everyone that this was their last chance to get Fireman's tickets for a drawing to be held on December 21<sup>st</sup>.
3. Mr. Seeliger said he and Mrs. Deputy would be providing a brief presentation regarding the NASB Conference that was held in Las Vegas at the January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.
4. Mr. Seeliger asked Dr. Jensen to check into the additional windows at Winnemucca Grammar School that were reported on the bond projects list.
5. Mr. Hillyer noted that he has still not heard back on the requested advisory opinion. It has now been approximately four months.

6. Mrs. Deputy attended the administrators meeting on December 10<sup>th</sup>. December 13<sup>th</sup> she visited Lowry High School, where several voiced their concern about having no health class. On December 15<sup>th</sup> she will attend Paradise Valley's Christmas program. On the 14<sup>th</sup> she will attend Winnemucca Grammar School's Christmas program. On Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. she will be traveling to Fernley. They will be opening their new "green" school.
7. Mrs. Deputy noted that Jim Huckaby from Lyon County was named State Director of the Year.
8. Mrs. Miller was concerned and asked why the Junior High basketball tournament was held on a school day. She was told that it is because all other schools participating are on a 4-day school week.
9. Dr. Jensen said the District has received a copy of the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) report. There were few findings. All findings are relevant to 504 ADA compliance. The District must provide a voluntary compliance plan by January 5<sup>th</sup> and then has two years in which to bring those areas into compliance. Most findings are at McDermitt Combined School and have already been identified under our bond projects.  
Dr. Jensen wished everyone a Merry Christmas.
10. Mr. Bumgartner wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Adjourned 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by Secretary, Paula Wright

  
Clerk, Ann Miller