

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 22, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. in the District Office Boardroom.

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

Others in attendance were: Superintendent Mike Bumgartner, Asst. Superintendent Dave Jensen, Attorney John Doyle, Heather Gula-Humboldt Sun, Joyce Sheen-Silver Pinyon, Dee Holzel-Silver Pinyon, Frankie Peterson, Nicole Maher, Marty Warner and Secretary Paula Wright.

President Noble opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Correspondence: None

Minutes: Mr. Seeliger moved to approve the February 8, 2011 minutes as written. Mr. Betteridge and Mr. Hill seconded, motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Special Recognition - Kris Stewart: Postponed

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Bumgartner attended a Superintendent's meeting on February 3rd and one the following week. The Governor was in attendance and there were significant discussions. The Governor has not deviated from his original proposal for education. The Governor asked for feedback on several issues.

- Pay for performance: He has set aside \$20 million for performance pay to teachers who are doing an exceptional job in the classroom, rather than distributing it to all teachers. The Governor has offered no direction as to how the performance pay will be considered. He is proposing the money be distributed to each individual school district and the district will determine how the money will be utilized in providing incentives for teachers. Of the \$20 million, Humboldt County would receive approximately \$165,000.
- All categorical funding we currently receive (Class Size Reduction, Full-day Kindergarten, CTE) will be combined into one block grant and Districts will be allowed to use the funds as they see fit.
- Governor Sandoval is against social promotion. He does not offer a suggestion of how this will be handled and will leave this up to each district.
- Debt Service Accounts: All Superintendents are against this proposal. In the Governor's proposal, Districts will be allowed to access their bond funds to be used for operating expenses. This is optional. Mr. Bumgartner noted that the intent would be to reduce the DSA amount by the amount taken from bond funds.
- There are some changes proposed to NRS 288, which governs collective bargaining. The Governor proposes to eliminate or restructure teacher tenure and pay scales. He is also still in favor of moving collective bargaining to open meeting.

Travel report

- Mr. Bumgartner will be traveling to Carson City on Thursday, February 24th to attend a sub-committee on education to discuss the DSA and possible reductions to the DSA.
- Spartan Training on Thursday, February 24th
- Superintendent meeting on March 3rd
- March 4-6, 2010 - Mr. Bumgartner was recently elected President of the Rotary Club and will be in San Jose for meetings.

Public Comment: Mrs. Marty Warner approached the Board asking for their help and direction in getting her granddaughter back into school at Lowry High School. She said it is imperative that her granddaughter be allowed to return to Lowry for the social interaction and to continue her passion of playing softball.

Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of Warrants

Mr. Seeliger moved to approve the warrants as presented. Mrs. Miller and Mr. Hillyer seconded, motion carried.

Discussion Only – Board and Administrator Pictures for New Website Beginning at 3:00 p.m. at Lowry High School on February 22, 2011

Board members and administrators met at Lowry High School to be photographed for the new District website.

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

Dr. Jensen provided the Board with a summary of a meeting sponsored by the Nevada Department of Education regarding CTE Secondary Education. The Nevada Department of Education is currently making changes to the Career and Technical Education department to ensure compliance with federal statutes regarding Carl Perkins.

Mr. Novi and the CTE Department have spent a considerable amount of time looking at the programs we are introducing to ensure there is a meaningful scope and sequence; that students entering into the current technical education program will be eligible and viable candidates to be hired in the community once they exit the program. In addition, the district is carefully evaluating to ensure the programs being offered meet the needs of our local businesses.

The Nevada Department of Education had defined four goals for the meeting: 1) Develop clear qualifications for CTE courses, 2) Qualify CTE program completion by standards, 3) Develop common course names to be used statewide, and 4) develop course identifiers to be able to track and report on students who concentrate on CTE (students looking for trades and industry options upon graduation).

Under the guidance of NDE, discussions have indicated that CTE will be moving from courses to credits in relation to the identification of students. We will look at the credits that students are completing through the CTE program. Course type definitions will also move from Introductory, Occupational and Terminal to Foundation Course (those courses that provide a foundation for student progression in a sequence course), Level I, Level 2, Level 2 Completion, Level 3, Level 3 Completion, Level 4 and Special Projects. This will allow for more accurate tracking of student participation at the local and State level.

What will constitute a CTE course? Course qualifications will include; 1) Curriculum that teaches skills and knowledge required by industry through applied learning with current technology and work-based experiences, 3) Leadership and employability skills are an integral part of all CTE standards and curriculum and 4) High skills, high wage, and high demand (jobs paying \$14 per hour or higher).

We will be looking to phase out "hobby courses", replacing them with courses that will be meaningful and will lead to employability and high wage jobs. Discussions have taken place regarding a future for solar, wind generation, hydro and geothermal jobs.

Humboldt County, Lyon County and the Department of Education sat down and brainstormed regarding solar projects and a possible partnership with Truckee Meadows Community College, who is in the process of creating a new program that will include solar, wind generation, hydro and geothermal courses. The hope is to see if we can introduce a curriculum at Lowry as a pathway to higher education. A phone conference was held with Humboldt County, Lyon County, the Department Education and the President of Truckee Meadows Community College to discuss what may be possible for Humboldt County. We currently have an instructor at Lowry High School that provides instruction in electrical components. Dr. Jensen will be contacting Hamilton Solar to see if they would partner with the District to look at some solar options and is also currently researching programs in other high schools.

Dr. Jensen stated that the District is also exploring a nursing program in Humboldt County. In talking with the Nevada Department of Education, there will some competitive grants that will be released and, if successful, we will be able to fund a position for one or two years. We believe we can establish a partnership with Humboldt General Hospital.

Dr. Jensen reported that, as we look to expand our current CTE programs, one of the problems we will encounter will be space to facilitate these programs. Some very informal exploration has been done to see what options for expansion are out there. Several have toured a former car dealership to consider it as an option and Dr. Jensen said the price is reasonable. The owner is willing to sell the property with one-half up front, with the remainder paid over a period of years. The downfall would be the expense to make the building suitable for a program. The city planner will be asked to do a "walk through" and identify any code issues that the District would need to be aware of. Further consideration will be provided as deemed appropriate.

Discussion and Possible Action – Board Goals 2010-11, Rural School Strategic Plan: Review of the Results of the February 8, 2011 Special Session Held in Orovada – Mike Bumgartner

The Board briefly went over some of the suggestions made at the February 8th meeting in Orovada. The focus of the February 8th meeting was to make sure the Board captured the communities' ideas and suggestions. Most of the suggestions and concerns mirrored the November 16, 2010 meeting. Three new ideas that did come out of the work session were; 1) rent out school buses, 2) rent out school buildings and 3) consider expanding the K-8 rural schools to K-12.

Mr. Bumgartner said he will be meeting with President Noble and Vice President Seeliger to determine what the next step will be with the input gathered.

Discussion and Action – Overview of Student Discipline Process at School Sites – Mike Bumgartner, Michelle Garrison, Ray Garrison, Robert Lindsay, Doc Welter, Tim Connors

Postponed

Discussion Only – Review of Model Policies Regarding School Personnel Seeking Public Office and Discussion Regarding Policy Development – Dr. Dave Jensen

Dr. Jensen was asked to research other district policies regarding the dual capacity of an employee possibly serving as a board member. Dr. Jensen provided the Board with three policies. The policy from Clark County was very specific in that it is considered an unacceptable conflict of interest under Nevada ethics laws and a violation of the separation of powers doctrine. Any employee of the Clark County School District who is elected or appointed to a position on the Board of School Trustees must terminate his or her employment with the District prior to executing the oath of office as a trustee.

Carson City School District's policy says that it provides a conflict of interest, but if one chooses to run, a consultation needs to take place between the employee, Superintendent and Board of Trustees.

Elko County School District's policy does not address running for school board, just running for or holding a political office.

Dr. Jensen was asked to draft a policy and return to the Board for review with language more consistent with Clark County language.

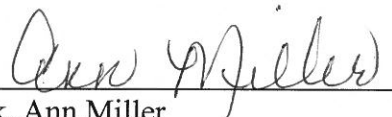
Board/Staff Comments:

1. Mr. Betteridge asked if, on the new district website, there could be a spot on the website that will alert visitors to the website of any emergencies or updates of any concerning happenings.
2. NIAA report: Mr. Hillyer reported that discussions continue regarding realignment. Legislative Council Bureau rewrites were also discussed. Some of the items being reviewed include; 1) student transfers in regards to divorce or separation of parents, 2) variance for schools with open enrollment (Clark County-recruiting), 3) the 2.0 grade average or non-failing statue for participation will be changed, 4) moving schools into different classes (A, AA, etc.), 5) "50+ Mercy Rule" (if a team wins by more than 50 points, the coach must prepare a statement as to why that occurred and what could have been done to avoid it) and 6) not allowing the use of equipment and vehicles for "out of season" completions including camps, summer leagues, etc.
3. Mr. Hillyer spoke to Byron Jeppsen about possibly mirroring the NIAA's reporting of per sport expenses. This may be helpful when we get into discussions regarding budget reductions. Dr. Jensen will look to see capabilities to track with our current system.
4. Mr. Hillyer noted that Carson City School District and Storey County School District have finals prior to winter break and asked if this would be something we might want to consider. This allows them 80 days of instruction and then students are tested. This allows 20 days for those students who need remediation.
5. Mr. Hillyer said that Century Club, in an attempt to get more involvement in activities at Lowry High School, discussed funding equipment (all or part) to video stream softball games, basketball games, music programs, etc. on the District website. This could also bring advertising revenue into the school.
6. Mr. Hillyer mentioned a documentary he saw called "Waiting for Superman". The documentary focuses on how the American education model was the envy of the world from the 1940's to the early 1970's and how the U.S. no longer produces science and math numbers as in the past. The documentary stated that the U.S. ranks 29th out of the 30 industrialized nations. He suggested viewing the documentary at a board retreat.
7. Mr. Hillyer asked if the District had a policy to integrate students back into school for certain instances. Mr. Bumgartner noted that there is not an overall policy. Each case is considered individually based on the needs of the student and the school.

8. Mr. Seeliger informed everyone of the NASB meeting in Reno on Saturday, February 26th. He asked if anyone could attend to represent Humboldt County, as he was unable to. The meeting will be covering the events of the Legislature and to give support to Dottie Merrill and superintendents moving forward with legislative action.
9. Mrs. Deputy reminded everyone of the DSA hearing on Thursday, February 24th at the Legislative Building.
10. Mrs. Miller thanked the Humboldt Sun for the positive articles on the school district.
11. Mrs. Miller asked why our enrollment drop significantly in one month. Lowry High School lost 32 students. Mr. Bumgartner said, in talking to Mrs. Watts, some students moved due to the pipeline and some students withdrew to do homeschooling.
12. Dr. Jensen provided the Board with notes and a copy of the PowerPoint presentation taken from the Superintendent's Finance Committee Meeting held January 26, 2011.
13. Dr. Jensen provided the Board with a packet regarding social media guidelines for faculty and staff. The Board was asked to review it for a later board meeting.
14. Dr. Jensen provided a copy of the "Wisconsin Model" taken from "The Daily", which is a daily newspaper on IPAD, of what the Wisconsin governor is proposing. There are similarities with what we are hearing for Nevada. Two major similarities include; 1) limit collective bargaining (Nevada: 5% reduction and freeze step and column movement) and 2) 5.8% contributions to pensions (the State Department has asked for an analysis of the impact of a 5% salary reduction, plus employees paying 5.3% (or 1/4) of the PERS deduction.
15. Dr. Jensen congratulated the Lowry wrestling team for winning the state championship. Five of those athletes were also named individual state champions.

Adjourned 6:15 p.m.

Submitted by Secretary, Paula Wright


Clerk, Ann Miller