

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

The public budget hearing of the Humboldt County Board of School Trustees was held May 21, 2014 at 12:02 p.m. in the Lowry High School library.

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

Others in attendance were: Superintendent Dr. Dave Jensen, Asst. Superintendent Dawn Hagness, Jessica Powell-Humboldt Sun, Ronda Havens, Nicole Bengochea, Malinda Domire and Secretary Paula Wright. Absent: Director, Kelly Novi.

President Seeliger opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Correspondence:**

None

**Public Comment – Discussion Only**

None

**Discussion Only – FY15 Tentative Budget Public Hearing – Dr. Dave Jensen, Ronda Havens**

**Discussion Only – Update of Current Fiscal Status and Review of Adjusted Staffing Pattern – Dr. Dave Jensen**

After the District prepared the tentative budget, we were notified by the Department of Taxation that the pro-forma calculations were incorrect. This provided a significant reduction in the amount of Net Proceeds of Minerals (NPM) the District was to receive. In addition, we were notified of a reversion of overpayment of NPM. The \$3.8 million that was originally built into the budget was subsequently reduced to \$500,000. As the tentative budget was being prepared, we shifted \$2 million to meet next year's obligation; the original \$3.48 million is now projected to be \$591,548. As adjustments are made to the Nevada Plan, the bottom line is a deficit of \$1.5 million. We have not been notified by the Department of Education what, if any, adjustments will be provided.

The assessed valuation in Humboldt County has declined. Dr. Jensen believes that we are entitled to an adjustment in the Distributive School Account (DSA) to offset the decline, as in previous years. He is hoping to see an adjustment to the DSA of \$80-100, an approximate \$400,000. This will, in no way, make our budget whole. Dr. Jensen said that we will be in a deficit spending pattern and may find ourselves in a similar pattern next year.

The Nevada Department of Education is supposed to provide us with adjusted figures. Dr. Jensen voiced his concern with the Department of Education's failure to communicate. He has contacted them numerous times and has received no response.

Dr. Jensen has implemented a hiring freeze. He has met with each principal, looked at existing vacancies and made a determination if an adjustment could be made.

Dr. Jensen provided the Board with a proposed updated staffing plan for 2014-15.

Grass Valley Elementary:

- Reduction of one 4<sup>th</sup> grade position
- Shifted a Kindergarten position to 1<sup>st</sup> grade
- Reduction of a 6 hr. aide position

Sonoma Heights Elementary:

- Reduction of one 4<sup>th</sup> grade position

Winnemucca Grammar School:

- Reduction of one 1<sup>st</sup> grade position
- Reduction of one 2<sup>nd</sup> grade position
- Reduction of one 4<sup>th</sup> grade position
- Reduction of one Special Education position, reassign to a vacancy within the District

French Ford Middle School:

- Reduction of one 6<sup>th</sup> grade position

McDermitt Combined School:

- Reduction of one Special Education position

Winnemucca Jr. High:

- Reduction of the shop program (a new Drama/Literacy based program will be offered)

Lowry High School:

- Reduction of one math position
- Reduction of one CTE position
- Shift a computer class from Winnemucca Jr. High

District:

- The IC Specialist will be shifted from full-time IC Specialist to half-time IC Specialist and half-time Intervention Specialist for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades at Sonoma Heights.
- The rural Special Education teacher will also provide services for McDermitt Combined School
- Noel Morton will take on principal duties at Denio, Kings River and Orovada, with no adjustment to salary.
- Robert Lindsay will remain the principal at Paradise Valley.
- Currently looking at grant funding to offset the salary for the NCCAT Coordinator position.
- 10% reduction in supply funds
- Reduction of approximately \$50,000 with the implementation of the Request for Proposal (RFP) for food service
- Reduction of an aide position at McDermitt Combined School; she has been hired as a 5/6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher

The proposals noted above represent an approximate \$652,000 in cost savings, which still leaves us with a \$900,000 deficit, pending notification from the Department of Education. Once figures are received from the Department of Education, the Board will be notified.

Dr. Jensen went over the duties proposed for Noel Morton in more detail:

- Continue duties of the NCCAT coordinator
- Principal Denio, Kings River, Orovada
- Mentorship and support to the new McDermitt and Grass Valley principals
- Monitor School Performance Plans (SPP)
- Monitor and Support for McDermitt's State Focus Plan
- NEPF support
- Create PLC data modules
- Create a Teacher Mentor Program
- New Teacher Orientation
- District Parent Advisory Council

Dr. Jensen also noted that Mrs. Morton will be mentoring Mr. Novi and he will serve as vice principal of Denio, Kings River and Orovada with no additional compensation.

McDermitt Combined principal interviews will be held Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Currently, there are three applicants. One applicant is job shadowing with Mr. Christean, one applicant is also interviewing for the Winnemucca Jr. High vice principal position, and Dr. Jensen has not been able to make contact with the third candidate.

Once final figures are received from the Department of Education, Dr. Jensen and Mrs. Havens will work on a final budget to bring back to the Board for possible adoption on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The special meeting being held on June 2<sup>nd</sup> will begin with a joint meeting with the city and county regarding the potential for a boys and girls club. Dr. Jensen recommended that, once adjourned from the joint meeting, we reconvene into our school board meeting.

#### **Public Comment – Discussion Only**

None

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

1. Dr. Jensen reported that the girls' swim team has been named Academic State Champions. We will recognize them at the May 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.
2. Mr. Betteridge reported that the Lowry music program traveled to San Francisco and placed first in all three competitions they participated in.
3. Mr. Hillyer voiced his concern over the reduction of a math position at Lowry High School. Dr. Jensen said that Mr. Parks has a plan in mind for next year to address it.
4. Mrs. Miller asked the status of the proposed Dean of Students position for Sonoma Heights Elementary. Dr. Jensen said we are not moving forward with that position.
5. Mr. Hill said that he is available to sit in on the McDermitt principal interviews on May 28<sup>th</sup>.
6. Mr. Hillyer asked when the Winnemucca Jr. High vice principal interviews will be held. Dr. Jensen said they will be held on May 27<sup>th</sup>.

Adjourned 12:50 p.m.

Submitted by Secretary, Paula Wright

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Ann Miller, Clerk