

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

A Board retreat of the Humboldt County Board of School Trustees was held January 5, 2016 at 12:00 p.m. in the District Office Boardroom.

Board members present were: President Bruce Braginton, Clerk Ann Miller, Nicole Bengochea, Boyd Betteridge, John Hill and Louis Mendiola. Absent: Glenda Deputy

Others in attendance were: Superintendent Dr. Dave Jensen, Director Kelly Novi, Attorney John Doyle, Joyce Sheen-Humboldt Sun and Secretary Paula Wright. Absent: Asst. Superintendent Dawn Hagness

President Braginton opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Mrs. Bengochea moved to approve the December 8, 2015 minutes as written. Mr. Hill seconded, motion carried.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment – Discussion Only

None

Superintendent's Report

- Our thoughts and prayers go out to Glenda Deputy and her family as they grieve the loss of Glenda's mother.
- Mrs. Deputy asked Dr. Jensen to share a copy of Washoe County School District's "Balanced Calendar" in conjunction with the upcoming board discussion.
- Dr. Jensen met with Mrs. Nelson, principal at Sonoma Heights, regarding the new apartment complex that is being built above the post office. The complex will house 36 apartment units and could potentially impact Sonoma Heights' enrollment by 50 students (an adjustment of students from Grass Valley Elementary and Winnemucca Grammar is likely). Because Sonoma Heights is the highest populated school, this will be problematic.
- On January 5, 2016, Dr. Jensen interviewed with Buckaroo Radio regarding the "Every Student Succeeds" Act (ESSA) and teacher evaluations.
 - Dr. Jensen provided the Board with a copy of the ESSA summary document. The ESSA will replace the 2002 No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), which was to expire in 2007. The ESSA reduces Federal involvement, and increases state and local control; however, we may not see any changes at our local level because we are in a biennial legislative session.
 - Dr. Jensen discussed student academic achievement being considered as part of the teacher evaluation. This year we are at zero percent, next year 20% and the following year 40% of a teacher's and administrator's evaluation will be based on student academic achievement. The ESSA no longer requires that student academic achievement be considered as part of the evaluation system; however it is part of Nevada law.
- Board members should have received notice from County Clerk, Tami Spero, regarding the required submission of the Financial Disclosure Statement by Friday, January 15th, which is required to be filed by elected and appointed public officers.

- The Nevada Association of Schools Boards is holding a conference on January 22-23, 2016 in Reno. The afternoon of January 22nd will be in conjunction with the Nevada Association of School Superintendents and Nevada Association of School Administrators.
- Dr. Jensen will be attending the “What’s Next Nevada” meeting in Las Vegas on Tuesday, January 12th. Topics will include; “School Leadership”, “Teacher Pipeline and Recruitment”, and “School Culture and Design”.

Consent Agenda

Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of Warrants

Mr. Hill moved to approve the December 18, 2015 warrants. Mrs. Bengochea and Mrs. Miller seconded, motion carried. Mr. Mendiola abstained because of a warrant for payment to his father, Vince Mendiola.

Discussion Only – Review and Discussion of National Association of School Board (NASB)

Conference Highlights - Bruce Braginton

Mr. Braginton provided the Board with a list of the NASB Fall Conference topics and speakers. The Board discussed briefly some of the key points they took from each presentation.

- ❖ Crucial Conversations About America’s Schools and Paddling Upstream in a Public School Canoe:
Dr. John Draper
- ❖ “Golden Circle” Model: What, How, Why: Dr. Angela Taylor
- ❖ The Impact of Generation Me on the Future of Public Education: Randy McCrillis
- ❖ Leadership for Learning: Transgender Issues, Title IX, and Policies that Promote Learning for All Students: Larry Altman
- ❖ The Mission Gap: Confronting the Difference Between What School Systems Value and What They Do: Dr. Doug Reeves
- ❖ How School Boards Impact Student Learning: A Teacher’s Perspective: Ian Salzman
- ❖ 10 Questions Every Board Member Should Ask: Ken Odom

Discussion Only – Strategic Planning Discussion Addressing Topics to Include Time, Creativity and Professional Development – Board of Trustees and Superintendent

Dr. Jensen provided the Board with an article entitled “The Road Less Traveled: Changing Schools from the Inside Out”. The Board engaged in a great discussion to include the following topics:

- ❖ Showing appreciation to staff.
- ❖ Acknowledge what is not working.
- ❖ Share positive stories, message what is happening in the district.
- ❖ Celebrate success.
- ❖ Allow creativity in the classroom; instill curiosity, leading to creativity.
- ❖ Focus on the “why” - why our schools succeed.
- ❖ Grading and homework.
- ❖ Make funds available for teachers to apply for funds to attend training or to implement a new strategy.
- ❖ Collaborate with the Boys and Girls Club.
- ❖ Funding a part-time or full-time grant writer.
- ❖ Recruitment/retention of staff.
- ❖ Time and creativity/professional development
- ❖ School development plans should be demonstrable

1:50 p.m. Mr. Doyle arrived

- ❖ Pursue discussion regarding an alternative (balanced) school calendar.

2:33 p.m. Break

2:48 p.m. Returned

In conclusion, Mr. Braginton summarized some of the items the Board would like to pursue:

- ❖ How to go about celebrating successes....getting out more positive messages, more effectively.
- ❖ How do we acknowledge what is not working and how to address it?
- ❖ Creativity in the classrooms. Dr. Jensen will return to the Board with some thoughts on what individual school performance plans should look like going forward.
- ❖ How do we instill more curiosity in the classroom?
- ❖ Funding of a part-time or full-time grant writer.
- ❖ Pursue an alternative school calendar.
- ❖ Recruitment/retention of teachers.

Discussion and Possible Action – Cancellation of the January 12, 2016 Board Meeting – Bruce Braginton

Mr. Hill moved to cancel the January 12, 2016 board meeting. Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried.

Discussion Only - Review of Board Terms and Seats – Bruce Braginton

Seat A: John Hill - His seat will appear on the ballot in 2018. He will be term limited and unable to run.

Seat B: Glenda Deputy - Her seat will appear on the ballot in 2018. She may run one more time.

Seat C: Boyd Betteridge - His seat will appear on the ballot in 2016. He may run one more time.

Seat D: Bruce Braginton - His seat will appear on the ballot in 2016. He may run again.

Seat E: Ann Miller - Her seat will appear on the ballot in 2016. She may run one more time.

Seat F: Louis Mendiola - His seat will appear on the ballot in 2018. He may run again.

Seat G: Nicole Bengochea - Her seat will appear on the ballot in 2018. She may run again.

Filing for office begins March 7th at 8 a.m. and ends March 18th at 5 p.m. Packets will be available in the County Clerk's office the second week of February.

Mr. Braginton encouraged Board members to keep people in the community in mind that would make good contributing members to the school board and encourage them to run for seats that become open.

Discussion and Possible Action - Review Board Ethics – Bruce Braginton

The Board was provided a copy of the Humboldt County School District Board Member Code of Ethics for their review. The Board has made it a conscious effort to review the Code of Ethics annually at the first meeting in January, along with the reorganization of the board.

No changes or additions were made to the Code of Ethics, therefore, Mr. Braginton asked each member to sign and date the Code of Ethics in affirmation to abide by the ethics defined.

Mrs. Miller moved to approve and abide by Policy 1040, Humboldt County School Board Member Code of Ethics. Mr. Hill seconded, motion carried.

Discussion and Possible Action –Reorganization of the Board; Administration of Oaths of Office and Re-Organization of the Board to Include President, Vice President, Clerk, and Committee Representatives (Debt Management Commission, Legislative Representative, NASB Director, NASB Alternate Director, Negotiations Committee, Insurance Committee, Truancy Committee, Humboldt Foundation)'

Dr. Dave Jensen administered the oath of office to board members.

Reorganization:

Mrs. Miller moved to nominate Bruce Braginton for the position of Board President. Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried. Mr. Braginton abstained.

Mr. Hill moved to nominate Glenda Deputy for the position of Board Vice President. Mrs. Bengochea seconded, motion carried.

Mr. Hill moved to nominate Ann Miller for the position of Board Clerk. Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried. Mrs. Miller abstained.

Mr. Mendiola moved to nominate Bruce Braginton to serve as the Board's representative on the Debt Management Committee. Mrs. Bengochea seconded, motion carried. Mr. Braginton abstained.

Mr. Hill moved to nominate Louis Mendiola to serve as the Board's Legislative Representative. Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried. Mr. Mendiola abstained.

Mr. Hill moved to nominate Glenda Deputy to serve as the Board's NASB Director. Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried.

Mr. Mendiola moved to nominate Nicole Bengochea to serve as the Board's NASB Alternate. Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried. Mrs. Bengochea abstained.

Mr. Hill moved to nominate Louis Mendiola to serve as the Board's representative on the Insurance Committee. Mrs. Bengochea seconded, motion carried. Mr. Mendiola abstained.

Mr. Mendiola moved to nominate Nicole Bengochea and John Hill to remain as the Board's representatives on the Truancy Committee. Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried. Mr. Hill and Mrs. Bengochea abstained.

Mrs. Bengochea moved to nominate Bruce Braginton to serve as the Board's representative to the Humboldt Foundation. Mr. Hill seconded, motion carried. Mr. Braginton abstained.

Mr. Mendiola moved to nominate Boyd Betteridge to serve on the Bond Oversight Committee. Mr. Hill seconded, motion carried. Mr. Betteridge abstained.

Discussion and Possible Action - Library Grant Submission Approval – Dr. Dave Jensen

Dr. Jensen noted that the Library Grant application must be brought to the Board for their approval. The grant is generally \$4,000-5,000. The initial grant application does not specify a requested amount. Upon submission of the grant applications from across the state, the total amount of funding is divided by the number of grant applicants. Once an amount is granted, the District is then contacted to submit a budget form for the specified award amount.

Once the funds are received, Lowry High School librarian, Pam Bidart, assigns a specific amount to each school's library and books are then purchased for each school site.

Mr. Mendiola moved to approve supporting the library grant submission and process. Mr. Hill seconded, motion carried.

Public Comment – Discussion Only

None

Board Reports/Requests – Information Only/No Action

1. Mr. Hill wished everyone a Happy New Year.
 - Mr. Hill made the suggestion that, in the glass hallway at Lowry High School, a banner acknowledging Lowry's academic sports accomplishments be displayed for visitors to see.
2. Mr. Betteridge wished everyone a Happy New Year.
 - He said he appreciates all that Dr. Jensen and the other board members do for the District.
 - He asked, when visiting schools, if there was a list of items he should be doing or conscious of rather than taking so much of the principal's time.
3. Mr. Mendiola noted that the Board has discussed two huge items that should include community involvement (rezoning and the school calendar). He wants to make sure that we engage all media sources and all parents.
 - He asked if we could agendize a brief 15-20 minute report from the specialty programs at each site (library, music, art, physical education) focusing on their achievements and how the Board can support them to enhance academics and creativity.
 - He wished everyone a Happy New Year and thanked the entire staff for all their hard work.
4. Mrs. Miller wished everyone a Happy New Year.
5. Mrs. Bengochea wished everyone a Happy New Year.
 - She asked that, when we establish forums regarding rezoning and the school calendar, we involve everyone. Some community members do not have internet access or a Smart phone.
 - She reported, in regards to the rezoning issue, that she has heard in the community the information the District has is not as accurate as it should be.
6. Mr. Doyle (observation) asked if the board president's placard has always read "chairman".
7. Secretary Wright wished everyone a Happy New Year.
8. Dr. Jensen welcomed in 2016. He noted we have had a positive start to the school year. He commended staff; students are engaged and he is encouraged by the start of the year.
 - He thanked the Board and said he looked forward to working with them.
9. Mr. Braginton thanked the Board for everything they do for students and staff and said he has enjoyed serving with them.
 - He will be working with the Earth Science class at the Winnemucca Jr. High School on January 6th to give an inside on what it is like to be a geologist.
 - He wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Adjourned 3:56 p.m.

Submitted by Secretary, Paula Wright

Ann Miller, Clerk