

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

The regular meeting of the Humboldt County Board of School Trustees was held April 26, 2016 at 4:32 p.m. in the District Office Boardroom.

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

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

Vice President Deputy opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Correspondence: None

Minutes: Mr. Mendiola moved to approve the April 13th and April 16, 2016 minutes as written. Mr. Hill seconded, motion carried. Mrs. Miller abstained from voting on the April 16, 2016 minutes.

Public Comment:

None

Superintendent's Report:

- Dr. Jensen thanked the Board for their participation in the Board Retreat on April 16th. He had a follow-up conversation with Jim Huge and he also expressed his appreciation to the Board for their dedication.
- In conjunction with POOL, we have started an analysis of the District for our school safety plans. On Friday, School Resource Officer, Chukuma Jones, Sheriff Allen, Chief Silva, Captain Dalley, Fire Chief Olsen, Pat Songer, Jared Oscarson and Dr. Jensen met regarding our collaboration and to seek input. We appreciate the close relationship that we are fortunate to have with each of these agencies.
- Dr. Jensen has been in touch with Dave Mendiola, County Administrator, regarding a request by the county to potentially place a communication tower on a portion of district property along Railroad Street. Dr. Jensen authorized the county to conduct a core sample for consideration, and pending the results, will discuss the request further with Mr. Mendiola and bring the issue to the board for their consideration.
- On Friday, April 22, 2016, Dr. Jensen met with an individual regarding the development of a kick off and recruitment video. We are starting the process of laying out the design and look forward to the end product.
- On April 26, 2016, Dr. Jensen, Mrs. Hagness and Mr. Novi took the district secretaries out to lunch in honor of secretaries' week. He said they are fortunate to have each of these great ladies working in the district. Dr. Jensen extended his appreciation to Paula for all that she does for both his office and the board.
- On Thursday, April 21st bids were opened on the Winnemucca Grammar School HVAC project. Bids came in higher than projected.

- We are starting to see new hires coming into the district. On April 25th, Dr. Jensen approved six new hires. We currently have a total of 21 vacancies district wide. Total vacancies also include the recently approved “floater” position, two Alternative/Adult Ed positions, two Dean positions, two Vice Principal positions, two counselor vacancies and a speech therapist vacancy. Of the remaining 11 direct instruction teaching vacancies, there are several positions that are currently being interviewed for.
- Dr. Jensen congratulated Jonathan Reynolds, who has been selected as the new Winnemucca Grammar School Principal, as well as to Michelle Garrison for her selection as the Vice Principal at French Ford Middle School.
- The Staff Recognition Banquet will be held Wednesday, May 18th at 6 p.m. in the West Hall of the Convention Center.
- Dr. Jensen will be attending the State Board of Education meeting on Thursday and will be on a vacation day on Friday. He told board members to feel free to text or call if there was anything they needed.

Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of Warrants

Mrs. Bengochea moved to approve the warrants as presented. Mr. Hill seconded, motion carried. Mr. Mendiola abstained from voting because his employer, Humboldt General Hospital, was named on two of the warrants and Donnelly Sporting (his father’s employer) was listed on one warrant.

Discussion Only – School Presentation Sonoma Heights Elementary – Amy Nelson

Goal #1 on Sonoma Heights’ School Performance Plan is to improve student literacy (reading/writing) skills.

- ✓ Reading and writing is the basis for everything.
- ✓ The staff has spent the majority of the year preparing an “on boarding document” looking at the literacy standards and learning about writing (Writer’s Workshop) on Thursday professional development days.

Each team within the school has prepared a binder, “on boarding document” that will be given to each new teacher at Sonoma Heights next fall. The “on-boarding document” is information each grade level has compiled to help a new teacher coming to Sonoma Heights. The binder includes sequencing guides, common assessments, rubrics, examples of good student work (reading and writing), student expectations and other essential and helpful information in supporting a new teacher.

Goal #2 is implementing the Eureka Math curriculum.

When bringing in a new curriculum, it begins with learning. They believe this goal is successful; however, there will not be any data until May. They do expect a small implementation dip in scores because of new curriculum.

Goal #3: Implement Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS)

This is Sonoma Heights’ first year implementing PBIS (Tier 1). The three expectation of the PBIS system are; be safe, respectful and responsible. Mrs. Nelson provided the Board with data regarding the number of student referrals and the total referrals by problem behavior (disruptive/physical).

The staff will be trained on Tier II of the PBIS, which is more specific to classrooms. Mrs. Nelson noted that they have had tremendous success with the PBIS system. The hallways are orderly and quiet. The structures that have been put into place have been very successful.

Mrs. Nelson is very appreciative of the Board giving her additional administrative support. She noted she has a total staff of 61 employees, 33 are certified staff members who must be evaluated (NEPF). They also have several exciting initiatives they are implementing. Secondly, she is appreciative of the approval of the continuation of professional development.

Mrs. Nelson noted that the biggest need Sonoma Heights has at this time is parking (pickup and drop off). Dr. Jensen has been working with Officer Jones and other city officials to come up with an alternative pickup and drop off area. Also, professional development for those teachers who are struggling is imperative.

Discussion and Possible Action – Graduation Assignments

Lowry High School: June 9th @ 7 p.m.

Attending: Mrs. Bengochea, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Braginton, Mr. Mendiola, Dr. Jensen

McDermitt Combined-High School: June 8th @ 7 p.m.

Attending: Mr. Braginton, Mr. Hill, Mr. Betteridge, Dr. Jensen

McDermitt Combined-8th Grade: May 27th @ 6 p.m.

Attending: Mr. Betteridge, Mr. Hill

Kings River Elementary: June 8th @ 6 p.m.

Attending: Mr. Mendiola

Orovada Elementary: June 1st @ 6 p.m.

Attending: Mrs. Deputy, Mr. Hill, Dr. Jensen, Mrs. Bengochea (TBD)

Paradise Valley Elementary: June 8th @ 7 p.m.

Attending: Mrs. Deputy, Mrs. Bengochea, Mrs. Miller

Discussion and Possible Action – Winnemucca Grammar School HVAC Bid Update for 2016 Summer Bond Projects – Dr. Dave Jensen, Mike Mitchell (Mike Mitchell Management)

The District opened bids for the Winnemucca Grammar School HVAC project on Thursday, April 21st. At a previous meeting, the Board approved allocating \$800,000 for the project. They also authorized moving forward with the project if the bids came in under \$800,000.

We received five bidders on the project. The low bidder is MGM Construction at \$974,000 and the highest bid was from Michael Clay Construction at \$1,127,000.

Dr. Jensen noted that at the time the \$800,000 was allocated, there was a project in the amount of \$118,000 that was scheduled to be completed in-house. This is an expenditure that was not included in the \$800,000. When the District went out to bid, the additional project was included in the bid documents, which would increase the allocated amount to \$918,000. During the inspection process, it was discovered that some asbestos abatement would need to be done in the amount of approximately \$14,000. This would leave an approximate \$50,000 that was not planned for to complete the project.

There was some discussion whether to move forward with the project or to address the separate items included in the project (boiler, heating, cooling). Based upon the issues that need to be addressed, Dr.

Jensen strongly recommended the Board authorize the additional expenditure above what was originally projected (\$800,000) and complete the project.

Mr. Doyle asked Mr. Mitchell if he would anticipate any more bidders or lower bidders if the Board were to reject all the bids and rebid the project. Mr. Mitchell said he believes it would be the reverse, fewer bidders. The only hope would be to find ways to redesign a part of the project to bring the cost down, “value engineering”.

Mr. Mitchell said he spoke with several of the bidders and they, even the higher bidders, did not recommend going out to bid a second time. They felt it was non-productive and the district would lose time to complete the project this summer. When asked, Mr. Mitchell said that rejecting and re-bidding the project would not be a good alternative in his opinion.

When asked, Mr. Mitchell noted that MGM Construction, although they are an out of state firm, they qualify for the “5% preferential bidding”. The “5% preferential bidding” is an advantage in the bidding process afforded to local contractors (based in Nevada). If a local contractor comes within 5% of the low bidder, who does not have the 5% preferential qualifications, the local state contractor would be deemed the low bidder.

After some discussion, Mr. Mendiola made a motion to move forward with the Winnemucca Grammar School HVAC project bid by the successful low bidder, MGM Construction, at \$974,000. Mrs. Bengochea seconded, motion carried.

Discussion and Possible Action – FY17 Pay for Performance Plan as Required by AB483 – Dr. Dave Jensen

The first reading of the FY17 Pay for Performance Plan was reviewed in detail at the April 13th board meeting. No changes or modifications were made to the plan. Dr. Jensen noted that the District plans to utilize the plan for the upcoming school year only. Once the star ratings are back in play, the program will be used for school-wide incentives, encouraging staff to work together to increase their star rating.

It was noted that AB483 is an unfunded mandated from the State.

Mrs. Miller moved to approve the FY17 Pay for Performance Plan as required by AB483. Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried.

Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of the Rural School Calendar for 2016-17 – Kelly Novi

Rural school students attend school 150 days, based on a 4-day calendar. A draft of the proposed calendar was sent to all rural schools for their input. The overwhelming feedback was positive. The intent with the rural calendar was to minimize as many Fridays in session for students as possible. The rest of the calendar is modeled after the 5-day calendar.

The 9-days of professional development will be established once the rural principals are named.

Mrs. Bengochea moved to approve the rural school calendar for the 2016-17 school year as presented. Mr. Hill seconded, motion carried.

Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of the Alternative Schedule Application - Kelly Novi

On an annual basis, the District is required to submit an application to operate an alternative schedule. This schedule includes our four rural schools, Denio, Kings River, Paradise Valley and Orovada because they are on a 4-day school week. An alternative schedule must also be completed for Lowry High School because they do not meet the daily minimum required minutes on late start Thursday, however, the total minutes on the other four days makes up for it.

We provide a total of 61,500 minutes of instruction in grades K-8 and 64,910 minutes of instruction at Lowry High School.

Mr. Mendiola moved to approve the alternative schedule for the four rural schools and Lowry High School as presented. Mrs. Bengochea seconded, motion carried.

Public Comment – Discussion Only

None

Board Reports/Requests – Information Only/No Action

1. Mrs. Bengochea thanked all the Humboldt County School District administrative assistants for everything they do.
 - ✓ Mrs. Bengochea, Mrs. Deputy and Mr. Hill visited Sonoma Heights Elementary School on April 26th. Great visit! She has expressed some concerns regarding the portables to Dr. Jensen.
 - ✓ She congratulated Jennifer St. Germain in receiving the Isaac Perez Outstanding Educator Award on Saturday, April 23rd in Las Vegas. It is awarded by the NSEA at their annual delegate assembly. Winnemucca Grammar School staff will be honoring her on Friday, April 29th from 11:30-12:15 p.m. Congratulations Jennifer!!
2. Mrs. Miller said she appreciates all that school district secretaries do for the District.
3. Mr. Hill thanked Mr. Doyle for asking Mr. Mitchell to clarify things on the HVAC bids.
 - ✓ He thanked all school district secretaries for what they do for the District.
 - ✓ He reported, since graduating from McDermitt Combined School, his daughter, Katie, has received degrees from the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, the University of Nevada-Reno and will again be graduating from the University of Nevada-Reno with a Doctorate in Philosophy in Education with an emphasis in educational leadership. She will begin a new job June 1st in Washington D.C. Congratulations Katie!!
4. Mr. Betteridge reported the following Lowry High School winners at the Skills USA competition:
Welding Fabrication, Team project: Gold: Shawn Mentaberry, Kyle Young and Jared Carrica
Welding Sculpture: Silver-Joe Mullis and bronze-Abby Delamora
Carpentry: Gold-Griffen Elliot, silver-Joel Loya
Electrical: Silver-Erik Sigurdson
Masonry: Silver-Nathen Gelskey
Power Equipment Technology: Gold-Hunter Albisu and bronze-Jace Aberasturi
Mr. Betteridge congratulated the winners and the teachers involved with the program. Great job everyone!!
5. Mr. Mendiola expressed his appreciation to all the secretaries and all other achievements mentioned by the other board members.
 - ✓ He reported, as he plans his 10 year class reunion, that there are four physicians and one PhD in his graduating class. He said this speaks a lot to our staff, students and community who believe in education.
6. Mr. Novi thanked the District secretarial staff for keeping the office running.

- ✓ Up until the morning of Tuesday, April 26th testing was going well. The State suffered a glitch on a server and data space that shut down the state for approximately two hours.
- 7. Mr. Doyle, noting she is the only secretary he has dealings with, thanked Paula for being extremely helpful whenever he calls.
- 8. Mrs. Hagness said she greatly appreciated Diane Seeliger at the UNR Career Fair. She said that Mrs. Seeliger was the teacher representative from Humboldt County and she did an amazing job connecting with every person who stopped by the booth. Mrs. Hagness said she feels confident that we will be very successful in getting teachers to come to Humboldt. They offered one conditional contract on the spot. The candidate will be meeting with the administrator sometime soon.
- 9. Dr. Jensen extended his congratulations to Jennifer St. Germain. “She is an excellent educator.”
 - ✓ Dr. Jensen thanked Paula personally for all she does for the district office.
 - ✓ Dr. Jensen and Mrs. Hagness met with the elementary school principals and asked them to analyze their aide time usage. The data will be reviewed to determine if additional aide time is warranted.
- 10. Mr. Betteridge thanked Paula for the job she does for the school board.

Adjourned 5:51 p.m.

Submitted by Secretary, Paula Wright

Ann Miller, Clerk