

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

The regular meeting of the Humboldt County Board of School Trustees was held September 22, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. in the District Office Boardroom.

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

Others in attendance were: Superintendent Dr. Dave Jensen, Asst. Superintendent Dawn Hagness, Director Kelly Novi, Attorney John Doyle, Shauna Gilboy, Kim Rust, Lori Seidlitz, Michele Doyle, Lisa Evatz, Dorene Kitras, Janet Kennedy, Jenny Poole, Shirley Evans, Jamie Jones, Samantha Pearce, Kelly Ross, Suzanne Shultz, Connie Stillwell, Ray Parks, Annaleise Gabica, Sandy Cipra, Shirley Evans, Todd Hagness, Ray Parks, Samantha Stine-Humboldt Sun and Secretary Paula Wright.

President Braginton opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: Mr. Doyle asked that, on future board agendas and in the board minutes, that acronyms be spelled out for clarification for those reading the agenda and/or minutes.

President Braginton noted a typo on the last page. The word “previous” should read “previously”.

Mr. Hill moved to approve the minutes of September 8, 2015, with the noted correction. Mrs. Bengochea seconded, motion carried. Mr. Mendiola abstained.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment – Discussion Only

None

Superintendent’s Report:

- In response to recent legislative language regarding bullying and cyberbullying, the district reviewed documents from three other school districts (Clark, Douglas, Lyon) and vetted them through members of our administrative team. The vetted documents have been implemented and are being utilized at this time. As part of the September 23rd administrative meeting, administrative personnel will review the documents and the process.
- On Friday, September 12th, Dr. Jensen had the opportunity to engage in a radio interview with Buckaroo Radio regarding the American College Testing (ACT) performance. We appreciate our local media and their support of the school district.
- Mr. Doyle and Dr. Jensen met to discuss the appeal for the Winnemucca Jr. High School mercury spill. The appeal has been scheduled for November 2nd, 2015 in Carson City. We hope for a favorable hearing.
- The first negotiations meeting with certified staff began the evening of Friday, September 18th. This was followed by further negotiations on the evening of Monday, September 21st. We appreciate the opportunity to work with the Humboldt County Education Association (HCEA) and hope for a meaningful resolution for both parties at the meeting on Friday, September 25th.

- Ronda Havens and Dr. Jensen engaged in an exit interview with our auditors, Drake & Rose on September 21st. The exit interview was very positive with no significant areas of concern noted. We are working with our auditors to finalize documents and will be scheduling the audit report to the Board in October.
- Mrs. Hagness and Dr. Jensen began principal evaluation meetings on September 22nd. They had the opportunity to meet with Janet Kennedy and Byron Jeppsen. The meetings will continue on Thursday, September 24th.
- Wednesday, September 23rd will be a full day administrative meeting. The meeting will focus on the Nevada Educator Performance Framework (NEPF) as well as discussions regarding the new bullying/cyberbullying process. Members of the Board of Trustees are welcome to attend.
- Unfortunately, Dr. Jensen will not be in attendance at the administrator's meeting on Wednesday. The committee that he sits on will be finalizing work on recommended changes to the Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF) in Reno.
- On September 24th, Dr. Jensen will be attending the Newmont quarterly breakfast. He appreciates the opportunity to meet with Newmont representatives and hear about the efforts Newmont is making in our community, along with other local community leaders.
- The week of September 28th, Bruce Braginton and Dr. Jensen will be presenting at an international conference regarding the lessons learned from the Winnemucca Jr. High School mercury spill. They will be partnering with Jared Oscarson with Humboldt General Hospital Emergency Medical Services and appreciate the ongoing relationship and support of Humboldt General Hospital.

Consent Agenda

Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of Warrants

Mrs. Bengochea disclosed that her brother is listed as a payee on the warrants and that there is no financial benefit to her.

Mrs. Miller moved to approve the warrants as presented, with the noted disclosure. Mrs. Deputy seconded, motion carried.

Discussion and Possible Action – Approval to Submit the College and Career Readiness Grant – Ray Parks, Michele Doyle, Annaleise Gabica

The Department of Education has created a new category of school aid for high schools to offer innovative programs targeted to improve the graduation rate and readiness upon exit from high school. Competitive grants for 12th grade readiness, dual enrollment courses and STEM education will be awarded to school districts and charter schools.

Mr. Parks and the Lowry administration will be submitting an application to secure funds to increase the number of Advanced Placement (AP) classes that students can take at Lowry High School. If the grant is approved, Mr. Parks would like to add an AP Physics and AP Chemistry class to the list of AP courses currently offered to students. The funds would also afford students the opportunity to take more AP tests and would provide training.

Miss Gabica, a student at Lowry, said if the grant is awarded it would allow her to take more AP classes, increasing her Grade Point Average (GPA) and will place her on a more level playing field with other students in the state who are offered more AP classes than are offered at Lowry High School.

Mrs. Deputy moved to approve submission of the College and Career Readiness Grant as presented. Mr. Hill seconded, motion carried.

Mr. Parks noted he was very appreciative of the new maintenance/ground person stationed at Lowry.

Discussion Only – Winnemucca Grammar School Presentation – Dorene Kitras, Sandy Cipra, Lisa Evatz, Jenny Poole, Lori Seidlitz

To establish their School Performance Plan (SPP), Winnemucca Grammar School staff engaged in a yearlong review of historical data to include, assessment results from Criteria Referenced Tests (CRT's), MAPS and TestWiz for Math, results of their STAR rating from the past three years, the NCCAT Survey data and parent engagement practices. Staff reviewed the data and provided input to establish the goals for their SPP.

Goal #1: 100% of all teachers will pilot Eureka Math with fidelity as measured by grade level monthly t-chart reflection forms which indicate their struggles and successes with Eureka Math.

- Currently there is no viable math curriculum in place. The District will be piloting Eureka Math for grades K-8 for the 2015-16 school year.
- Teachers will invite the parents of at least two students who are struggling to meet for a “math data night”.
- An introduction to Eureka Math will be provided for all interested parents by grade level.
- Staff will share the successes and struggles in piloting Eureka Math monthly in a staff meeting by grade levels.
- Volunteer teachers will participate in instructional rounds of Eureka math implementation.
- Grade levels will determine if additional professional development or resource materials are needed for the following school year.
- Student progress will be monitored through Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing.
- With the implementation of Lucy Calkin's Units of Study district-wide, all grade levels will determine the success of the program and what future professional development and resources will be needed by the end of the school year.

Goal #2: 100% of all teachers will implement Lucy Calkin's Units of Study with fidelity as measured by a staff perception survey, rating the level of implementation at the beginning of the year, mid-year and end of the school year.

- Late start Thursdays will be used for professional development.
- A Writer's Workshop family night will be held so parents will have the opportunity to see the beginning of their child's writing portfolio and celebrate their child's growth at the end.
- Students' progress will be evaluated by quarterly grade level On-Demand Writing Assessments (pre to post).
- Instructional rounds-volunteer teachers will participate in peer feedback of the implementation of Lucy Calkin's Unit of Study.

Additional resources will include an after school assistance program, Study Island, Reading Eggs, “100 Book Challenge” and remediation interventions at each grade level in both math and reading.

Discussion Only – Winnemucca Jr. High School Presentation – Janet Kennedy

Mrs. Kennedy introduced her staff seated in the audience; Shirley Evans, Jamie Jones, Samantha Pearce, Kelly Ross, Suzanne Shultz, Todd Hagness and Connie Stillwell.

Winnemucca Jr. High School began the school year with three new teachers, a new health assistance, two long term substitutes, two second year teachers on alternative route to licensure and one long term

substitute waiting on licensure. New to the school is an ELL program and a Welding/Ag mechanics class.

Literacy will be the focus for the school year. Professional development will continue with the focus on Reading for Meaning, Digital Literacy (relationships and communication, cyberbullying), Common Assessments and increased discourse through increase of Depth of Knowledge in lessons.

The staff has received training in the Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS) program. The PBIS program is a proactive approach to establishing behavioral supports and social culture. The school has developed a system of reporting major and minor incidents. Administration can track which teachers are submitting the referrals, where incidents occur by location, date and time of day. This assists the administration to identify and target primary behaviors. They have implemented a rewards and recognition system for students and staff.

Warrior Walks will continue once a semester. The program shows students several areas throughout the school, modeling appropriate behaviors and defining high behavior expectations.

Mrs. Kennedy was excited to share the gains made at Winnemucca Jr. High School.

- 96% of all students completed and finished the SBAC (Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium).
- 98% of all students completed the science CRT (Criterion Reference Test).
- MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) testing showed holding steady.
- Discipline decreased by approximately 50%.
- The number of failing grades (f's) decreased by 45%.

Mrs. Kennedy thanked Mr. Hagness for preparing the PBIS portion of the PowerPoint for her presentation.

When asked what the Board could provide to Winnemucca Jr. High School in support, Mrs. Kennedy said more technology in the classrooms (tablets).

Discussion and Possible Action – Review of Northeastern Nevada Regional Professional Development Program (NNRPDP) Services to Humboldt County School District for the 2014-2015 and Approval of the Regional Professional Development Program (RPDP) Training Report Pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 391.556 – Dawn Hagness

The NNRPDP is required by NRS 391.556 to provide a report annually of program training provided by them to each school district's board of trustees.

- 213 teachers attended one or more sessions.
- 16 administrators attended one or more sessions.
- 37 other school personnel attended one or more sessions.
- 39 district employees received training in Literacy and English.
- 453 district employees received training in Math.
- 4 employees received training in Computer Education and Technology.
- 315 employees received training in Assessment.
- 751 employees received training in Pedagogy.
- 20 professional development training sessions were attended.

Mrs. Hagness noted that each NNRPDP coordinator must provide a project report.

Mr. Mendiola moved to approve the Northeastern Nevada Regional Professional Development Program (NNRPDP) report pursuant to NRS 391.556. Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried.

Update on Current Enrollment Figures – Dr. Dave Jensen

Current enrollment figures show a student population of 3500, six students less than projected, and an increase of 27 students over count day for the 2014-15 school year.

Dr. Jensen reported the actual student numbers by grade, by school and student/teacher ratio. He will be monitoring the student/teacher ratio at Grass Valley School, 3rd grade (24:1), Sonoma Heights Elementary-4th grade (24.75:1), Winnemucca Grammar School-PreK (25:1) and Kings River School at 21:1.

Discussion Only – Closed Session to Discuss Negotiations Pursuant to NRS 288.220 – Dr. Dave Jensen

6:25 p.m. Mrs. Miller moved to go into a closed session to discuss negotiations pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute 288.220. Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried.

7:06 p.m. Mrs. Miller moved to re-enter open session. Mrs. Bengochea and Mr. Hill seconded, motion carried.

Public Comment – Discussion Only

None

Board Reports/Requests – Information Only/No Action

1. Mr. Mendiola thanked Mr. Doyle for providing the Board legal counsel. Apparently, the Washoe County School Board is back in the news.
2. Mr. Mendiola thanked the Board, administrative staff, Mrs. Kitras and the community for the condolences extended to his family in the loss of his grandmother.
3. Mr. Mendiola asked Board members and administrative staff to consider a strategic plan for upgrading technology. Dr. Jensen noted that the District does have a technology plan in place. Mr. Novi commented that the current technology plan provided funds for infrastructure. Upgrades to the rural schools should be complete October 1st, which will allow for faster internet service.
4. Mr. Hill reported attending Orovada School's open house on September 14th.
5. Mrs. Deputy noted that the Denio School will be visiting the Fields, Oregon School on several dates for a writing project. The Fields School will also be visiting the Denio School to take advantage of workshops provided by the Nevada Outdoor School.
6. Mrs. Deputy reported that French Ford Middle School will be having a craft fair on September 26th beginning at 9 a.m.
7. Mrs. Deputy said she noticed that the Humboldt Sun no longer provides a brief list of agenda items that will be discussed at school board meetings. It directs readers to the school district's website. She asked if we could ask them to continue providing readers with a brief list of agenda items for upcoming board meetings.
8. Mrs. Bengochea reported that the first Truancy Board meeting will be held on September 19th at 3 p.m.
9. Mrs. Bengochea said she visited Lowry High School on September 21st and asked why the single point of entry (glass hallway doors) is still not operational and the gate latch is still not fixed. Dr. Jensen said he thought the glass hallway doors had been taken care of, but he will check into it. Also, we are still waiting on the core to fix the gate latch.

10. Mrs. Bengochea asked if she could sit down with someone to see how the work order system works. Mr. Novi said he would be available whenever she wanted to come in.
11. Mrs. Bengochea noted that she will be scheduling surgery on her foot and may miss some board meetings.
12. Mr. Novi reported 19 students are currently enrolled with the District's Distance Education program and we have enrolled our first student to the adult education program. We have also hired a secretary for the programs and she has been setting up appointments for those interested in the adult education program.
13. Dr. Jensen reported that we have received our Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF) rating. We will fall under "hold harmless" and our star ratings will remain the same.
14. Dr. Jensen thanked Jeanne Moline for working to finalize our cohort numbers. The state reported twelve students that the District feels should not be reported under Humboldt County as dropouts. The majority of these students came to us from other districts or charter schools.
15. Mr. Braginton thanked Dr. Jensen and the negotiations team.
16. Mr. Braginton thanked Mr. Doyle for asking that acronyms in the board minutes and on the agenda be spelled out. It will be helpful.
17. Mr. Braginton encouraged fellow board members to attend the NASB conference in Reno on November 20-21, 2015. The District is fortunate to have three awards that will be presented at the conference.
18. Mr. Braginton will not be attending the two meetings in October. His job has him out of town.

Adjourned 7:23 p.m.

Submitted by Secretary, Paula Wright

Ann Miller, Clerk