

HUMBOLDT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES-NOTE NEW DATE (Monday, February 11, 2019)-APPROVED

Generated by Judy Kritikos on Tuesday, February 12, 2019

A. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:34 pm at the Humboldt County School District office.

Board members present were: President Glenda Deputy, Vice President Nicole Bengochea, Clerk Boyd Betteridge (who arrived at 5:30 pm), Chris Entwistle, Abe Swensen and Sabrina Uhlmann.

Absent were: Andy Heiser.

Others present were: Joe Edwards (attorney); George Smith (parent); Massey Mayo (parent); Laurel Thomas, Hayden Case, Tawnya Estrada, Alia Novi, Destiny Ochoa, and Lindsey Smith (WJHS); Shanna Cummings (H-Sun); Supt. Dave Jensen, Dawn Hagness, Attorney John Doyle and Secretary Judy Kritikos.

Procedural: 1. Pledge of Allegiance: President Glenda Deputy opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Information: 2. Correspondence: None

B. Public Comment: None

Procedural: 1. Public Comment Guidelines

C. Superintendent's Report

Information: 1. Activity Report

- Dr. Jensen provided an updated cost analysis for the LHS Electrical and FFMS Effis projects. As noted, the projections are slightly higher than the preliminary figures reviewed with the Board. Unless otherwise directed, the adjusted price points will be used for determination if the projects are awarded or if it will be necessary to bring the projects back to the Board for discussion.
- Dr. Jensen has been working with our associations regarding language negotiations. Currently we are looking at dates during the 3rd or 4th week in April. As soon as we have finalized the dates, Dr. Jensen will let our negotiations reps know so that they can get it on their calendars.
- Our administrative staff have been provided with ongoing enrollment updates as we track our current enrollment and to assist as we start to consider staffing for the upcoming year. Dr. Jensen will be setting appointments with each administrator over the next several weeks to review staffing as we make recommendations for the upcoming school year.
- We received one bus bid for the new special needs bus we will be purchasing which is funded 50% by the Diesel Emissions Mitigation Fund. The total price of the bus is identified as \$131,202.25. We hope to take delivery in June of this year and have it in service with the start of the 19-20 school year.
- Dr. Jensen was pleased to report that after a year, we are on the final stages of completing the McDermitt Greenhouse project. We appreciate our partners who assisted in making this a reality. They include NDOW, Chukar Foundation, Nevada Mulies and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. Combined, they have committed \$36,258 towards the project.
- We are in the process of reserving spots for upcoming hiring fairs. Though we don't anticipate as many vacancies as in the past, we have some critical positions that we will be focusing on: Counseling, CTE and Special Education.
- As a reminder, our next Board meeting on 2/26/19 will be held in McDermitt starting at 3:30 pm. We will depart the District Office at 1:45 pm. Please let Judy know if you would like a ride.
- As a reminder next Monday, 2/18/19, is a public holiday and school will not be in session.
- On 2/12/19, Dr. Jensen will be traveling to Los Angeles for the annual AASA meeting. He has a Governing Board on Wednesday followed by the conference Thursday through Saturday. Please feel free to reach out and contact Dr. Jensen if there are any questions while he is out of the office.
- In conclusion, Dr. Jensen wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day this coming Thursday.

D. Celebrations (This item was moved to follow the Consent Agenda). See Item F1 (PLTW) for the group being celebrated.

E. Consent Agenda

Action (Consent): 1. Approval of Warrants

Action, Minutes: 2. Approval of Minutes

Recommended Action: Recommend approval of prior meeting Minutes.

Mr. Entwistle noted that "a" should be removed in Item F4 (Early Buy Outs): "Another area of consideration was the loss of a very well seasoned ..." should read "Another area of consideration was the loss of very well seasoned..."

He also felt the next half of that sentence should be revised from: "... well seasoned employees and **potential** replacements potentially coming straight..." to read: "... well seasoned employees and replacements potentially coming straight..."

Action (Consent): 3. Field Trip Request - McDermitt Combined

Recommended Action: Recommend approval of trip request by McDermitt Combined to Kansas University & Haskell Indian Nations University, March 14-17, 2019

Mr. Entwistle asked Dr. Jensen to confirm that the absences of the students during school days would not be counted as a chronic absence, which he confirmed was correct. As all the pertinent information was presented by the requestor, the Board approved the request.

Action (Consent): 4. Approval of Consent Agenda

Recommended Action: Recommend approval of consent agenda items as presented.

Mr. Entwistle moved to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Ms. Bengochea seconded; motion carried.

F. Discussion and Possible Action Items

Discussion: 1. Student Presentation regarding Project Lead The Way (PLTW) learning during the first semester of the 2018-2019 school year

Mrs. Hagness provided background on PLTW, a pre-approved curriculum through the State that we applied for with College and Career STEM grant funds. Currently we have four PLTW courses at WJHS. Originally four teachers would teach one section, so potentially 100 students would take one course by the time they completed Jr. High. Once the schedule was completed, we had four full time teachers who each teach six sections. WJHS has: Flight & Space, Medical Detectives, Automation & Robotics and Design & Modeling. By the end of Jr High, the goal is that students will have completed three or four courses. At LHS, there is an Intro to Engineering course, which is the freshman science course rather than the Intro to Physics. So the path is starting in Jr. High school into High school.

Mrs. Hagness read PLTW's description of their program, and then invited the audience to listen to the students speak about their projects, and determine if they see these things actually happening at the classroom level. PLTW started in 1997, and started as a HS engineering program, and now have programming PreK - high school.

Teacher Laurel Thomas explained the first design challenge in the curriculum is to design a foot brace. As an engineering-based craft, a beginning class, the foundation of engineering design. It is a lesson in team work, engineering, sketching, measuring and accurate dimensioning. The writers of the curriculum chose those who have CP (cerebral palsy) as their target, to develop therapeutic aids and toys, and consider CP patients in every design they create. They also have Universal Design - any human could use the items. So while the projects are designed for persons with CP, any person could use them. One of the steps in the design class is to test the prototype, using materials they have available, and collect data and make adjustments as necessary. There are 2 students in our District with CP, and the design group was able to talk to them and get their input during the project. It was a bit much to ask these 2 students to test 40 projects, so the group enlisted the help of kindergartners to test the projects.

Ms. Thomas introduced the two teams: Everything Box team: Destiny Ochoa, Lindsey Smith and Tawnya Estrada; and the Activity Cubes team: Hayden Case and Alia Novi.

Each of the students spoke about the design, the idea, what it does, what it's for, how they created the item, the challenges they met, how they met and overcame the challenges, or changed the design. While Ms. Thomas helped them with suggestions or ideas, she did not direct the students in their work.

Mrs. Hagness then let the group know that the five students are being recognized tonight, as the special recognition, for the work they've done on their projects, as well as Ms. Thomas for her impact on students every day.

Action, Discussion: 2. Discussion of Findings from the Recent Personalized Learning Conference (PLC) and Consideration of Possible Next Steps

Recommended Action: The Board of Trustees engage in a conversation around Personalized Learning and possibly direct the Superintendent to continue efforts forward on this topic.

Dr. Jensen and Dustin Christean attended the PLC in South Carolina and wanted to provide a synopsis of what they learned. Prior to addressing what they learned, Dr. Jensen asked the Board to be thinking about these questions in terms of what they'd like to see in HCSD in the next 5-10 years: What will you see? What will you hear? What will our teachers be doing? What will our students be doing? How will technology be used to drive that? If our great-grandparents were here today - what one thing would they recognize? Public education - the classroom and model of instruction has not changed. This should be a bit disconcerting, given all that has changed around us. Madeline Hunter is one of the foremost researchers and modeled how instruction was set up. I do, we do, you do is the model of learning in place for a very long time. This puts the teacher as the expert and everyone else is just there to learn. Approximately 99% of today's education follows this format. However, this model had great value during the industrial revolution, but not so much for 21st century learning. At the PLC, Dr. Jensen and Mr. Christean were shown a model with 5 driving components necessary for Digital Convergence (transformation from traditional classrooms to modern classrooms): Leadership, Instructional models, working on modern curriculum, digital ecosystems, professional learning - and added the 6th component: Community. Mr. Christean said one thing that hit home for him was the leadership component. There needs to be a vision, and it needs to be clearly stated as a goal, and have buy in, with everyone working toward that goal. Dr. Jensen concurred, acknowledging that if the site administrator isn't fully behind it - stating where we're going and why, the staff will realize it and it will ultimately fail. The instructional models are the process of selecting, designing and implementing those models that leverage technology. We're starting to look at the creativity aspects and encouraging our children to look outside the box. Modern curriculum is redesigning our curriculum and must embed the digital aspects. This ties into the digital ecosystems - the type of devices and the support them. We've done a pretty good job in our district - all of our buildings and schools are set up for wireless. It ties to professional learning. We must support our staff. We can't simply implement something and say - good luck, go forth and conquer; we're setting them up to fail. This ties to community - their involvement and support is integral in success. Dr. Jensen shared an example of seeing trends and not paying attention to them, and what will ultimately happen if the organization doesn't make adjustments accordingly. An example was Blockbuster. A slide was shown to the Board with actual data from the National Center for Education Statistics, showing public education enrollment (spiking in 2009-2010 and then noting a continual decline), versus charter schools/home schools (demonstrating steady increases). Public education enrollment is decreasing and charter schools/home school enrollments are increasing. If we don't look at the trends and act accordingly, we will also be left behind. The Board discussed why students are moving to charter/home schools - what the public schools aren't providing them. Mr. Betteridge felt the schools don't seem to be providing the social-emotional needs of students, and parents are pulling their kids out of public school. Dr. Jensen stated that he's been signing more Home School requests than at any other time, so the trend is also being seen here in HCSD. Whatever the reason, if we (the Board, Administration) don't do something to address the issues driving students out of public schools, the trend will continue. Mr. Christean said it's important to have options and opportunities for kids, continuing to be creative, and keep an open mind. We'll roll out pilot programs, and have some successes and failures - but let's not be afraid of our failures. The Board expressed a strong desire and support to continue the work in this area.

Action (Consent), Discussion: 3. Discussion and Possible Action on a resolution designated as the "2019 Refunding Bond Resolution"; declaring the necessity of incurring a bonded indebtedness on behalf of the Humboldt County School District for the purpose of refunding certain outstanding bonds of the District; authorizing the issuance of the Humboldt County School District, Nevada, General Obligation (Limited Tax) Refunding Bonds, Series 2019, in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$2,000,000; providing the terms, conditions and form of the bonds; and providing the effective date.

Recommended Action: That the Board of Trustees move to accept the 2019 Refunding Bond Resolution as presented.

Dr. Jensen reminded the Board they had received all the pertinent information on this Resolution at the last meeting. The Board needs only to adopt and accept the Resolution as presented.

Mr. Entwistle moved to accept the 2019 Refunding Bond Resolution as presented. Mr. Swensen seconded; motion carried.

Action (Consent): 4. Review and Discussion of Recruitment/Retention Plan for the 2018-2019 School Year

Recommended Action: That the Board approve the Recruitment/Retention Plan as presented.

The Board was given a copy of the proposed changes to the Recruitment/Retention plan. We wanted to keep the motivation for teachers/staff to help recruit, so the \$1,000 incentive remains. We're asking to continue the \$500 one-time incentive for early notification of retirement, by 2/21/19. This does not apply to the early buy-out retirement staff. We don't anticipate any Administrative turn over this year. If someone moves into a SpEd position, given the difficulty in filling this position, we are asking to continue the \$2,500 bonus. However, the payments will be released in two payments. If they don't hold a SpEd license, they need to enter the Options program, giving them the first payment. The second payment would be made at the end of December, when they've shown they are making satisfactory progress in the program. When we go to recruitment fairs, we can offer a \$5,000 hiring incentive at the fair. LHS does not qualify for the incentive. If the State is unable to pay these funds, Dr. Jensen is asking that the Board confirm this payment, the District will pay these incentives whether the State covers the funds or not. The guarantee of the \$5,000 is a great tool to use at a hiring fair. We would also like to offer this for Counselor positions and other certified positions that don't meet the definition of "certified teacher". As noted, these positions are not "teachers" and do not qualify for the incentives through the State. Dr. Jensen is requesting we offer the \$5,000 to all certified new hires as a recruiting tool. These funds would come from the general fund, and if the State does pay, we will apply for every dollar possible. Elko offers a \$10,000 bonus to teach in Wendover, and \$5,000 for other Elko schools. The Board could also consider a bonus for specifically filling vacancies in the rural schools - i.e., McDermitt.

Mr. Swensen moved to approve the Recruitment/Retention Plan as presented. Ms. Bengochea seconded; motion carried.

Action, Discussion: 5. Discussion regarding desires of the Board of Trustees to consider the trading of real property (9 acres on Potato Rd) owned by HCSD for other properties that may be more suitable for future expansion and opportunities.

Recommended Action: After a determination of the Board's position, that the superintendent be directed to work towards exploring the costs, value and benefits associated with a potential exchange of properties.

Dr. Jensen attended the recent Winnemucca Futures meeting, where they discussed potential new housing construction will likely occur on the east side of town (Winger's area). The HCSD owns no property in the east side area, but does have 36 ac in the GVE area on a 25-year lease for \$72/year with the BLM. Those 36 ac are too close to GVE to use for another elementary school site, but possibly High/Jr/Middle school. HCSD has been approached by a developer who has 88 acres at the top of Stewart/Offenhauser, who is interested in doing a swap of land for the 9 ac on Railroad ave, next to Hunewill. Dr. Jensen met with the BLM to discuss property in Orovada in case a central school is needed, should the Lithium project start up and bring in more families. At that meeting, Dr. Jensen also asked if the BLM had any available acreage on the east side (Winger's area), and they do. The current rate for leasing is approximately \$2/ac. Dr. Jensen asked the Board if they felt continuing discussions with the BLM about leasing property in the east side area is worth pursuing. Ms. Deputy suggested selling the 9 acres and consider using the funds for new furniture for the schools. Dr. Jensen suggested we secure the lease on the east side first, before selling the 9 acres.

Dr. Jensen confirmed that once we build on the leased property, the BLM turns the property over to us, as these are BLM's disposable properties. The Board directed Dr. Jensen to decline to move forward with the potential swap of our 9 ac, and to continue speaking with the BLM about possible land for lease in the Winger's area.

G. Public Comment: None

Procedural: 1. Public Comment Guidelines

H. Board Reports

Information: 1. Board Reports

- Ms. Bengochea thanked Mrs. Thomas and her students for their presentation. It was amazing to see where the District is these days - and how we're moving from traditional education. The kids weren't upset that they failed, it was a life lesson, and amazing to watch; She congratulated LHS wrestling team who took 9 students to State - it was a huge accomplishment; She appreciated Dr. Jensen/Mr. Christean's presentation - it was eye-opening, thinking about where we want our District to go, our teachers to go, etc.; On 3/9/19 the next NASB training will be held in Reno at the Hyatt, please let Judy know, so we can get registered; The legislative session is in full swing; Wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day.
- Mr. Swensen also thanked Mrs. Thomas and the students for their very well done presentation. It was eye-opening and inspiring for the type of opportunities our students have here in Humboldt County; He congratulated LHS wrestlers - individually and collectively; He wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day.
- Mr. Entwistle agrees with the other board members in their comments on the presentations and wrestling.
- Ms. Uhlmann also agreed with the comments as stated by other Board members. She's still new to the Board and super excited to be a part of it, and the direction we're moving for the education of our students and their teachers.
- Ms. Hagness stated James Simonson has a table of 8 for the District to attend the Young Life event this Sat, 2/16/19, 5-8:00 pm at the Convention Center as their way of thanking the District for being able to use FFMS, WJHS and LHS for their activities; We received preliminary notification on part of the competitive grant for the FY19-20 school year - 3 of the 5 grants for an award total of \$700,000.
- Dr. Jensen expressed his appreciation to Mrs. Thomas and the students who presented tonight - it's a reflection of what we're seeing in our schools, and great to highlight it and bring it before the Board; He thanked LHS for hosting State wrestling - it takes a lot of work on their part, and brings a lot of value and benefit to our community; Dr. Jensen congratulated the 9 wrestlers who qualified for state, and the 3 state runners-up; Dr. Jensen and Ms. Bengochea are working on various BDR's; He wished everyone a Happy Valentine's Day.
- Ms. Deputy said she echoed the comments by the others; She won't be at the next meeting in McDermitt and suggested the Board arrive early to walk around the school.
- Ms. Uhlmann asked if there was an update on the McDermitt roof. Dr. Jensen said weather has been an issue, and it will be examined when the roof is free of snow.

I. Adjournment: President Deputy adjourned the meeting at 7:31 pm

Action: 1. Meeting Adjourned

J. Notice

Information: 1. Notice to Persons with Disabilities

K. Postings

Procedural: 1. Public Posting of Agenda

Submitted by Secretary, Judy Kritikos

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Boyd Betteridge", written over a horizontal line.

Boyd Betteridge, Clerk

