

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

The regular meeting of the Humboldt County Board of School Trustees was held August 14, 2012 at 4:32 p.m. in the District Office Boardroom.

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

Others in attendance were: Superintendent Dr. Dave Jensen, Asst. Superintendent Dr. Bill Myhr, Director Kelly Novi, Rudy Herndon-Humboldt Sun, Dee Holzel-Silver Pinyon Journal, Janet Kennedy, Tanya Grady and Secretary Paula Wright.

President Noble opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Correspondence: None

Minutes: Mr. Seeliger moved to approve the July 24, 2012 minutes as written. Mr. Hillyer seconded, motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of Warrants

Mr. Hill moved to approve the warrants as presented. Mr. Hillyer seconded, motion carried.

Superintendent Report

- The District applied for and received an additional Special Education unit. The unit will serve the remote rural schools and will create behavioral interventions at each school site. The position will be considered on an annual basis and the availability of a discretionary unit.
- Opening Administrative Staff Development occurred on August 8th and 9th.
 - o FRISK Training – John Bates with Pool/Pact
 - o Discussion regarding Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and professional development for staff at individual sites
 - o Discussion regarding Leadership team, new format for Leadership and roll-out of Leadership & Instruction teams (L&I)
 - After many years – determined new format was necessary
 - Consistent with District goals, primary focus on Administration
 - L&I team will occur twice per month with Administration as the primary focal point for Leadership
 - At individual sites, Administrators will create a Leadership team
 - District will visit sites to work with Administration and team
 - Funding will be based on previous years expenses and sites will have autonomy on application
 - o Review of a draft Student Activity Funds Policy Manual
 - o AYP presentation and review by individual sites
 - o District and site improvement plans
 - District Improvement Plan (DIP) for August 28th

- Site Improvement Plan (SIP) by October 12th
- Attended training on CCSS on August 2-3, 2012
 - Team included central office and four site administrators
- Attended College and Career Readiness Taskforce
- SIOP training started August 14th for Sonoma Heights and McDermitt Combined – Training located at Sonoma Heights. Training will also be held on Thursday.
- Met with Carrie Stringham and Bill Sims regarding Explore Your Future program targeting sophomore students.
 - Students will participate in a research process comprised of three training sessions which will be incorporated into the Advisory Period
 - Students will then select from three locations (UNR, GBC and TMCC) and will participate in a site visit.
 - Costs will come through outside donations and is in partnership with Humboldt Development Authority and Winnemucca Futures.
- Fire updates – McDermitt was temporarily evacuated, as well as King's River.
 - Fire fighters have been camped out on the Kings River School lawn.
 - Fire fighters are staged at Denio. They were supposed to be out by today; however, the fire has expanded. We are working with them on an anticipated completion date.
 - Will be exploring an alternative location to begin school at Denio.
- New Teacher Work Day will be August 15th.
- Teachers return on August 16th; first day of school is August 20th.
- Bond project updates
 - Air-conditioning completed at Grass Valley Elementary – few minor clean up projects remain
 - The new gym floor at Winnemucca Jr. High has been completed.
 - Portables have been delivered and are being completed.
 - There was an issue with placement of the portable at Winnemucca Grammar; the portable had to be reset.
 - The stairs on the backside of Sonoma Heights should be complete by the first day of school or as soon as possible.
 - The chip seal is nearing completion at the Lowry dirt parking lot.
- Vacant Positions – we are struggling to fill some critical positions
 - Lowry – 2 Math positions and a Special Education position
 - McDermitt – 1 Science, 1 Math and 1 English

Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of New Gear Up Grant Cohort – Janet Kennedy

The Gear Up program has been in existence at McDermitt Combined School for several years; two cadres have completed the program thus far.

This year Gear Up has made significant changes to the philosophy of how the funds can be utilized. In the past, the \$30,000 grant was specifically used on students, as opposed to for students. For example, in the past students were provided with laptops, computers, iPads and they were taken on trips to visit college campuses.

Gear Up has now gone to the philosophy that schools need to begin to change the culture of the school to a college going culture. Some of the changes include: 1) an increase of the grant to \$40,000, 2) the program will serve two cadres rather than one and 3) a part-time employee (Student Parent Informational Facilitator, SPIF) will be hired to contact parents, keeping them apprised of what is

happening in the school and with their student. The grant is asking that the site concentrate more on STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education. The school will be purchasing handheld calculators, a navigational system for math classes, Q2 remote set for Science and possibly for English and Social Studies. In the past, each member of the cadre was given a \$10,000 scholarship to attend a Nevada college; however, Gear Up will no longer provide scholarships. The program may seek private scholarships for students, but they will not amount to the \$10,000 provided in years past.

Mrs. Kennedy plans to create a "college corner", which is a room that will be dedicated specifically to college readiness. College ambassadors will use the room to meet with students to discuss college choices. The room will be equipped with computers and internet access to provide tutoring services. Professional development will be provided for teachers and herself. Funds for college trips have been greatly reduced. Students may have the opportunity to visit Great Basin College in Elko and Winnemucca.

To achieve full use of bus capacity, the program will allow for other students from McDermitt and Orovada to take advantage of visiting colleges, but the grant won't pay for any events they may participate in.

Mrs. Kennedy reported to the Board that McDermitt Combined will begin an advisory period in the upcoming school year. Advisory will meet every other week, along with alternate weeks of homeroom.

Mr. Hillyer moved to approve the Gear Up Grant and its cohorts as presented by Mrs. Kennedy. Mr. Hill seconded, motion carried.

Discussion Only – AYP Designations – Kelly Novi

Mr. Novi provided the Board with a packet of preliminary designations. The State Department will release the final designations on September 1st. Mr. Novi briefly explained the AYP results by population, the current data used (2011-12), the cut score (PAC rate), confidence interval (CI), previous AYP data and growth analysis.

This may very well be the last year we will see the AYP reports. The waiver from NCLB requirements submitted by the State of Nevada has been granted. This will completely change the way we measure and account for schools going forward.

Mr. Novi submitted numerous appeals and provided the Board with his confident estimation of what the final designations will be when they are released by the State on September 1st.

Discussion and Possible Action – Finalize Established FY13 Goals – Dr. Dave Jensen

Dr. Jensen provided the Board with the goals and objectives he has established for himself for the 2012-13 school year. He has established six goals for himself and the District. They include: 1) Ensure training and supports to assist sites and staff in the roll-out of Common Core State Standards and College and Career Readiness, 2) Increase student academic achievement for all students while closing the achievement gap for sub populations, 3) Enhance the capability of District and Site Administration, 4) Ensure transparency and efficiency of District resources to support student academic success, 5) Enhance parent and community involvement to improve educational outcomes for all students, and 6) The Superintendent will actively engage community partners to enhance the District's connections and support system.

Dr. Jensen provided the Board with a press release from the Nevada Department of Education in which they reported a four-year adjusted cohort graduation rate of 61.98% as a State-wide average, with Humboldt County being 64.26%.

Dr. Jensen asked the Board if they wanted to develop their own goals. It will be placed on the next agenda to determine a date and time.

Mrs. Deputy moved to accept the Superintendent goals and objectives for 2012-13 with corrections as discussed during the goal review. Mr. Hillyer seconded, motion carried.

Discussion and Possible Action- Student Activity Fund Policy – Dr. Dave Jensen

Dr. Jensen provided the Board with a draft of the revised Student Activity Manual. The Board was asked to review the policy. It will be re-agendized for the August 28th meeting for possible approval. Dr. Jensen noted that the District has become aware of some inadequacies in our policies and procedures and inconsistencies in the implementation of those policies and procedures. Ultimately, the policy was under a significant need to be reviewed and revised.

A number of student activity fund policies were reviewed from within and outside of the State of Nevada for comparison. Dr. Jensen went over the draft policy in detail. Once the policy is approved by the Board, all staff and administrators will be held to the expectations as defined within the policy. The policy will be revisited on an annual basis with changes implemented as determined necessary.

The item will be placed on the August 28th agenda and the Board will be asked to approve the policy.

Discussion and Possible Action – SIOP Training for Winnemucca Grammar School – Dorene Kitras, Dr. Bill Myhr

Postponed

Discussion and Possible Action – Approval to Establish a Special Revenue Fund Entitled Mining Foundation Lowry High School – Kelly Novi

Mr. Novi noted that the item is not an action item. During the Academic Assembly that is held at Lowry each year, the Mining Foundation provides a large amount of funds to students in the form of savings bonds. The entire process of purchasing and cashing savings bonds has changed dramatically. It has made it virtually impossible for the Mining Foundation to continue with the program because of the process that is now in place.

A meeting was held with the Mining Foundation to come up with an alternative solution. For the short term, the District will become a flow through for the Mining Foundation. The Mining Foundation will provide a check to the school district for approximately \$10,000 and the District will cut checks for the recipients. The Mining Foundation will continue to pursue other options.

Public Comment: None

Board/Staff Reports:

1. Mr. Hillyer said he would not be in attendance at the August 28th board meeting.
2. Mr. Hillyer reported that Dave Roden, who sits on the Great Basin College Foundation, told him that the outgoing President of Great Basin College, who is from Las Vegas, is making a push to

have a large amount of funds transferred to the Las Vegas campus. The funds are mostly being generated in the North.

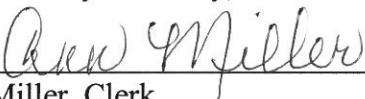
3. Mr. Hillyer: The Century Club BBQ will be held Saturday, August 18th at Vesco Park at 6 p.m.
4. Mr. Hillyer: NIAA Board Member and Clark County Educator, Ray Matthys, was recognized in the 2012 National Federation of High School Sports publication as an outstanding member and contributor.
5. Mr. Seeliger: The NASB mid year meeting was held July 27, 28, and 29th in Elko. Members were able to tour the Barrick Goldstrike Mine. Thirteen of the seventeen counties were represented.
6. Mr. Seeliger: NASB membership dues were decreased and have remained frozen. It was voted upon to increase the dues 4%, which will return them to the 2008-09 levels.
7. Mr. Seeliger encouraged everyone to attend the NASB Conference November 15, 16, and 17th in Reno. November 15th is set aside for new board member orientation. A second session for new board members will be held in January.
8. Mr. Seeliger reported that some changes were made to the bylaws. One concern is that the commitment for serving as an officer is a 5 year commitment. The chance exists that two elections can be held during that tenure and there is a possibility that someone serving as an officer on the Executive Committee may not get re-elected. In the event the current President does not get re-elected, the Board has added provisions to fill the position.
9. Mr. Seeliger: The NASB has decided to get involved in more activities. 1) A draft of the new "funding formula" has been released and is moving forward. 2) Washoe and Clark Counties have submitted several bill draft proposals. One bill draft is in regards to digital learning vs seat time for credit. 3) There is a push nationwide to turn control of school districts over to the governor of each state. Currently, Governor Sandoval and Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. James Guthrie, are in favor of this change. 4) There is national discussion on making high schools pay for college remediation costs. 5) Another discussion is the establishment of school-based health care centers. Clark County, currently, has two health care centers working out of their unused schools. There is discussion to require school nurses to be certified to provide immunizations, etc. The schools would be used, basically, as "walk-in" clinics. Should this come to fruition, it will be a requirement of the school district with no additional funding provided.
10. Mr. Seeliger noted that several NASB members have talked with State Superintendent, Dr. Guthrie, and have stated that he has very differing views on the effectiveness of school boards in our state. The school year is beginning with six new superintendents. Dr. Guthrie believes that the reason for the turnover is because superintendents are not getting support from their board of trustees (micromanaging).
11. Mr. Seeliger: Some of the NASB's strategic goals were reviewed and changed.
12. Mr. Seeliger: The National School Board Association Pacific Region meeting will be held in Las Vegas in December of 2013.
13. Mr. Seeliger reported that Clark County lost their arbitration case with certified staff and were forced to lay off over 1000 teachers. They hope to recall 400 of those teachers. Class sizes will be approximately 40-60 students.
14. Mr. Seeliger reported that Churchill County is currently looking for a superintendent.
15. Mr. Seeliger reported that Lander County will not be receiving DSA this coming year because of mining valuations.
16. Mrs. Miller noted that calls to their pre-school have increased because of the tremendous amount of people who are moving in from other states.
17. Mr. Novi said he would have an update of the summer school programs at the next meeting.
18. Mr. Hill asked why, with the number of teachers being laid off elsewhere, Lowry and McDermitt are having a difficult time filling vacant positions. Dr. Jensen noted that, he believes, there is a small select group of people that are comfortable with a location such as McDermitt. (Dr. Jensen)

"Combining that with a "hard to fill" or core course, we are in double jeopardy." Dr. Myhr is currently working to find applicants. Dr. Myhr noted that Washoe County currently has 80 vacant certified positions.

19. Dr. Jensen said that, when he sees Dr. Guthrie, he will ensure he understands the relationship District administration has with our Board of Trustees. It is extremely positive.
20. Dr. Jensen reported that the ESEA waiver has been accepted, therefore, the issues with AYP have been relaxed. We will now move forward into the growth model phase. The benefit to the District will be that we will no longer be required to set aside money for supplemental educational services in our Title 1 schools. The money can now be used for student academic needs and staff professional development.
21. Dr. Jensen said that the District will be submitting three NASB nominations. He asked that Board members sign the nomination forms before leaving. The nominations are due August 15th by 5 p.m.
22. Mrs. Noble asked Board members to sign the revised Workers Compensation Fund resolution before leaving.
23. Mrs. Noble reminded members that her term will end December 31st. She asked that they encourage people to consider submitting a letter of interest for her seat.

Adjourned 6:34 p.m.

Submitted by Secretary, Paula Wright



Ann Miller, Clerk