

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

The regular meeting of the Humboldt County Board of School Trustees was held January 22, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. in the District Office Boardroom.

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

Others in attendance were: Superintendent Dr. Dave Jensen, Director Kelly Novi, Attorney John Doyle, Jessica Powell-Humboldt Sun, Sandy Hammargren-Silver Pinyon Journal, Janet Kennedy and Secretary Paula Wright.

President Seeliger opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Correspondence: None

Minutes: Mr. Hill moved to approve the January 8, 2013 minutes as written. Mr. Braginton seconded, motion carried. Mr. Hillyer was not in attendance.

Public Comment: None

Superintendent Report

1. The calendar committee met on January 10th. Information collected through the survey was shared with the committee. Consideration of start and end dates was discussed. A big issue was whether the school year should begin "before or after labor day." The impact of both on the last day of school was reviewed. There was discussion on Winter Break; whether to leave it at a continuous two weeks or to split the weeks. Spring Break was discussed and the impact of tying Spring Break to the end of the third nine weeks or tying it to Easter. Information is being compiled and will be discussed at the next committee meeting scheduled for January 24th.
2. On January 10th, DeAnna Owens, Kelly Novi and Dr. Jensen attended a presentation by the Nevada Department of Education on the Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF). This was an introduction to the new process for the identification of "star ratings" of our schools. Introduction of sample district/school information was provided for review. Our District's preliminary information was released last week and we are in the process of reviewing the information.
3. A Superintendent's meeting was held the morning of January 11th. The basic foundation of iNVEST was discussed. A "working final" will be presented and reviewed as part of the next meeting on February 7th and will come to the 17 district boards for consideration of support.
4. January 11th and 12th was filled with the Nevada Superintendent's Academy. This is a wonderful opportunity to gain beneficial insight and to meet and discuss educational needs throughout Nevada.
5. On January 15th, Kelly Novi and Dr. Jensen attended the Mining Foundation meeting and shared progress on the High Tech Center. Members were invited to attend the discussion scheduled for 2 p.m. the same day. They then met at 2 pm regarding progress on plans for the development of the High Tech Center. Basic specs, program service models and next steps were discussed. Further investigation on partner development is occurring. It will take an estimated \$7 million to build and furnish the High Tech Center. Maintenance/upkeep and staffing is not included in that figure.

6. On January 16th, Dr. Jensen met with Max Hershenow (Hershenow and Klippenstein) and Kevin Monsey to review site needs throughout the district. Two primary discussions occurred at that time; 1) enhancing site safety and 2) possible expansion consideration for future need if warranted. Continued information is being collected from site administrators relative to individual site needs.
7. The evening of January 17th, Superintendents were invited to be present at the Governor's State of the State address. His address focused on two topics: Education and the Economy. After many years of stagnation or regression, it appears that education funding will begin to move forward with a focus on a number of areas to include Full Day Kindergarten and ELL services. Collectively, we are optimistic for a forward movement in support of education.
8. On Friday, January 18th, an all-day administrators meeting was held with Evans Newton Incorporated (ENI). The focus was on classroom walk through, focusing on effective instruction. This is the first of four on site and a number of WebX instructional opportunities in support of Administrative Capacity to assist staff in being prepared for the Common Core State Standards roll out.
9. Dr. Jensen reminded board members of the Ethics Training scheduled for January 23rd at 3 p.m. in the Court House with City Council and County Commissioners.
10. On Friday, January 25th and Saturday, January 26th the NASB Conference will be held in Reno. Four Board members and Dr. Jensen will be attending. In visiting with other Superintendents, a number of them have attended the National School Board Conference with Board members. This may be something to consider in future years.

Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of Warrants

Mr. Hill moved to approve the warrants as presented. Mrs. Deputy seconded, motion carried. Mr. Hillyer was not present.

Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of the Library Grant – Dr. Dave Jensen

Dr. Jensen provided the Board with a copy of the School Library Grant. The amount of the grant is dependent upon the number of districts applying for the funds, therefore, there is no specific amount listed.

Mr. Betteridge moved to approve the Library Grant application as presented. Mr. Braginton and Mr. Hill seconded, motion carried. Mr. Hillyer was not present.

Discussion and Possible Action – Approval of a Minimum Day Request for McDermitt Combined School for February 22 and February 26, 2013 to Address Nevada Comprehensive Curriculum Audit Tool for Schools (NCCAT-S) – Janet Kennedy

Mrs. Kennedy provided the Board with a current schedule of McDermitt Combine's visitation and training dates. McDermitt Combined has been identified as a "Focus School" and will remain in that category for three years. Being identified as a "Focus School", they are required to meet with a facilitator and go through the NCAAT process. The staff has booked every moment of free time available up to this point with ENI, CCSS, Gear UP, NNRDPDP, SIOP and PLC trainings. This year is also an accreditation year. Information that the staff receives during the NCCAT-S training will assist with the school's accreditation process.

Dr. Jensen told the Board that he does not see how the staff will be able to address the NCCAT-S training unless they are granted the two minimum release days. Mrs. Kennedy told Board members that she chose days that would least impact student education. She asked that Board members approve the minimum day request for February 22nd and February 26th.

Dr. Jensen commended Mrs. Kennedy and her staff for their commitment.

Mr. Hill moved to approve a minimum day request for McDermitt Combined School for February 22nd and February 26th. Mr. Braginton and Mr. Betteridge seconded, motion carried. Mr. Hillyer was not present.

Discussion Only – Introduction and Review of Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF) – Kelly Novi

The Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF) is a comprehensive system for evaluating schools, that takes into account a wide range of factors, to give ratings on how well each school supports student growth and achievement.

5:17 p.m. Mr. Hillyer arrived.

Mr. Novi provided the Board with a “glossary of terms” used with the NSPF. Mr. Novi explained how points are awarded in each category to determine a composite score for elementary schools, which leads to a 1-Star to a 5-Star school ranking (1-Star being the lowest ranking). Points are awarded on 1) status points (reading and math proficiency rates), 2) growth school points (median reading and math student growth percentile and percentage of reading and math adequate growth percentile), 3) growth “subgroup” points (adequate growth percentile in reading and math for free and reduced lunch, IEP and ELL populations, 4) growth “supergroup” points (adequate growth percentile in reading and math for a combined “supergroup”, which is a combined group of students in any category, of less than ten students in each of those categories (FRL, ELL, IEP), and 5) points are awarded for an “all student average daily attendance”. There is a total of 100 points that can be awarded.

Discussion was held on questions which remain in terms of how the NSPF will affect our schools, in particular, our small remote rural schools that will not meet minimum numbers for reporting purposes. In addition, some components of the analysis do not appear to be reachable, leading to discussions with Nevada Department of Education.

Mr. Novi provided the Board with a sample elementary school performance report. He will review information regarding the high school report at a later board meeting. The criteria used for points awarded a high school is more complex.

Discussion and Possible Action – Review of Policy 1030 -Board of Trustees, Compensation to Comply with NRS 386.320 – Dr. Dave Jensen

While reviewing the document “What Every New Board Member Needs to Know”, Mr. Doyle pointed out that in the 1000 Series of the policy manual we have old language relative to board compensation. Dr. Jensen changed the language to read “Board members will be compensated in accordance with NRS 386.320. The compensation is currently set at \$250 per month for district’s whose population is less than 20,000 residents.”

Mr. Hillyer moved to approve the language as proposed. Mr. Hill seconded, motion carried.

Discussion and Possible Action – Second Reading and Possible Approval of the “What Every New Board Member Needs to Know” Document – Dr. Dave Jensen

Dr. Jensen reported that all corrections requested by the Board have been made. There was a request to include a section listing all educational acronyms. Dr. Jensen said there would literally be pages of acronyms and suggested not including that request, especially in light of key acronyms provided to the board in conjunction with the Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF) discussion. After some additional discussion, minimal changes were made, and the Board was in approval of the document.

Secretary Wright is compiling a binder for each board member that will include the "What Every New Board Member Needs to Know" document, along with other general information the Board will find useful.

Mr. Hillyer moved to approve the "What Every New Board Member Needs to Know" as modified. Mr. Betteridge, Mr. Braginton, and Mrs. Deputy seconded, motion carried.

6:02 p.m. Break

6:06 p.m. Return to session

Discussion and Possible Action – Review of the Policy Manual, 4000 Series – Dr. Dave Jensen

The Board began with policy #4055 Employees-Classified Employment/Assignment/Resignation. The entire section is model language through POOL/PACT. Each section was reviewed, which completed the first reading of the 4000 Series. The series will be brought back to the Board on February 12th, with the corrections made, for the second reading and possible adoption.

Discussion and Possible Action – 2013 Board Retreat Calendaring – John Seeliger, Dr. Dave Jensen

After some discussion, it was decided to begin the February 12th board meeting at 2:00 p.m. and go into a Board retreat at the end of the meeting. Some of the items that may be discussed during the board retreat include: 1) Superintendent's evaluation process and timelines, 2) Board self-evaluation, 3) discussion regarding assessment of city/county impact fees, 4) procedure for identifying speakers during a board meeting and 5) future facilities expansion, if necessary.

Mr. Seeliger asked Board members to provide any items they wished to discuss at the retreat to him prior to February 4th.

Public Comment: None

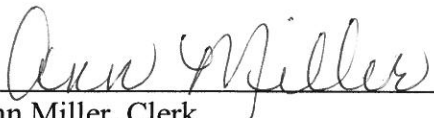
Board/Staff Reports:

1. Mr. Hill reported that he and Mrs. Deputy visited the Paradise Valley School on January 15th.
 - While on their visit, they were informed that the heater in the portable does not work. Mr. Novi said that the maintenance department is currently working to repair the heater.
 - Teachers were also concerned about the inability to communicate between the buildings.
 - The portable building at the Paradise Valley School does not have a restroom. Mr. Hill asked if the Bond Oversight Committee could consider looking at a way to provide a restroom for the portable.
 - He said the new windows look good.
2. Mr. Betteridge reported that he and Mr. Braginton visited Grass Valley Elementary School on January 11th. He said there are good things happening at the school.
 - Mr. Betteridge reported that they are having problems with the roof.
 - The heater does not work at the far end of the building. Mr. Novi noted that we have been in contact with the vendor and that the cause is defective blowers. The replacements have been ordered.
 - Mr. Betteridge noted a security issue regarding the back door to the building.
3. Mr. Hillyer noted that at the recent NIAA meeting, the Executive Director received a satisfactory evaluation and will be retained.
 - Mr. Bonine reported that Nevada is at the forefront in protecting our student athletes.
 - A minimum concussion policy was adopted by the NIAA.
 - Winnemucca will be hosting the Zone Wrestling Championships. Lowry High School will be going for their 5th consecutive State Championship.

- Beaver Dam, Arizona, is located approximately eight miles outside of Mesquite. They have been accepted as an associate member of the NIAA and will be entered into the Division II classification.
 - Whittell is dropping many of their programs and will go independent in football, as will North Tahoe.
 - Charter school's do no pay for athletic participation.
 - The NIAA has eliminated the "Pods", however, White Pine and W. Wendover want to remain playing the south in football. The "Pods" were originally developed as a regional competitive league to save on travel costs.
 - Mr. Anderson, the NIAA's legal counsel, reviewed several of the Nevada Administrative Codes (NAC's) that are up for approval by the Legislative Bureau. One of the NAC's discussed was in regards to the "yellow card" in soccer. Mr. Hillyer addressed the consequences to coaches.
 - Currently, there is no consistency across the state in regards to requirements for academic eligibility and the establishment of a minimum grade point average.
 - There is an NAC that requires coaches to complete the "Coaches Education Program". Dr. Jensen said he believes that Humboldt County School District does require coaches to complete the course, but will check into it.
4. Mr. Braginton thanked Mr. Betteridge for arranging the visit to Grass Valley School. He complimented Mr. Connors and his staff.
 - He noted that the back door Mr. Betteridge referred to is the access door to the building for the Special Education staff to access the restrooms. He suggested we take a look at it as a potential security issue.
 - He said he appreciates the District's proactive look at building expansions; being prepared for something we may want to do or need to do.
 5. Mrs. Deputy reported that the floors are very cold at the Paradise Valley School and that a fan could help move the heat from the ceiling to the floor.
 - Some of the computers were down and Mrs. Deputy asked if they had been brought back online so the MAPS testing could take place. Mr. Novi was not aware of the situation.
 6. Mrs. Deputy and Mr. Hill are planning a visit to Denio School on January 29th and McDermitt Combined on February 7th. Mrs. Deputy invited any board members to ride along.
 7. Mr. Novi informed Board members that the Academic Assembly of Excellence has been moved to May 8th to accommodate a large number of students who will be AP testing on May 15th.
 8. Mr. Novi informed the Board that we are currently getting our licensing in place for two-way radio communication.
 9. Dr. Jensen noted, "Lowry tipoff in three minutes".
 10. Mr. Seeliger informed the Board that he will be out of town on February 26th.

Adjourned 7:29 p.m.

Submitted by Secretary, Paula Wright


 Ann Miller, Clerk