

Nyssa School District 26
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2019

Board Members Present:

Bob Fehlman
Pat Morinaka
Jeremy Peterson
Kim Stipe
Michael Hartley

Board Members Absent:

Torie Ramirez
Marlon Wilson

Others:

Family of Julian Gonzalez
Family of Christian Martinez
Family of Kathy Tuckness
Family of Olivia Page
Nikki Shira
Emily Johnson
Sheila Hartley

Staff Members Present:

Darren Johnson, Superintendent
Ryan Hawkins, Dir. of Dist. Operations
Audrie Tracy, Admin. Assistant
Crystal Rideau, Business Manager
Matt Murray, Elementary Principal
Scott Rodman, Elem. Vice Principal
Luke Cleaver, MS Principal
Araceli Gomez, MS Vice Principal
Jenna Ravenscraft, HS Athletic Dir.
Heather Hert
Chris Carlton
Crystal Fortney
Lee & Anna Long
Jesse & Noemi Melendez
Roger Hunter
Gabe Fuentes

Call to Order – Chairman Bob Fehlman called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. in the boardroom of the Administration Building.

Adoption of Agenda – Pat Morinaka made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Seconded by Kim Stipe. Motion Carried.

Michael Hartley arrived at 7:10 p.m.

Commendations

A) Students

The grade K-2 Elementary Student of the Month is Daniel Campuzano Torres. Daniel is a first grader in Ms. Helliwell's classroom. He follows the rules and is the example of a safe, respectful, responsible student. Daniel is always eager to be in class, is attentive and diligent. He takes pride in his class work, paying attention to detail. Daniel is shy, kind, helpful, generous and always eager to please.

Christian Martinez is the grade 3-5 Elementary Student of the Month. Christian is a fourth grader, his teacher is Mrs. Barnhart. Christian is an outstanding student who fits the bill for safety and helping others. He is responsible, participates actively and perseveres even when assignments are challenging. Christian is an acting peace maker, natural leader and a friend to all. It is wonderful to have Christian in class, he is an asset to Nyssa Elementary School.

The middle school recognized Julian Gonzalez as their Student of the Month. Julian is a 7th grade student at NMS. He has worked very hard this year. Julian's work ethic along with the time and effort he spends finishing and correcting his work have been impressive. He likes to give hugs and smiles every day. His positive attitude is motivating and he is a great role model to others. Congratulations Julian, we are proud of you.

Olivia Page is the Student of the Month selected by the high school. Olivia is a senior at NHS with a desire to become an architect. She is well rounded academically with A+ work in all of her classes which is reflected on her transcript. Olivia comes to class prepared, actively participates and absorbs the things learned as knowledge for now and in the future. She is involved in many other activities, events and programs at school and outside of school, often taking on leadership and service roles. Olivia is an outstanding individual, kind and always a leader.

B) Employee

The Employee of the Month selected by the middle school is Kathy Tuckness. Kathy is employed by the Malheur ESD as a Speech Language Pathologist but works in Nyssa every day. She is supportive in addressing the needs of students and staff. Kathy will take on a challenge that others shy away from. She helps with a coffee cart, the snack shack and lunch. Kathy has a wonderful heart, she is an asset as a friend and colleague. Kathy is a true champion to the students at Nyssa School District.

C) Parent

David Toll is the middle school Parent/Volunteer of the Month. Mr. Toll was not present at tonight's meeting.

Visiting Patrons & Delegations

- A) HS Student Ixzetl Tapia and Yolanda Diaz – Request permission for travel to Washington D.C.

As per Superintendent Johnson, permission was requested and approved for the travel to Washington D.C. prior to tonight's meeting. No record of verbal or email approval on file.

NHS Chief Science Officers Ixzetl Tapia and Yolanda Diaz were elected by their peers to represent the state of Oregon at the Chief Science Officers 2nd Annual International Summit in Washington D.C. They shared highlights of their recent trip to Washington D.C. There were opportunities to speak with many STEM professionals, legislative assistants, presidents of many companies and educational representatives from different states. The girls thought it was remarkable that individuals in high positions were willing to listen to their thoughts and ideas on what STEM education will look like in the future. During the week they also visited Capitol Hill, Defense Intelligence Agency, National Science Foundation, NASA Headquarters, and several memorials and museums. Both girls were thankful for the opportunity to have such an unforgettable experience and make new friends from all over the world.

Other NHS Chief Science Officers attending tonight's meeting are Melita Morales, Bryan Dorothy and Spencer Romans.

Nikki Shira, STEM and Innovation Coordinator from Malheur ESD was also present this evening to support the students during their presentation.

Financial Report – Business Manager Crystal Rideau presented the monthly financial reports.

A copy of the Expenditures and Revenue Summary, Bills Report, Payroll Distribution Report, and MS Construction Fund Balance was presented to board members for review.

Discussion -

- MS Construction Fund balance approximately \$71,000 as of 10/31/19
- Debt Service payment of \$100,000 due November 29, 2019 – another will be due June 2020
- Projected Bond balance including projected revenue approximately \$240,000

Consent Agenda

- A) Approve minutes of the October 14, 2019 board meeting as corrected/presented.
- B) Hire – Kent Blanchard, Testing Coordinator – District
- C) Resignation – Kristin Nielson, Instructional Assistant – Elementary

Michael Hartley made the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Jeremy Peterson. Motion carried.

Old Business

- A) Coordinator of State Funded EL Initiatives - Review updated job description and discuss hiring (tabled from the October meeting)

Discussion –

- Individual to report to Superintendent or designee
- Darren Johnson and Ryan Hawkins to monitor grant funding
- Superintendent feels his time will be better served with personnel, not clerical

Concern –

- Use of funds from other federal programs

Recommendation -

- Prefer to see job description more defined, more clearly written
- Define percentage of time to be spent in areas of ELL, other programs
- Provide analysis of data
- Update/rewrite the job description for review prior to the December board meeting

Item was tabled for further review/discussion at the December board meeting.

- B) Update/review quotes regarding purchase of a tractor or backhoe (tabled from the October meeting)

Discussion –

- Tractor quotes presented from the following dealers
Agri Service, Fruitland, ID – Massey Ferguson for \$56,774.20
J & J Machinery, Notus, ID – TYM Tractor for \$43,495.00
Campbell Tractor, Ontario, OR – John Deere for \$48,950.00

Recommendation –

- As per Jesse Melendez, Maintenance Supervisor -
J & J Machinery, Notus, ID – TYM Tractor for \$43,495.00

Jeremy Peterson made a motion to approve the quote from J & J Machinery for purchase of the TYM tractor in the amount of \$43,495.00. Seconded by Kim Stipe. Motion carried

- C) Review/discuss information about Eastern Oregon Boarder Board presented at last month's board meeting (copies enclosed).

Discussion –

- Review of information provided
- Some board members reviewed information on the EOBB website
- No cost/loss to join
- Will receive additional tax dollars

- D) Determine whether to adopt the RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAMS OF THE EASTERN OREGON BORDER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD (copy enclosed).

Kim Stipe is in favor of joining and made the motion to adopt the RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAMS OF THE EASTERN OREGON BORDER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD. Seconded by Pat Morinaka. Motion carried.

New Business

- A) OSBA Elections – Vote on the candidate for OSBA board of directors and candidate for Legislative Policy Committee for our region, Eastern Region 1. November 11, 2019 through December 13, 2019.

Kim Stipe made a motion to cast a vote for Board of Director candidate Chris Cronin, Eastern Region 1. Motion seconded by Pat Morinaka. Motion carried.

There are no candidates for Legislative Policy Committee for Eastern Region 1.

Audrie Tracy will submit the vote to OSBA for candidate(s) in Eastern Region 1.

- B) Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) presentation – Darren Johnson and Ryan Hawkins

Ryan Hawkins presented information to the board on the Continuous Improvement Plan for the District. Copy on file.

Discussion –

- Three year plan involves four strategies and three goals – attendance, math, increase grad rates
- Average 92%+ attendance over three years
- Kathleen Burbank, Math TOSA is currently testing all K-1 students in Math - expectations, rewards, seeing growth, hope to see success by spring
- Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) is a sort of spring board in conjunction with the Student Success Act (SSA)
- Cannot write a Student Success Act Plan without a Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP)

Recommendation –

- Provide an updated report to the board in the spring

For questions or additional information contact Darren Johnson or Ryan Hawkins.

Board Study

- A) ~~OSBA Promise Scholarship Program – training on November 19th from 6-9 p.m in the boardroom.~~ Training on November 19th has been cancelled.

Training has been postponed indefinitely due to resignation of the OSBA facilitator Pam Lyberger.

B) Discussion – Athletics, Idaho League

- Current league issues – costly, travel time, safety concerns, time out of school
- Discussion with Idaho WIC and SRV to compete
- Traveling is and always has been a part of Nyssa athletics – it provides opportunities for kids to see and experience things that they may not get to otherwise
- Increase numbers for participation if locations were closer, easier for families to attend
- WIC & SRV – competitive levels up & down
- Hermiston moved into a Washington league (2nd year)
- Reasons to continue in current league – personal, pride, history, passion
- Oregon wrestling – 60 years this year

Concern –

- Joining an Idaho league takes away from what makes us Nyssa
- Previous discussion with Idaho wouldn't allow Oregon school districts to compete in state competition
- Joining an Idaho league leaves Vale and Burns hanging
- Frustration with OSAA leadership, modeling

Recommendation –

- If money is available – why change? Safe record, trophies to be proud of, opportunities for kids
- Invite input from other coaches and parents
- Discuss and promote ideas to your own state before considering another state
- Request OSSA to consider a central/neutral location for state competition
- Wait to see the direction Umatilla and Irrigon go - it may help make the decision easier for us
- Continue to research options, review and discuss at a later date

Adjournment – At 8:51 p.m. the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Bob Fehlman.

Chairperson/Vice Chairperson

Superintendent/Clerk