

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
School District No. Re-1 Valley, Logan County, Colorado

REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

Location: Hagen Administration Center, Sterling, CO

January 23, 2023

6:00 pm

At 6:03 President Shinn called the meeting to order.

Present: Deb County, Dr. Marty Foster, Kelly Jo Harlow, Heather Harris, Dennis Klein, Joel McCracken, Ronda Monheiser, Michelle Sharp, and Steven Shinn. Makayla Chartier was absent.

Guests in person: Callie Jones and MaryBeth Skerjanec.

Guests Remote: Maria Gomez, iPhone, Dennis Klein (host), and reyesce,

Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Five members present, showing a quorum.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved by consensus

3. Public Comment: None

4. SCHOOL/PROGRAM/COMMUNITY PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS:

Director Sharp notified the Board that the parent application for Universal Preschool (UPK) Colorado is live. A few adjustments were needed but, from where the process was a month ago, being active now seems like a small miracle. Universal Preschool (UPK) Colorado ensures that every child in the year before they are eligible for kindergarten is eligible for half-day (15 hours), state-funded, voluntary preschool beginning in the 2023-24 school year. Three-year-olds with qualifying factors are eligible for part-time (10 hours) preschool programming. For more information visit: <https://cdec.colorado.gov/for-families/universal-preschool-colorado>

5. Communication

5.01 Staff Reports:

Deb County, Interim CFO, reminded the Board that Lauer, Szabo and Associates will be onsite January 30th through February 9th preparing the audit. Trial balances are due to them prior to the beginning of the audit. The final reports will be presented by Lauer Szabo and Associates at the February 21, 2023, Board Meeting. Payroll Accountant interviews went well and the position has been offered and accepted. The person taking the position asked for time to speak to their current supervisor prior to a public announcement. That request is appreciated and will be respected. W-2's are complete and will be delivered to current employees through interoffice mail. Employees will also be able to access electronic copies through the iVisions portal. Former employees will receive their W-2's by mail. Tax information will be reported to SSA and PERA on Thursday, January 26, and Mrs. County will make sure the District is in compliance with the Affordable Care Act.

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Ron Marostica, Assistant Superintendent, hosted a Career Tech Education (CTE) meeting today. A representative from the Colorado Community College System (CCCS) shared expectations for the coming year including a new template for meeting minutes, strict course title requirements, and firm guidelines for the CTE advisory committee. All District CTE staff were present and are excited about working together to strengthen next fall's programming. In late spring 2023, Mr. Marostica plans to share CTE offerings for the 2023-2024 school year with the Board.

5.02 Superintendent Report:

- Enrollment Report

The overall student enrollment report showed the district down six students from the October Count. Some schools lost students while others gained them. This isn't a terrible loss and hopefully numbers will be stable through the end of the year.

- School Closures

This has been one heck of a winter and schools had to be closed for two more days, day two because highways around Sterling were closed. During the Principal's meeting this week, Dr. Foster will discuss which Mondays the District can use for make-up days. This week looks cold but no snow is predicted.

- Principal Selection Timelines

Dr. Foster provided timelines for principal selections at Sterling High School and Sterling Middle School. In order to get a strong pool of candidates, both positions will be posted January 21, 2023 and close on February 21, 2023. Plans are to present recommended candidates to the Board at their March 6, 2023 Board Meeting. Selection committees will be made up of teachers, classified staff, parents, and in the case of SHS, students. Dr. Foster and Mr. Vergilio, Caliche Principal, will represent administrators on the team.

- Revised Budget Development Timeline

The budget development timeline has been updated to include the Health Insurance Committee. The District's Health Insurance Broker is already working on numbers and is looking forward to presenting options to the group.

- Calendar Committee

The Committee's first meeting was delayed, but the plan is to bring the 2023-2024 School Calendar to the Board at the regularly scheduled Board Meeting on February 21, 2023.

- Board Governance Training

Dan Jorgensen will return on February 6, 2023 to continue the Board's training. Dr. Foster forwarded information to Board members and asked that they review it prior to this date.

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5.03 Board of Director Reports

- Director Harris thanked Deb County for her hard work.
- Director Monheiser also thanked Deb County, recognizing her time and the amount of work she is doing in preparation of the audit.
- Director Sharp echoed Directors Monheiser and Harris and shared that there will be a Universal Preschool (UPK) Colorado Conference at NJC on Saturday, January 30, 2023.
- Director McCracken has had numerous calls about the sports program at Sterling Middle School (SMS). Reports are that sixth-grade sports are not taking place as they should. Dr. Foster has spoken with the administration at SMS and sites various obstacles to the program. These include low numbers at other schools, resulting in lack of availability for sixth-grade games and an abundance of sixth-grade players at SMS. Next year will bring a better situation; planning can be done in the spring, and improving the program can be a goal for new leadership.
- Director Shinn provided an update on negotiations with Dr. Foster. A draft contract was just delivered, after the parties have had time to review it they will move forward. The intention is to present the final contract and ask for approval at the February 6, or February 21, Board Meeting. He also shared a thank you card from the Hagen staff with the Board and thanked the providers of affirmations for the kind words.

6. Discussion Items:

6.01: Revision to Board Meeting Schedule

At the January 9, 2023 Board meeting it was determined that the regularly scheduled Board Meeting on February 20, 2023 should be moved to February 21, 2023 due to President's Day and the anticipated presentation of the 2021-2022 Annual Financial Audit. As this requires official action from the Board a vote will be taken later in the meeting to approve this change.

6.02 School Closures January 18 and 19, 2023

Adverse weather conditions, numerous highway closures and difficult road conditions necessitated the closure of all RE-1 Valley School District schools on January 18 and 19, 2023. All meetings, events, and other activities were canceled and surrounding Districts were closed. The safety of RE-1 staff and students is always the priority when canceling classes, but many other factors are considered. Those factors include road closures, reports from staff that drive the roads, weather forecasts, and allowing for timely notification so that parents can make arrangements for their students. January 19th was our 6th snow day which means we will have to add a makeup day to the student calendar. Dr. Foster will discuss this, and plans for the possibility of other snow days, with the principals. He will bring makeup dates to the next Board Meeting for Board approval.

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6.03 Policy for Second Reading

Policy IHCDCA was presented for second reading. The policy reflects the changes discussed during its first reading on October 3, 2022. Second reading was delayed in order to conduct further research. This research, which included contacting other schools in the Patriot League, showed that RE-1 does fall in line with similar districts. These conversations also included discussion about adjusting the location of course offerings to keep upperclassmen on campus. Maintaining a strong relationship with NJC and providing better opportunities for students to experience high school life will be a priority moving forward. This conversation also spurred questions about student handbooks. Each school has a student handbook that should be updated every year. Dr. Foster will have principals present their 2023-2024 handbooks, noting any major changes, to the board prior to publication.

6.04 Updated 2023-2024 Budget Development Timeline to add Insurance Committee

At the Board meeting on January 7, 2023, the 2023-2024 Budget Development timeline was amended to include input from a Health Insurance committee as selected by Dr. Foster. The Health Insurance Broker will present plan options to the committee who will share the information with staff at each building then provide feedback to the group. The timeline presented this evening has been adjusted to reflect this change. Other suggested updates are changing the committee establishment from January 19, 2023 to January 26, 2023 due to weather, and revising the last line to reference FY 2023-24 instead of FY 2018-19.

At 7:23 p.m. the Board took a break

At 7:37 p.m. the Board reconvened

7. Action Items:

7.01 Consent Agenda

- Personnel Approvals
- Meeting Minutes from January 9, 2023

Action Items / Consent Grouping				
Monday, January 23, 2023				
Personnel				
a. Classified /	Resignation / Retirement	/ Work Agreement:		Effective Date
Carney, Alyssa	Resignation	Sterling Middle School	Paraeducator	2/3/2023
b. Certified / Contracts / Reassignment / Transfer / Resignations / Disciplinary Actions:				
c. Classified /	New Hire / Rehire	/ Work Agreement:		
Payne, Lauren	Extra Duty	Sterling Middle School	Girls Basketball	
Corey, Tyler	Extra Duty	Sterling Middle School	Girls Basketball	
Marshall, Adam	Extra Duty	Sterling Middle School	Girls Basketball	
Rael, Cheryl	Extra Duty	Sterling Middle School	Girls Basketball	
Busmente, Jake	Extra Duty	Sterling Middle School	Wrestling	
Prelle, Dylan	Extra Duty	Sterling Middle School	Wrestling	
Locke, Ashley	New Hire	Sterling Middle School	SSN Para	1/10/2023
Barriga, Gloria	Extra Duty	Sterling Middle School	Parking Lot Monitor	1/11/2023
Cooley, Cheryl	Extra Duty	Sterling Middle School	Parking Lot Monitor	1/17/2023
Hansen, Crystal	Extra Duty	Sterling Middle School	Parking Lot Monitor	1/17/2023
Rossen, Shelby	New Hire	HEEC	Paraeducator	1/11/2023
Dohert-Cueva, Brittany	New Hire	Ayres	Paraeducator	1/10/2023
d. Certified /	New Hire / Rehire	/ Work Agreement:		
Teigg, Summer	Transfer	Sterling Middle School	Long Term Sub	1/5/2023

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Director Harris moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Director Sharp seconded the motion.

Adopted by consensus

7.02 Revision to 2022-2023 Board Meeting Schedule

Director Sharp moved to approve the revised 2022-2023 Board Calendar as presented to move the regularly scheduled Board Meeting on February 20, 2023 to February 21, 2023 due to President's Day and the anticipated presentation of the 2021-2022 Annual Financial Audit.

Director Harris seconded the Motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Chartier: absent	Harris: aye	McCracken: aye
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Monheiser: aye	Sharp: aye	Shinn: aye
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Motion Carried

7.03 School Closures December January 18 and 19, 2023

Director McCracken moved to approve the closure of all RE-1 Valley Schools and cancellation of all District activities for January 18, 2023 and January 19, 2023.

Director Monheiser seconded the Motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Chartier: absent	Harris: aye	McCracken: aye
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Monheiser: aye	Sharp: aye	Shinn: aye
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Motion Carried

7.04: Policy for Second Reading: IHODA Concurrent Enrollment

Director McCracken moved to approve policy IHODA: Concurrent Enrollment as presented for second reading.

Director Harris seconded the Motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Chartier: absent	Harris: aye	McCracken: aye
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Monheiser: aye	Sharp: aye	Shinn: aye
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Motion Carried

7.05 Updated 2023-2024 Budget Timeline

Director Monheiser moved to approve the Updated 2023-2024 Budget Development Timeline as amended with the following changes: line one will read January 26, 2023 instead of January 19, 2023 and the last line to read FY 2023-24 instead of FY 2018-19.

Director Harris seconded the motion

Roll Call Vote:

Chartier: absent	Harris: aye	McCracken: aye
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Monheiser: aye	Sharp: aye	Shinn: aye
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Motion Carried

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8. Closing Remarks:

Director Harris: We're getting into a busy time of year, so I just want to thank everybody for your hard work. I'm thankful for everyone working together and it seems like we are moving forward in a positive direction.

Director Monheiser: I appreciate everyone's dedication to the District and willingness to work through the change in dates as we need to make up time due to the snow days already used.

Director Sharp: Last year the district had a lot going on. Thank you to everybody who has stuck by us and moved through it. It's been a great year and I look forward as we continue.

Director McCracken: This is crunch time for High School Basketball making the push to state. I want to wish good luck to the coaches and the kids. Concurrent enrollments driving force is that parents want their kids challenged. It is important that when students start high school they have a vigorous academic plan. We need to maintain our relationship with NJC, they are awesome, while finding a balance for students. Thanks to Mark Appelhans and Dr. Foster for your work.


Director Shinn: Snow days can be challenging, safety is the priority when making these decisions but we do not forget parents in the process. We take into account many factors and want to thank parents and families for working with us.

10. Adjournment

Director Monheiser moved to adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 6, 2023, 6:00 pm at the Hagen Administrative Center.


Steven Shinn
President


Heather Harris
Secretary/Treasure