

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

March 6, 2023

6:00 pm

At 6:04 President Shinn called the meeting to order.

Present: Michelle Erb, Dr. Marty Foster, Kelly Jo Harlow (remote), Heather Harris, Dennis Klein, Ron Marostica (arrived at 6:18 pm), Joel McCracken, Ronda Monheiser, Michelle Sharp, and Steven Shinn.

Guests in person: Melissa Anderson, Chris Balenti, Janine Balenti, Carisa Bamford, Debra Brady, Scott Erb, Chanda Fleckenstein, Jennifer Holt, Tanner and Laci James, Callie Jones, Brenda Klobberdanz, Bobby Sue Knuppel Brantley Leech, Kyler Leech, Nick Leech, Liz Mauler, Joe Skerjanec, Mary Beth Skarjenec, Jared Sonnenberg, Luke and Jamie Unrein, and Tonya Wilson

Guests Remote: Birgenheiera, Brenda Klobberdanz, Brett Locke, codybamford, Dennis Klein (host), harlowk (co-host), holloways, iPhone, Jessy Tidwell, Kylee, Linda's iPhone, Marilyn's iPhone, MaulerD, Melissa Moos, reyesc, rjens, and Zoom user

Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Five members present, showing a quorum.

2. Approval of Agenda

Director Monheiser moved to approve the agenda as presented.

Director Sharp seconded the Motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Harris: aye McCracken: aye Monheiser: aye Sharp: aye Shinn: aye

Motion Carried

3. Public Comment:

Mary Beth Skerjanec and Deb Brady, South Platte Education Association Representatives, reminded the Board about their importance in molding the District. They thanked them for their hard work in helping the District repair, replace and replenish and hope they will bring an open mind as we move forward. They shared their intention to ask the Board to approve a Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). In their opinion, a CBA could enhance and protect the District to help keep what we've worked so hard to achieve. It could also protect us from what has happened over the last three years. They invited the Board to attend an informational meeting on March 22, 2023, at the Sterling Public Library at 6:00 pm. Several representatives from schools around the state will share what a CBA does and how it works. The Board is invited to contact Mrs. Skerjanec or Mrs. Brady with any questions.

4. SCHOOL/PROGRAM/COMMUNITY PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS:

Janine Balenti provided a brief overview of the Campbell 5th Grade Peer Mediation Program. The program is a form of conflict resolution where trained student leaders help students work through their differences by focusing on the problem, not the person. Mediation skills learned through this program will help build stronger students. Students Paisley Alderson, Terren Ertle, Remington Gerlach, Brantley Leech, Ayden Padilla, Terron

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Serrato, and Bentley Unrein completed rigorous training and are now certified peer mediators. Each student has mediated at least one conflict and shared with the Board the part of the program they are most excited about. Mrs. Balenti thanked Brenda Kloberdanz and Chanda Fleckenstein for their vision, passion, and willingness to build the program. She also thanked the parents and students for their dedication to training outside of school hours.

Liz Mauler, Special Services Director, introduced the Zarlengo Foundation, a non-profit organization that has partnered with Learning Ally and RE-1 Valley. Learning Ally is a literacy program developed to help kids who are blind, visually impaired or have a reading disability develop their skills and make them more comfortable and enthused about reading. Originally the program would only be accessible by students with an ILP or a 504 plan but the Zarlengo Foundation is providing access to all RE-1 Valley Students for the next three years. Teachers have been trained to use the program and there are 133 students currently using it. Mrs. Mauler shared a video of an RE-1 student who shared his experience using the program. There are also strong uses for the program in science, math, and social studies. Mrs. Mauler believes we are just starting out and the possibilities are endless.

5. Communication

5.01 Staff Reports: None

5.02 Superintendent Report:

- Enrollment Report

Numbers on the enrollment report were lower this month with the majority of students that have left moving out of the District. Budget planning for next year will take these numbers into account.

- End of 3rd Quarter

March 10 is the end of third quarter and the beginning of Spring Break. March 20, 2023 is a professional development day and will be dedicated to CMAS training. There will also be a Board meeting that evening. Students return on March 21.

- Budget Process Begins

After good news from the auditor, the budget process can begin in earnest. Salaries are the largest expense in any budget and to that end, Dr. Foster will provide a newly formatted salary schedule for approval at the next board meeting. The goal of this salary schedule will be to reinstate the old 8-column format. The next step will be to do a cost analysis of fixing the current placement issues.

- Principal Recommendations

High School and Middle School Principal recommendations will be introduced later in the meeting. Dr. Foster took this opportunity to thank the interview committees for their hard work and diligence during the process. "They did a great job."

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5.03 Board of Director Reports

- Director Sharp, Executive Director of Early Childhood Council of Logan, Phillips and Sedgwick Counties (ECCLPS), provided an update on the application and placement process for Universal Preschool available next year.
- Director McCracken: none
- Director Harris: none
- Director Monheiser is looking forward to hearing more from the principal candidates and working on the budget, it's an exciting time in the District.
- Director Shinn attended a YouthLink meeting with several other entities looking for ways to combat truancy. As with most things, the process is long but trying to push through them quickly can do more harm than good. The group is comprised of many entities and Director Shinn trusts that they will be successful.

6. Discussion Items:

6.01 Sterling Middle School Principal Candidate

Dr. Foster thanked the interview committee for their hard work and introduced Joe Skerjanec, their recommendation for the Sterling Middle School Principal position. Principals have a very defined, very important role in the operation of RE-1 Valley and the committee believes Mr. Skerjanec will be a good fit. Mr. Skerjanec is honored and humbled to serve the District. He looks forward to working with Bob Hall, the current SMS Principal, and hopes to make the transition as seamless as possible. Dr. Foster has known Mr. Skerjanec for many years and appreciates the work he has done in the district and his experience elsewhere.

6.02 Sterling High School Principal Candidate

Dr. Foster introduced Jeff Hoff, the SHS Interview Committee's recommendation for Sterling High School Principal. Mr. Hoff's very purposefully applied for this position and is honored to have been selected. Carisa Bamford, interview committee member, shared that he rose to the top during the interview process. She also noted that his vision and leadership style resonated with the philosophy and values of the District. Mr. Sonnenberg, another interview team member, said Mr. Hoff's passion for education was clear during his interview and his attitude was all about *we*.

6.03 Hagen Early Education Center Intercom System

Hagen Early Education Center is in need of a new intercom system. Nebraska Safety and Fire Equipment provided a quote in the amount of \$27,791.00. An attempt was made to get other quotes, however, we could not find other distributors that service this area. Dr. Foster recommends approval of the purchase so that installation can be completed this summer.

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6.04 SIX12ONLINE and CHS Edgenuity Purchase

The Board packet contains a quote from Imagine Learning/Edgenuity for the curriculum used by the SIX12ONLINE Program and at Caliche High School. This quote is for services used during this school year (2022-2023). Dr. Foster is asking the Board to approve the payment of this bill right away.

6.05 Policies for First Reading

- AC: Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity
- AC-E-1: Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity ACR-1 (Notice)
- AC-R-1: Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity complaint & compliance process)
- AC-R-2: Sexual Harassment Investigation Procedures
- DKC: Expense Authorization/Reimbursement
- GBEB: Staff Conduct and Responsibilities
- IC/ICA: School Year Calendar/Instruction Time

These policies are presented for first reading. The policies, other than IC/ICA, and will also be part of the staff Guidebooks. They include updates from the previous administration as well as newer updates suggested by CASB. IC/ICA has been adjusted to clarify “student instruction time”. These will constitute tonight’s first reading of policy.

7. Action Items:

7.01 Consent Agenda

Director Monheiser moved to approve the Consent Agenda including the resignation of Virginia Splichal, Teacher SHS, effective 5/25/2023, new hires: Ashley Beck, Administrative Assistant at Campbell, effective 3/1/2023 and Timm Kuehl, Substitute Bus Driver, effective 2/20/2023, as well as the transfer of Amanda Whitlock, from SIX12ONLINE Administrative Assistant to SHS Registrar, effective 3/1/2023 and minutes of the February 27, 2023 Board Minutes as presented.

Director Harris seconded the motion.

Adopted by unanimous consent

7.02 Sterling Middle School Principal Candidate

Director Harris moved to approve the contract of Mr. H. Joseph Skerjanec as principal of Sterling Middle School beginning July 1, 2023, as presented.

Director Sharp seconded the Motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Harris: aye McCracken: aye Monheiser: aye Sharp: aye Shinn: aye

Motion Carried

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7.03 Sterling High School Principal Candidate

Director Monheiser moved to approve the contract of Mr. H. Jeffry Hoff as principal of Sterling High School beginning July 1, 2023, as presented.

Director McCracken seconded the Motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Harris: aye McCracken: aye Monheiser: aye Sharp: aye Shinn: aye

Motion Carried

7.04: Hagen Early Education Center Intercom System

Director Sharp moved to approve the proposal from Nebraska Fire and Safety for the materials and labor necessary to install a BOGEN NYQUIST IP INTERCOM SYSTEM at Hagen Early Education Center at a cost of \$27,791.00, to be paid for with 2022-2023 Mill Levy Override dollars, as presented.

Director Harris seconded the Motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Harris: aye McCracken: aye Monheiser: aye Sharp: aye Shinn: aye

Motion Carried

7.05: SIX12ONLINE and CHS Edgenuity Purchase

Director McCracken moved to approve payment of Imagine Learning quote number #296077 in the amount of \$16,550.00 for curriculum services in use this school year (2022-2023) with monies from the general fund.

Director Monheiser moved to add “or Mill Levy Override dollars” which was accepted as a friendly amendment.

Director Harris seconded the motion, which now reads: to approve payment of Imagine Learning quote number #296077 in the amount of \$16,550.00 for curriculum services in use this school year (2022-2023) with monies from the general fund or Mill Levy Override dollars.

Roll Call Vote:

Harris: aye McCracken: aye Monheiser: aye Sharp: aye Shinn: aye

Motion Carried

7.06: Executive Session

Director Monheiser moved that the board enter an executive session pursuant to Sec. 24-6-402(4)(b), C.R.S., for the purposes of conferencing with the District’s legal counsel to receive legal advice on specific legal questions related to the Litigation matter brought by Matt Roane.

Those in attendance will be Board Members: Heather Harris, Joel McCracken, Ronda Monheiser, Michelle Sharp, and Steve Shinn, as well as Interim Superintendent, Marty Foster and Catherine A. Tallerico or other legal counsel.

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Director Sharp seconded the Motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Harris: aye McCracken: aye Monheiser: aye Sharp: aye Shinn: aye

Motion Carried

The Board adjourned for Executive session at 7:20 p.m.

The Board convened in Executive Session at 7:35 p.m.

Those in attendance were Board Members: Heather Harris, Joel McCracken, Ronda Monheiser, Michelle Sharp, and Steve Shinn, as well as Interim Superintendent, Marty Foster and Catherine A. Tallerico.

The Board adjourned from Executive Session at 8:32 p.m.

8. Reconvene

The Board reconvened regular session at 8:35 p.m. with all members present.

There was no action associated with executive session.

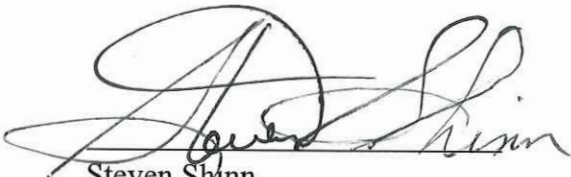
9. Closing Remarks: None


10. Adjournment

Director Monheiser moved to adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 20, 2023, 6:00 p.m. at the Hagen Administrative Center.


Steven Shinn
President


Heather Harris
Secretary/Treasure


EXECUTIVE SESSION CERTIFICATION

At the meeting of the Valley School District RE-1 Board of Education on March 6, 2023, it was duly moved and seconded that the Board enter into executive session, pursuant to 24-6-402(4)(b), C.R.S., for the purposes of consulting with District Legal Counsel on legal questions related to the Litigation matter brought by Matt Roane, from the Board's legal counsel, Catherine A. Tallerico. The motion carried unanimously, and the Board entered into executive session from 7:35 p.m. to 8:32 p.m.

Ms. Tallerico specifically advised the Board with respect to questions and concerns raised by the Board members regarding the Litigation matter brought by Matt Roane, all such advice constituting privileged attorney-client communications in the opinion of Ms. Tallerico.

CERTIFICATION BY REGISTERED ATTORNEY

I, Catherine A. Tallerico, Reg. No. 19995, hereby certify that the executive session was devoted to providing specific legal advice to the Board of Directors and that all such communications were privileged under applicable Colorado law and Supreme Court rules.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Catherine A. Tallerico", written over a horizontal line.

Catherine A. Tallerico