

Canyon Creek School District #4
Yellowstone County, Billings, MT
7:00 p.m. - Library
Regular Meeting

Call To Order

December 16, 2019

Chairman Joel Junso called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m. by leading those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following trustees and officers were present: Joel Junso, Chair, Amy Sironi, Vice-Chair, Amanda Agyeman-Budu, Trustee, Amy Gibbons, Trustee and Jason Ascheman, Trustee. Superintendent Brent Lipp, Business Manager/District Clerk Seara Stovall, Outgoing Business Manager/District Clerk Jeanne Carroll and Dean of Students, Haley Morales were also present.

Public Comment

None submitted.

Consent Agenda

Amy S. moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Amanda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Administrative Report

A. Superintendent's Month in Review –

1. Parent Teacher Conferences – There was a high turnout with positive feedback from both staff and parents. The Junior High conferences were student-led with positive feedback.
2. Kindergarten – Effective 12/16/2019, the Kindergarten classrooms have been evaluated and students have been shifted due to the findings and the desired goal of meeting the needs of all students. The decision was made based on several factors, including behaviors, socialization skills, academics and routines. There has been parental support in favor of the changes implemented.
3. Music Concerts – The 5th – 8th Grade Band concert was held on 12/16/2019. The K-5th Grade Holiday concert is scheduled to be held on 12/18/2019. There has been a lot of extra efforts made by staff, particularly Mr. Ross, in preparation for these concerts.
4. Cole's Pantry – Canyon Creek School was awarded a \$1000 grant from Cole's Pantry. Mrs. Lose applied for and was awarded the grant which confidentially, assists feeding children in need outside of regular school days. The staff is currently brainstorming for a name for our local branch of Cole's Pantry and working on the coordination of the program. Mrs. Lose and Mrs. Morales are leading the efforts in developing this program.
5. Lunch Program – The lunch program continues to show strong participation numbers. Recently there were 187 out of 250 students eat lunch. Consistently there are approximately 69 students participating in the breakfast program. The increase in

numbers has brought some hurdles, including extended time frames and staffing needs. In addition to the daily school programs, Mrs. Lose has inquired about adding a Summer Food program. Currently discussions are being held accessing needs and demographics, which are definite concerns. Additionally, discussion on staffing, hours and cost are in the works. There are grants available to help fund this type of Summer Food program.

6. Evaluations – Superintendent Lipp has completed ten evaluations. Four non-tenured teachers evaluations need completed and will be by the end of January.
7. Transportation – A brief update with positive feedback was given by Superintendent Lipp. The chains have proven to be a good investment and the seatbelts are in use with only a few issues with Junior High students testing their boundaries. Overall, the new buses are providing exactly what was desired, with a positive outcome.
8. Parking Lot Concerns – There have been some complaints received in reference to parking lot congestion during drop-off and pick-up times. There are a high number of in-district students being dropped off and picked up. There are also approximately 70 out-of-district students who add to the congested parking lot. There was discussion about adjusting school time-frames to compensate for the limited parking lot space and discussion of another lot being utilized. Superintendent Lipp asked that the board members brainstorm ideas for countering the concerns we are receiving.
9. Special Education Pre-school – All districts are required to provide Special Education Pre-school services to individuals ages 3-5 with developmental disabilities. Currently Canyon Creek is participating in a Co-op where the needs of the district students are being met. That Co-op is dismembering at the conclusion of this school year. The District is in discussion with three other Yellowstone County Districts to combine and form a Co-op to provide these needs for students in the coming school year. The cost of Tuition can be permissively levied to the tax payers. The four districts are in continued discussions on how to meet the requirements. There is a proposal to have Mrs. Morales oversee the Pre-school program and to house the program at Canyon Creek. The school would be compensated for housing the program for the Multi-district Co-op.
10. Other – It was discovered that a student who currently lives within the Canyon Creek School District has been attending the Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch under another school district. Approximately \$24,000 in tuition will be rolled over to Canyon Creek as needed tuition to fund this student.

B. Dean of Student's Report –

1. Behavior – Mrs. Morales reported seeing behavioral improvements in the younger students. The Junior High level students have been struggling lately.
2. SWIS – The SWIS data reflects physical aggression is on the rise. There is a struggle to regulate emotions among students. The classroom and the bus locations continue to see the highest level of issues. Lunch time and Thursday's continue as the high times with behavioral issues.
3. 12 Days of Christmas – There is great participation by all Staff members, resulting in positive interactions. There has been participation prizes awarded and the students are enjoying the staff getting into the spirit of the season.
4. Special Education Referrals/Evaluations – Four evaluations have been completed and all

four have qualified for services. There are six more students in the process of testing, with six additional students needing tested. Mrs. Morales notes a significant increase in referrals this year.

5. Polar Plunge – The Polar Plunge was a huge success, raising over \$3,000. There was great participation and the team was awarded, “Best Dressed”.

New Business

- A. Appoint Clerk of the District – Discussion was held.
Amy G. moved to approve appointing Seara Stovall Clerk of the District. Amy S. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. Nominate and Approve New Board of Trustees Vice-Chair – Discussion was held.
Amanda moved to appoint Amy S. as the Board of Trustees Vice-Chair. Jason seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- C. Resolution for Budget Amendment Proclamation – Discussion was held.
Amy S. moved to accept the Budget Amendment Proclamation as presented. Amanda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. Approve hiring of Stacy Mendoza – Cook’s Assistant – Discussion was held.
Amy G. moved to hire Stacy Mendoza – Cook’s Assistant as presented. Jason seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- E. Directions to Trustees – Form for Superintendent Evaluation – Discussion was held and it was agreed that the completed forms would be due back to the Business Office by January 10th.

Agenda Items for the Next Regular Meeting

- A. Report on Staff Retention – Superintendent Lipp
- B. Budget Amendment Resolution
- C. Board approval of Special Education Pre-school
- D. Kindergarten Classrooms Update
- E. Roof Contract
- F. Cole’s Pantry Update

Adjourn

The next Regular Meeting will be held Monday, January 20, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Canyon Creek School District Library.

Jason moved to adjourn the meeting. Amanda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Joel Junso, Chairman

Seara Stovall, Business Manager/Clerk