

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SD #4

The trustees met in regular session, December 19, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the library. Those present throughout the meeting were Rhonda Hogstad Chairman, Business Manager Jeanne Carroll, Mark Berg Trustee, Brent Lipp, Superintendent, and Joel Junso Trustee.

*The chairman called the meeting to order and led the group in the pledge of allegiance. **CONSENT AGENDA** Mr. Lipp wants to rescind his recommendation for the 8th grade trip and will address it at that time. 8th grade trip moved to correspondence. Joel moved to accept the amended Consent Agenda. Mark asked about the J & H bill. Mrs. Carroll said it was a printer that was purchased to replace the donated one in the primary wing. Mark seconded. All in favor.*

Correspondence

8th Grade Trip

Mike talked about why he felt the language was taken out on the length of the trip from the master agreement and so he wanted to address it. He said he feels passionate about the trip. He said they are not raising money specifically for each kid, but for all kids to go with no money out of pocket. The money is raised from two tournaments which the kids work. Parents who've had kids do the 3 day and the 5 day liked the 5 day trip much better. He would like to be able to take the kids as far as Flathead Lake and feels it is a learning experience in Montana History. He handed out the curriculum for Montana History from the ACE site. He is thankful to be able to do the 3 day trip, he just wants to make it that much better. He said the 3 day trip and the 5 day trip can be done with only missing 3 school days. He said this is what kids remember when they go on from here. He said he is willing to give up stipend if that's it. Board said it's not. Rhonda asked about what they would do on 5 day trip. Mike said they would go to Flathead for one day and then to Glacier. And then would go to Silverwood as a carrot at the end of the trip, which is not educational. On the way back, then head to Bannack and Virginia City. Joel asked why it was changed. The last 3 years did the 3 day trip. Mike said it was negotiated by the bargaining team for a stipend for a 3 day trip. The board was told Mike was well-informed and was ok with a 3 day trip. Rhonda said with the 5 day trip they barely made enough cash to send everyone. Mike said two tournaments usually cover it. There is carry-over from last year. He said it is always a risk on making enough money. A couple of years, they've had to ask for donations. Rhonda asked if parents have been asking for a 5 day trip. He said he has two letters from 2 parents advocating it. Rhonda asked if he has already got chaperones lined up. He said he has ideas of who they will be from the junior high. The trip takes place at the end of the year. Mike said we get such positive feedback on the kids from the trips. He said we have really great kids here all the time, not just on the trips. Rhonda, Joel and Mark agreed to table this to allow for discussion until next month. Mark asked to have a more detailed trip plan at that time. Rhonda asked for more input from other parents on the trip and why. She will also visit with people she knows as well from previous and current. Mike asked if feedback is to be specifically 8th grade parents or from everyone. He feels learning and fun need to be equal.

Month in Review

Mr. Lipp included his administrative report in the packet:

ADMIN REPORT

- Brent said in his report that the music concert this month was wonderful. He said the students in 3-5 performed very well. Kudos to Mrs. Murphy!
- His evaluation form will be handed out at the board meeting. He encouraged everyone to be honest and let him know what he needs to address to continue his leadership making CCS a better place.
- He said he was proud to announce that our junior high boys basketball team placed 1st in the YBGR Mustang Tournament. He could not go as he and 3 other people did the Polar Plunge for special Olympics and raised about \$1900.

- The strategic plan final draft is complete and ready for review by the board. He is hoping there will be some discussion about it tonight to solidify any other changes and then get it approved and start working on it.
- The Booster Club is taking off and we are in the process of getting the signage up in the gym and t-shirts out to our sponsors. He has consulted with other districts and all of them said it takes time for it to take off, about a year and a half. They also started the signage and sponsorship in December. He said he is planning on offering our boosters a 16 month advertising window for the year price to change our billing to summer. He said he thinks it will work out better in the end. So far, we only have 2 people wanting a sign.
- Our water tests for copper and lead were conducted this last month. Currently, we are meeting all requirements as needed. He said we will be making some slight adjustments to the levels to get some numbers for the copper down a little bit more. The system seems to be working very well and Earl has done a good job in making some minor changes to refine the testing.
- In the packet you will see a request from Mr. Rice for the 8th grade trip to be extended to five days instead of three. He said whatever the decision is about it, he will support it wholeheartedly.
- He said we are currently finishing up the giving tree project this week. He said he would like to thank community and staff for stepping up and helping our families in need this December. He said we were able to purchase many items of importance for these families, to keep kids appropriately clothed and cared for. He said every year he is amazed at the community support for this cause. Brent thanked the CCEA for donating \$1000 towards it. Also, someone came in and donated another \$500.

NEW BUSINESS

5. Accept 2016 Audit Results

ACCEPT 2016 AUDIT RESULTS

Mark moved to accept the audit results. Mrs. Carroll said the first two items on the audit are always on there as our staff is too small to have it otherwise and the last comment was already fixed before the 2016 year had ended. She felt it was a very good audit. *Joel seconded. All in favor.*

6. Trustee Position Vacancy

TRUSTEE POSITION VACANCY

Joel moved as per policy and state law, three consecutive meetings missed without an excuse constitute a vacancy; the position is now open. Manny's position is the issue. Brent and Jeanne and Rhonda have reached out over the last many months with no response. *Mark seconded.* Manny did respond today and said he would quit. Brent has thanked him for all his years of service. We are trying to meet our responsibilities in bringing it before the board as the board has mentioned it needs to be addressed. *All in favor.*

7. WCRRP Safety Grant

WCRRP SAFETY GRANT

Mrs. Carroll said she was notified there was a grant available for \$1000 for safety to be awarded to 15 schools. She asked Earl what he would purchase towards winter safety if he could. The grant was applied for and we received it. A hydraulic desk mover for \$190 has been purchased, a snow-blower for \$569 has been purchased and Earl is researching a safety harness for changing the gym lights for the remainder of the funds. We will be reimbursed for these expenses.

8. Approve Adding 5 Light Poles--Safety

APPROVE ADDITION OF LIGHT POLES FOR SAFETY

Mark moved to approve adding 5 light poles through Yellowstone Valley Electric at a cost of \$11/pole/month. *Joel seconded.* Brent gave some background on this. At Jeanne's request, Earl checked on it and it is actually pretty cost effective. Jeanne would like to pay for all 10 years required out of the safety money in the building reserve fund. That money can only be used for addressing building safety. Brent will contact neighbors to let them know and if they have concerns invite them to the board meeting to talk about it. He would like for it to happen this spring. *All in favor.*

9. 8th Grade Trip

8th GRADE TRIP

Brent wanted to give the board background on this trip. He said in the 8 years he's been here,

this has been an on-going contentious issue. He will support whatever the board decides, but he wants it decided and then over with. Jean Smith was the one who did the trip with a marine biology educational lesson. She recommended to him that he stop it when she quit, as it would always be contentious. He said whether it is a 3 day trip or a 5 day trip, the kids will enjoy it. Because it was tradition, he went with it. He feels there are other much more important things to deal with in this school and the kid's education. This is actually his decision, but he is giving it to the board. This is the only thing in his entire time here that he has recommended doing away with. No one will ever be satisfied with the number of days or how it is done. The curriculum standards that were given do not apply here. Because this is a school trip, we assume total liability and he worries about it. Mark feels this is an incentive to the kids. Rhonda said she has talked to other board members and yes, it is an incentive, but she is on the fence about it. This being changed then sets a precedent. And then it is 3 days, then 7 days, forever. She feels it's ridiculous to get a 3 day or 5 day trip as an 8th grader, when high schoolers don't even get it. The board has tabled the decision

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8. Strategic Plan

The board briefly reviewed the document. The very last item regarding hail damage to the roof was addressed at the time and it should not even be on here. A lot of this is developed on finances. One item, look at the best option to provide the same opportunities as Stem or Steam or Project Lead the Way. Mark said he felt we are already doing that with our robotics. Joel asked about the science curriculum. Brent he feels any integration needs to be done properly ie within the next 5 year. Mark asked about a traveling science teacher. Joel had some ideas about tech ed and grants. Brent asked if anyone saw anything in here that is a little off-the-wall. Joel said the bad thing is this is the "fantasy school" because it all hinges on budget. Brent agreed, but he said this gives him direction. He would like to put this out with the community newsletter and has been holding off on it because of this. Rhonda said under staffing, assure competitive pay...needs to be changed p 2, 3. Technology was discussed. Coop services were discussed...change to "increase services from the coop" p. 2. Look at starting a CSCT team resource team like from YBGR. Brent said the PLC stuff is already very in-depth as is coop learning so they are working on a separate 5 year strategic plan for that. This will be brought back again at a later time for more work.

There being no further business, Mark moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm. All in favor. .

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Carroll, District Clerk

Rhonda Hogstad, Chair