

**Canyon Creek School District #4**  
**Yellowstone County, Billings, MT**  
**6:30 p.m. - Library**

**Call To Order**

**September 10, 2020**

Chair Amy Sironi called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, to order at 6:32 p.m. by leading those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following trustees and officers were present: Amy Sironi, Chair, Amy Gibbons, Vice-Chair, Amanda Agyeman-Budu, Trustee, John Soucy, Trustee. Brent Lipp, Superintendent and Seara Stovall, Business Manager/District Clerk were also present.

Additional guests present: Haley Morales, Dean of Students, Alison & Ole Peterson

**Public Comment**

Public comment request was submitted by Alison Peterson – She has attended previous board meetings and was engaged in the reopening plan and if students needed to convert to online learning. She noted she was very passionate about her children’s education and has concerns about online learning. She has been left disappointed about the online learning experience her 5<sup>th</sup> grade and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students have received during the recent quarantine. She noted that their kids are receiving the bare minimum. She shared some creative ideas on how to provide direct instruction for the online students and pushed for live streaming instruction. She was thanked for sharing her concerns.

**Consent Agenda**

*Amanda moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Amy G. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Administrative Report**

- Superintendent’s Report–
  1. COVID/School Health Report – Superintendent Lipp noted that all feedback is appreciated. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade quarantine is over, effective 09/10/2020. All students and staff will return to school tomorrow 09/11/2020. There have been a handful of students tested with all test results negative.  
Superintendent Lipp recently met with the Yellowstone County Superintendents and Mr. Felton, Yellowstone County Health Director. Mr. Felton shared a set of matrix that is gauging risk of COVID-19 and students. The overall current status for Yellowstone County students is improving. Current count is zero cases of 0-19 years of age in Yellowstone County. There are trends of improvement. The Superintendents are meeting with Mr. Felton on a weekly basis to improve communication. While meeting with the Public Health Department, Mr. Felton shared that they would be deputizing someone within each school building to complete contact tracing. The reason being the concerns of HIPAA and FERPA with an external source completing the tracing. Felt

Martin PC drew up a contract and essentially the Public Health Department is demanding this be the protocol. Most Superintendents are questioning the sense of this proposal. The board noted that they felt assigning the contact tracing to a school employee is inappropriate. Superintendent Lipp noted that he felt very uncomfortable about signing the document. The board also questioned where the line is drawn in completing the contact tracing. Mr. Felton noted that the contact tracing is just getting too big and they cannot continue as is. It was decided that Superintendent Lipp would communicate that he was not comfortable signing the presented document. The COVID-19 reopening plan is going pretty well so far. Students have transitioned well.

2. E-Grants – Funding is less than received last year. Superintendent Lipp is working on completing the E-Grants Title application.
3. Trustees – Still currently seeking another trustee.
4. Lunch Program – The Health Inspector showed up 09/09/2020 for an unannounced inspection. He was very pleased with the current status of the kitchen and the efforts our food services staff are putting forth.

The Junior High lunch is going well to date. They have transitioned well to having lunch within their classrooms.

5. Sports – Currently girl's basketball is in season as well as cross country and football. SD2 cut out all county schools from cross country meets. They did not communicate the change. We are looking at hosting a meet the first week in October. There is the possibility of joining a first-time meet in Belfry. Football is going well with the co-op between Elysian and Elder Grove.
6. Student Enrollment – Current student enrollment is 252. To-date we have lost 18 students to home schooling. Four of the eighteen have not registered with the county to home school.
7. Testing – Testing is scheduled to start next week. We have completed AIMS Web testing and reading scores have declined. NWEA testing will start next week. There will be data to share shortly.
8. Subs – There are currently two substitutes that have served in the district this year. Paraprofessionals are being pulled out of Special Education to cover unfilled teaching leave vacancies.
9. Drug Free Workplace Language – This was a follow-up item from the last board meeting. If working under any federal grant money and in a \$25,000 dollar salaried position, if employee is caught with the drug offense, they are by law required to report to the employer.
10. MCEL – October 15-16<sup>th</sup> virtual training is scheduled.
11. Transportation – Our bus routes are too long. We have worked to cut thirty-five minutes off the routes. There are still concerns and continual work to shorten the routes, especially the K-2 bus. It is arriving about five minutes late. We have fielded a lot of calls from upset parents.

The school neighbors have adjusted to the new pick-up and drop-off zones and the parents have adjusted pretty well to the cohort transportation zones.

- Dean of Student's Report –
  1. Testing – NWEA testing will start next week and Mrs. Tennant has taken on the responsibility of scheduling, training and over-seeing the testing.
  2. SPED – Running as expected. The paraprofessionals are handling the transition to no SPED teacher.
  3. Conduct Reports – Six total to date; 1 bullying, 4 aggression, and 1 disruptive. There are two out of school suspensions to date.
  4. CBEE Cooperative – Enrollment is at eight students, representing 3-5 year olds.

## **Old Business**

- A. SPED Certified Teacher position recruitment status update was given. No current applications. Due to the open position, there is potential for accreditation issues and funding issues without having the position filled.
- B. Open Board Trustee Position recruitment status update was given. No new known individuals of interest. The Board asked the audience to spread the word.

## **New Business**

- A. Extra-Curricular Contracts FY21 – Discussion was held.
  - GBB 7/8 – Jeff Morales
  - *Amanda made a motion to approve Jeff Morales as the 7/8 GBB Coach for FY21 as presented. Amy G. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*
  - GBB 5/6 – Katie Kading
  - *Amy G. made a motion to approve Katie Kading as the 5/6 GBB Coach for FY21 as presented. Amanda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*
  - Cross Country 5/8 – Miranda Hayes
  - *Amanda made a motion to approve Miranda Hayes as the 5/8 Cross Country Coach for FY21 as presented. Amy G. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*
  - BBB 7/8 – Jeff Morales
  - *Amanda made a motion to approve Jeff Morales as the 7/8 BBB Coach for FY21 as presented. Amy G. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*
  - Student Council – Ashley Vogl
  - *Amy G. made a motion to approve Ashley Vogl as Student Council Leader for FY21 as presented. Amanda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*
- B. CBEE Cooperative Agreement – Discussion was held.
  - *Amy G. made a motion to approve the CBEE Cooperative Agreement as presented. Amanda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*
- C. Out of District Attendance Agreements - Discussion was held. Currently there are seventy-four out-of-district student attendance agreements.
  - *Amy G. made a motion to approve the Out of District Student Attendance Agreements for FY21 as presented. Amanda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*
- D. Spectators at Canyon Creek Sporting Events – Discussion was held and the expectation proposal by Superintendent Lipp was reviewed in detail. Some concerns from the board of trustees were

who would be managing the attendance/ pre-sign up, cleaning and social distancing/mask wearing? Amy Sironi felt that allowing any spectators at all was a plan for disaster and risks the health of the students and the potential for a COVID-19 spread increases significantly. Amanda shared that she feels it is essential for parents/guardians to be in attendance to support their athlete(s). She felt not allowing spectators would cause a significant mutiny/protest by spectators. Superintendent Lipp noted that the document needs revised to state two spectators per participating athlete. John felt the document was a good start and that the document would be a living document, requiring revisions as the rules or guidance changes. The board reviewed and revised the document bullet points in detail. The document will be published per the board revisions requested.

- *Amy G. made a motion to approve the Spectators at Canyon Creek Sporting Events proposal as revised. Amanda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

E. Policy

- Policy 1400 – Board Meetings – second reading was completed.

F. Trustees evaluate prior year board performance - Discussion was held. Superintendent Lipp proposed the board consider looking at the 1000SG Series Strategic Governance. It is an all-inclusive process that would meet the needs of evaluating board performance. It would take some special meetings to meet and adoption of the series of policies. The board will take the document for review and come back prepared to discuss at the next board meeting.

G. Coronavirus Relief Funds – Expenditures to Date – Ms. Stovall presented the current expenditure report for the Coronavirus Relief Funds. Discussion was held. Amy S. inquired how the school provided masks are holding up. There will be a need for another order but hopefully later in the year.

H. Accounting and Timekeeping Software – Ms. Stovall presented the current timeline for conversion and go-live dates for each software system.

I. Presidential Memorandum – Deferring Payroll Tax - Ms. Stovall presented the facts on the memorandum and reported on the communication shared with the employees.

Aaron Dantik of Rimrock Computer Company was in attendance to live-stream the board meeting to the school YouTube channel. He shared that the technology in use is new and specifically meant for live-streaming. He noted that at the high audience time, there were 16 viewers watching at one time. He thinks it will be a popular tool and is very versatile.

### **Agenda Items for the Next Regular Meeting – October 8<sup>th</sup>**

- A. Extra-Curricular Contracts FY21 – BBB 5/6, GVB 5/6, GVB 7/8
- B. Trustees evaluate prior year board performance and develop goals utilizing the 1000SG Series Strategic Governance as a reference/guiding document
- C. MCEL Conference for Trustees
- D. Fall enrollment/ANB

## **Adjournment**

The next Regular Meeting will be held Thursday, October 8, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Canyon Creek School District Library.

*Amanda moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Amy G. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

---

Amy Sironi, Chair

---

Seara Stovall, Business Manager/Clerk