

**Douglas County School District
Douglas High School
Tuesday, March 11, 2014
3:30 p.m.**

*Minutes
Approved
April 8, 2014*

MINUTES

Present:

Trustees:

Thomas Moore, President
Ross Chichester, Clerk
Neal Freitas, Member
Teri Jamin, Member
Cynthia Trigg, Member

Absent:

Karen Chessell, Vice President
Sharla Hales, Member

Personnel:

Lisa Noonan, Superintendent
Rich Alexander, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
Lyn Gorrindo, Assistant Superintendent, Education Services
Holly Luna, Chief Financial Officer

Others Present:

Mike Malloy, Legal Counsel

Note: This meeting was shortened due to a power outage. The Agenda Items not addressed this evening, were scheduled for completion March 31, 2014. The recording is digital until the electricity failed. At the time of the power outage, and movement to a room with no alarm sounding that had natural light, a backup laptop on battery recorded the remainder of the meeting. The recording is audible.

1. Call to Order

Mr. Moore called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. Mr. Moore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Trigg moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by Ms. Jamin.

Mr. Moore called for public comment. There was none.

Motion carried 5/0.

2. Consent Items (For Possible Action)

Mr. Moore called for any items to be pulled from the Consent Agenda. There were no items pulled.

Mr. Chichester moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mrs. Trigg.

Motion carried, 5/0.

- A. Approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 11, 2014.
- B. Approve for second reading Board Policy No. 614, "Payment of Claims."

- C. Approve for second reading Board Policy No. 211, "Human Development Program."
- D. Approve for second reading Board Policy No. 518, "Graduation Requirements."
- E. Approve the Professional Services Agreement with Maupin, Cox & LeGoy.
- F. Approve personnel actions described in Personnel Report No. 14-03.
- G. Approve payments contained in Special Run Voucher Number 1418; and Regular Run Voucher No. 1419.
- H. Approve the Budget Voucher Adjustment for March 2014.
- I. Approve final corrective action implemented by February 28, 2014.
- J. Approve the request from Business Services to award a contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. Funding will be attributable to Bond and Capital Projects Funds.

2. Principal's Report (C. C. Meneley Elementary and Scarselli Elementary Schools) (Administrative Report/Program Review)

Becky Rugger, Principal, C. C. Meneley Elementary School, accompanied by Wendy Yankoskie, Vice Principal, stated she and her staff were concerned with student data for 2012-13. Full day kindergarten was noted to be very successful in helping to develop reading and language skills as well as building stamina for learning in young students.

Mr. Freitas inquired about Measurement of Academic Progress (MAP) data comparisons to see if an increase was apparent. Brian Frazier responded that the MAP's were not directly impacted when compared to previous first grade classes; although a difference is being seen in the classroom.

Ms. Rugger reported having received an extra FTE due to large class sizes. A math tutor funded by Title I funding, offered student assistance before regularly scheduled classes in the morning. Typically 5 or 6 children participated. Interventions were provided based on test scores. Literacy tutors, a reading teacher and reading specialist worked with students needing extra help, in addition to their classroom teachers.

Family engagement included a family fun/fitness night wherein the P.E. teacher included math vocabulary and reasoning while using a climbing wall, taking heart rates and adding calories. Student demographics were changing with 105 special education students reported on count day this year that had now increased to 127.

CCMES staff embraced professional development, increased Depth of Knowledge (DOK) classroom levels of teaching and increased social/emotional needs. Common Formative assessments were being discussed at this time.

Note: At 3:50 p.m., a traffic accident caused a power failure in the DHS Media Center. The meeting was moved to the back of the Media Center at 4:03 p.m. The backup recorder began at 4:09 p.m. with Brandon Swain, Scarselli Elementary School Principal reporting.

Mr. Swain explained reading and math MAP and CRT data compared over the last 3 years noting 20% of students currently in the 3rd grade were not the same students who began there in kindergarten. In order to build solid foundations in reading, Mr. Swain added that a lot of time was necessary to increase students to grade level proficiency.

Additional information included staff enjoying the use of Promethean Boards in the classroom. Students were provided opportunities to positively engage in student interactions as well as, tutoring as assessed through data review. A reading specialist also worked with students who were well below grade level in reading. The Instructional Consultation (IC) model was used to allow students who were identified best opportunities for increased instruction.

Mr. Moore stepped out of the room for a few minutes at this time.

Parents were provided opportunities to volunteer and assist in school planning. Mr. Swain reported

he would be attending a parent engagement conference to learn more ways to make their school

more inviting to family members.

The School Improvement Planning Team was reported to use data to create goals for their School Performance Plan (SPP) in order to continue work towards achieving a four star state ranking. Two goals were provided. They were to increase both reading and math growth and proficiency rates for students. A number of professional development opportunities were being provided to staff. Math practices would be incorporated into writing context necessary to high achievement on the new SBAC assessments.

At 4:25 p.m., Mr. Moore thanked Mr. Swain and all in attendance for continuing the meeting under the non-typical circumstances. Due to concerns of the use of a backup recording method, loss of power and soon the natural light, Mr. Moore stated a decision would be made at 5:00 p.m. with regard to whether or not the meeting would continue.

4. ASPIRE / WNC Lease (Discussion and For Possible Action)

Dr. Noonan informed the Board a current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) existed between WNC and DCSD for other purposes. An agreement to accommodate ASPIRE at WNC would be attached to the MOU, upon approval, to share the Buckeye Rd. facility. This location was desirable for ASPIRE due to its central location, positive educational atmosphere, and closest space related needs that could be located in the area including commercial possibilities.

Specifics regarding using DCSD vs. WNC equipment such as phones and computers were discussed. Computers and equipment would be moved from the current ASPIRE building to their new location. Offices on the WNC campus would be occupied by WNC staff. ASPIRE students would be on campus from 6:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Students staying for tutoring would be supervised by a DCSD employee.

Mr. Moore called for public comment. There was none.

Mrs. Trigg moved to approve Appendix A with Western Nevada College for the use of their Douglas Campus for ASPIRE Academy High School, seconded by Ms. Jamin.

Motion carried, 5/0.

5. First Reading Board Policy No. 232, “Gifted and Talented Program” (Discussion and For Possible Action)

Rommy Cronin, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, presented a new policy for the Gifted and Talented Program. The GT Task Force had noted a policy did not currently exist; therefore, this policy and a forthcoming Administrative Regulation (AR) would lay out the current program for students meeting eligibility requirements and the committee’s vision.

Board members asked questions and learned that prior to four years ago students were tested by psychologists for GT at the elementary level. Alternative assessments are now provided to students at the sites. Ms. Cronin stated the cognitive assessments were fairly challenging and she would further explain the testing process in a couple of months when the AR is presented.

Mr. Freitas moved to approve for first reading, Board Policy No. 232, “Gifted and Talented Program,” seconded by Ms. Jamin.

Motion carried 4/0; Mrs. Trigg had stepped out of the meeting for a few minutes.

6. Special Education Overview (Administrative Report/Program Review)

Christi Hines-Coates, Director of Special Education reported on the current enrollment and status of the special education program. The number of students currently enrolled in special education equaled 932. Since 1999 the population had increased from 783; essentially 15% which is the same as the national average.

While special education qualifiers had not changed, the categories students qualified for had changed and the increase seen in mental health related situations, such as autism wherein a much higher number of students had been identified. A chart listing 9 categories of special education qualifications was provided. With changing needs, program expense increased. New students to the district just since November increased the overall percentage in the program by 20%. The increased population was age's 3-5. Those who arrive after count day are provided services; although incoming funding is not increased.

Emotionally handicapped and health impaired student had increased over the last 5 years. Students were noted to be struggling with anxiety and depression moreover than academics alone. The recession, internet, and media were stated to be contributors affecting children mentally due to poverty, unwieldy circumstances at home and resulting fear. Education was slowed for many students who were placed on medication.

Classroom inclusion was the favored model for socialization and learning. Students negatively impacted by environmental situations now needed missing structure aside from classroom engagement. These students were not able to always participate in general education classes. Once pulled from class, children were taught ways in which to handle problems and then placed back in the classroom to practice what they learned independently. Teachers were being trained to work with students who have disorders in order to help them maneuver through various situations. Ms. Hines-Coates would like to see teachers provided with more training on instruction methods that would impact all students as support in the area of behavior and social interaction.

Mrs. Trigg suggested use of the Graduation Begins in Kindergarten brochure to assist parents in lowering anxiety regarding academics.

Mr. Moore inquired as to how the Board might help administration to improve student engagement.

Ms. Hines-Coates reinforced that additional funding would assist efforts underway. Dr. Noonan offered that support in small ways with particular strands of student information might be a target for Board assistance. Dr. Noonan offered to bring some suggestions back to the Board as a future Item.

At 5:08 p.m., Mr. Malloy, attorney, stated concerns that the backup recording might not be sufficient for legal purposes. This created a liability for the district. Mr. Malloy's recommendation was to discontinue the meeting due to the Open Meeting Law requirements. Projections were the power would remain out until around 8:30 p.m.

7. Opening of Written Offers, Call for Oral Bids and possible acceptance of qualified offer for the sale of property at 1900 Echo Drive, Zephyr Cove, Nevada 89448 (Formerly KMS) (Discussion and For Possible Action)

Dr. Noonan stated there were no offers for consideration and no individuals present wishing to purchase via an oral offer this afternoon.

This item was tabled due to the shortened meeting.

**8. KMS Resolution Amendment
(Discussion and For Possible Action)**

This item was tabled due to the shortened meeting.

**9. First Reading Board Policy No. 202, “Instructional Framework”
(Discussion and For Possible Action)**

This item was tabled due to the shortened meeting.

**10. First Reading Board Policy No. 204, “Instructional Supplies”
(Discussion and For Possible Action)**

This item was tabled due to the shortened meeting.

**11. Consideration of a Step III Grievance
(Closed Session)**

This item was tabled due to the shortened meeting.

Public Comment

This item was tabled due to the shortened meeting.

**12. Decision in Open Session Regarding Level III Grievance
(Discussion and For Possible Action)**

This item was tabled due to the shortened meeting.

13. Closed Session

This item was tabled due to the shortened meeting.

**14. Review of Administrative Regulation No. AR614(a),
“Submittal of Invoice for Payment;” and
Administrative Regulation No. AR614(b),
“Submittal of Voucher for Board Approval”
(Information and Discussion)**

This item was tabled due to the shortened meeting.

**15. Addition of JROTC Courses to Graduation Options
(Discussion and For Possible Action)**

Dr. Noonan reported she drafted a letter of proposal to the State Board for consideration of JROTC courses with relation to graduation requirements for Mr. Moore’s signature. Ms. Jamin was noted to be a State Board member on a committee of the Board who was working to gather information from districts that currently offer the JROTC program. The 3rd and 4th year courses, or advanced levels, were being considered as an option for students to gain one credit required for graduation. DCSD did not currently offer Level IV but supported the idea for students attending the Level III course. The lower level classes allowed students to earn physical education credit.

Ms. Jamin added that the subcommittee would also make recommendations on other changes to standard diploma requirements. These changes might include financial literacy and technical education courses. It was noted the Agenda tonight did not reflect these additional topics.

Mr. Moore called for public comment. There was none.

Mr. Chichester moved to approve a letter of support regarding JROTC to the State Board of Education, seconded by Mrs. Trigg.

Motion carried, 5/0.

**16. Superintendent's Report
(Administrative Report)**

This item was tabled due to the shortened meeting.

17. Nevada Association of School Boards (NASB) Report

This item was tabled due to the shortened meeting.

18. Possible Agenda Items for Future Board Meetings

This item was tabled due to the shortened meeting.

19. Board Reports

This item was tabled due to the shortened meeting.

20. Correspondence

This item was tabled due to the shortened meeting.

21. Adjournment

At 5:17 p.m., Mr. Chichester moved to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Trigg.

Motion carried, 5/0.

Submitted by,

Carolyn Moore
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Approved:

Clerk of the Board

Note: Upon approval by the Board of Trustees in a public meeting, these minutes become the official minutes of the meeting held on the above date. Board minutes are kept on a permanent basis and are available for public review in the office of the Superintendent.