

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2017 - 6:00 P.M.
LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICE
1191 EDWARDS STREET, PANACA, NV 89042

Members Present: Ty Mizer, Patrick Kelley, Carolyn Harr, Wade Poulsen, Peggy Rowe
Superintendent: Pam Teel
Principals: Cody Christensen – C.O. Bastian, Stephanie Vincent – Pioche Ele., Mike Strong – PVHS, Brian Higbee – PVES, Marty Soderborg - LCHS

Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance

President Mizer called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

None

Approval of the Agenda

Trustee Harr made a motion to approve the agenda, motion seconded by Trustee Poulsen; motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting Held August 10, 2017

Trustee Poulsen made a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting Held August 10, 2017, motion seconded by Trustee Rowe; motion carried. Trustee Kelley abstained.

Letters

President Mizer read a thank you letter from Kia Phillips for receiving the board scholarship

School Reports

LCHS – Jack Butler, Maycie Woodworth, Brynlee Wadsworth – Presentation of the LCHS Opening Social and their plans for homecoming.

PVHS – Mr. Strong - We have our back to school night on Sept. 18th for the middle school and high school. Brendan Stewart to report on the progress of our shop.

Brendan Stewart - Last year we framed all the walls. We are putting up plywood and putting in the electrical outlets. It is coming along really good. I have learned a lot from it. Mr. Hansen is a great teacher.

PVES – Mr. Higbee – Staff is working extremely hard and the kids are too. We are just finishing our first round of MAP testing. It will give us a chance to set individual goals for each student, the class and the school. We also use them to set goals for our school performance plan. Food Service – I want to give a shout out to Tracey, Rachel, May, and Lisa. They do a great job with what they have. They are excited for the change in the food. They do not get a lot of notoriety for it. Not a lot people know what they do. I want to publicly thank them and tell them I appreciate them. We are hoping to see our lunch numbers increase. As always Mrs. Teel, thank you for your support and the school board, we appreciate you very much.

COB – Cody Christensen – I have been nervous, as we have lost many seasoned employees this year. We are a little short staffed. The teachers have stepped up and taken on new things. We have a new counselor, and she is doing fabulous. We had seven students pass their Hi-Set Exam. We have some graduations that are in the que. I am very pleased. I have wonderful people there who make it work even under hard conditions.

Panaca Elementary – Gretchen Soderborg – We had back to school night on August 15th. Our 6th graders had a barbecue, and they made almost enough money to pay everyone off for the D.C. Trip. We had the boat float with the 6th grades from Caliente and Pioche. I do a unit for a week and we talk about boats, buoyancy, and then they build their boats. It is a fun activity for the kids. We do single races, and if the boats make it then they do the doubles race. We have gone up to 3 and 4 kids in a boat before it sinks. I put an article in the paper about it. Our school implemented brag tags this year, and we are finishing our MAP testing. The brag tags recognize kids for more than just the honor roll, and the assembly will be the last Tuesday of every month. Kids come up with unique ideas with their boats. We time the kids. The fastest time is 58 seconds. They have to wear life jacket for safety reasons. The best boat ever made was by Noah Smith.

Pioche Elementary – Mrs. Vincent – Pioche is doing all of those things. School lunch is going fabulous. Kids are eating. Hooray for school lunch and for everything you did. Kids are supporting it. Yesterday we had a picnic outside. School is good. Thank you.

Caliente Elementary – Mrs. Dirks – We are small in numbers but big in heart this year. Community Cares Day is on Monday. Community members will be presenting classes to the students.

Introduction of New Employees

Superintendent Teel – Mrs. Pauli was here last month. Stacey Hansen and Sean Fitzsimons who are both teaching at LCHS. Stacey Hansen – I am excited to be here and grateful for the opportunity. Sean Fitzsimons – The first month has been great, and I hope it continues. My kids love it here. I am looking forward to basketball season as well. Hoping to bring Lincoln back to competitive. I love a challenge. It has been a good different in a positive way. I am enjoying the smaller class sizes and being able to connect more with the kids on a personal level. It is good to be back.

Vaccination Exemptions

Superintendent Teel – We have to say that we have them. The Board needs to be aware of them, know that we do have them and know that they have an exemption.

Payment of Bills – For Possible Action

Trustee Poulsen made a motion to approve the payment of the bills, motion seconded by Trustee Harr; motion carried.

Approval of District’s Mission, Vision & Goals FY18

Superintendent Teel –During our break, I added the changes. I updated the ones you suggested in the workshop this afternoon.

Trustee Poulsen made a motion to approve the District’s Mission, Vision & Goals FY18, motion seconded by Trustee Rowe; motion carried.

Approve the Resignation of William Vea

Superintendent Teel – Mr. Vea’s letter of resignation was read into record last month. Mr. Christensen expressed appreciation for his service in the Alternative Program. We appreciate what he did down there.

Trustee Rowe made a motion to approve the Resignation of William Vea, motion seconded by Trustee Kelley; motion carried. Trustee Poulsen abstained.

Approve Policy Revision for GBB2-Prevention of Sexual Misconduct Toward Students and Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse or Neglect

Superintendent Teel – We just read the revisions - the red are the changes. It was updated in the legislative session. Trustee Harr read the revisions. We had a district training for all staff at the beginning of the year. All involved in the school setting now are mandated reporters. The updated AR is in the drive for you to read.

Trustee Poulsen made a motion to approve the Policy Revision for GBB2-Prevention of Sexual Misconduct Toward Students and Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse or Neglect, motion seconded by Trustee Rowe; motion carried.

Approve Policy Revision for GBB5 – Employee Bullying – Safe and Respectful Working/Learning Environment

Superintendent Teel – They were mandated by NRS as well. We took employee out and added student. Pool Pact keeps us legal, and they sent us all the changes that needed to be made to policy. Trustee Poulsen read changes to policy.

Trustee Poulsen made a motion to approve the Policy Revision for GBB5-Employee Bullying – Safe and Respectful Working/Learning Environment, motion seconded by Trustee Rowe; motion carried.

Approve Policy Revision for JHFE – Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse or Neglect

Superintendent Teel –We also had language changes in J as well. Make sure you read the AR as Board members are required to report as well. President Mizer read the changes. These are the training we had at the beginning of the school year. We were trained by the DA’s office, DCFS, and the Sheriff’s office. Staff is responsible to report and not to report to the principal. All staff has been trained. Board will be trained in November.

Trustee Harr made a motion to approve the Policy Revision for JHFE – Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse or Neglect, motion seconded by Trustee Poulsen; motion carried.

Approve Transportation Contract for Terri Nevieux

Superintendent Teel – Everything is in order.

Trustee Harr made a motion to approve the Transportation Contract for Terri Nevieux, motion seconded by Trustee Rowe; motion carried.

Approve Transportation Contract for Stacy Hansen

Stacey Hansen – It is really appreciated. My husband is now doing the drive to the bus. I have to be past the bus stop before the bus gets there. I am anticipating moving to town in the winter. I will let the board know.

Trustee Rowe made a motion to approve the Transportation Contract for Stacy Hansen, motion seconded by Trustee Harr; motion carried.

Approve Transportation Contract for Jim & Misty Bourne

Superintendent Teel – They live out at the Hermitage. Everything is in order.

Trustee Harr made a motion to approve the Transportation Contract for Jim & Misty Bourne, motion seconded by Trustee Kelley; motion carried.

Board Business – Policy Reading – First Reading

First Reading of the Policy – Employee Bullying – GBBC

Trustee Harr read policy GBBC - Employee Bullying

NASB Report

Trustee Poulsen - Training on Saturday in Las Vegas. Reminder – all board members have to have 6 hours of professional training in their 1st and 3rd year. Executive meeting tomorrow. Conference is in November.

Board Member's Comments

President Mizer –This was a fire season where the work was away. So, I have been out of touch. Thanks to those for covering for me in the last meeting and keeping things going.

Trustee Kelley – Time goes by so fast. I missed that training. I heard that it was really good. It was brought up about how fast you can clear the building, and where are you going to go. You have to practice that and that will be really good. You never know anymore and you pray that it does not happen here. I attended the volleyball tournament in Ely. It was a fun tournament. They were able to play lots of games. We need to play games, and I know it is hard to schedule games. We need to work harder to fill the schedules. We can only practice so much. You need to know if your practices are working for you. I would like to see a little more effort from the athletic director and getting on it now. I see that Calvary Chapel is playing Parowan. Why don't we play Parowan? I went to the football game. I haven't had a chance to visit the schools or with the teachers or principals yet. I am looking forward to Monday. I appreciate everybody.

Trustee Harr –I went to the Ely football game. The new lights were fantastic. I want to thank Superintendent Teel for keeping us updated and informed.

Trustee Poulsen –Most of you do not know that we are having problems with the funding for COB. There is a shortfall of about \$200,000. Pam and Cody have been working on this for many months trying to get some traction. The numbers at COB are down, so the DSA money is down. There is a contract that states there should be approximately 140 students there. The average is about 115. The State has been looking at the budgets. They say that Lincoln County School District has plenty of money and that the State does not need to pay us any more. Senator Goicoechea, Cody and I drove to Carson City a couple of weeks ago to discuss shortfall. They think that there is no shortfall. I told them that Lincoln County School District is subsidizing the state for COB. They disagreed with us. We had lots of discussion. There were 15 of them to 3 of us. There was discussion if the school will be there in the future. We have had the same discussion with the state for years. There is always a threat of shutting it down. It is a problem. We are working on redoing the contract. We want to make it clearer. They say that COB can get up to 140 students. The State should be paying for 140 students. For a school district, there is a big difference between 140 and 115. Down the road, the board is going to have to make a decision whether we want to keep educating state kids at the expense of our own students.

Superintendent Teel – Understand currently we have decided not too. That is why we only replaced retired staff with two positions and a para professional. The budget does not hold any more than that. If the student count does not come in at the 115, it will be hard to keep staff.

Trustee Poulsen - CYC is having issues also. They need the personnel for 140 students. They cannot bring kids in without the proper personnel for safety reasons. The contract needs to be revised. We will be working through that. Trying to be hired by the state is a black hole. It took two years for my son to be hired there.

Superintendent Teel – I appreciate the work and time that Cody and Wade have put into this. They asked us last year to supplement COB out of our local funds. I had no choice. I am contracted to those employees. It was to the tune of \$150,000 to \$200,000 out of our ending fund. We had a good understanding that the money was going to be coming to us at the end of May and then after the legislative session we were told to not count on it.

Trustee Poulsen – They said that there are a couple of options for us. In the legislative year of 2019, we can institute language into an NRS to fully fund COB. The State would have to provide the school district X amount of dollars for X amount of students. What do we do in the meantime? We are planning on going to the legislative, getting some language drafted that will solve the problem. Before that we should end up with a new contract done, get rid of the subjectivity of how many students should be there and what they are paying. We can tighten up the contract. They did

say that they would look at it again and see if there is a possibility of reimbursing the school district for the money expended. It is a matter of now where does the state pull the money from. We found out the State said that we have X amount of Special Education money. They were counting that money for COB. That money is for Lincoln County School District to use. Now they count four times a year for DSA money, and for Special Education they count once a year. We aren't paid for all the students who transfer in that qualify for Special Education. They said you have all of this Special Education money, so we need to take away the DSA money away we have given you. They kept asking about where and why we get money.

Superintendent Teel – Whether we have the money or not is not the issue here. It should not be used to supplement COB. We are eating into our ending fund every year.

Trustee Kelley – If they close the youth center, this county is going to lose a lot.

Trustee Poulsen – It is the school district's responsibility to educate kids. If we are taking money from our own kids to supplement a state program, why can't the state educate their own kids? The state can run it.

Trustee Kelley – Can we work with the commissioners to create jobs and keep jobs?

Trustee Poulsen – I am positive that we will be able to work it out. It is the state's decision on whether to keep it open. We can lobby for them to keep it open. There is talk of changing the status of it. There was not a whole of support from the south. Everything is centered around Clark County and bringing money into Clark County.

Trustee Rowe - Everything is good. My grandkids love being back to school. Mrs. Ahlstrom helps with the Kindergarten kids, and we wish her the best.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Teel – I have tried to be out and about. I think I have made it to all the schools. Progressive work on the legislation. Policy changes came about pretty quick. A lot of legislation is still in regulation hearings. I get notes on those meetings so we can see where it is headed. Nevada School Performance Framework – The star rankings have been suspended since 2014. They halted waiting for the SBAC to come in and get those under the two-year guidance. So they can start making determinations on school rankings again. They planned to roll out school rankings by September 15th. Preliminary projections went out – if you do that, you will devastate schools that are making progressive good work. Something is wrong with your formula. They listened to the superintendents. They will keep working on the ranking system with us, so we can ensure that we are not doing schools a disservice. In the original proposal, a large percentage of schools were 1 and 2 star schools. They are working on that. There will be press release tomorrow letting the state know that they are working on the system and the phase of rolling it out. Next year there will be an official star ranking. Per ESSA, it did not have to happen until 2018. We will have to make sure the state through the superintendents, through administration talk to teachers, parents, and board about what that ranking will look like and how they came up with the rankings. Student count is not official, but we are at 962. With the elimination of the Alternative Ed program, that only puts us about twenty students short. We won't see an impact right away. Remember that is a four-quarter average now that we turn into the state. Please sign up for school lunch. We have to start trying it. I have heard fabulous things. Kids are excited about it. Some of the meals do not seem to be different. It is still commodities. Salad bar and other items are new.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

Trustee Poulsen made a motion to adjourn, motion seconded by Trustee Harr; motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Board President

Date

Board Clerk

Date