

MINUTES - EUREKA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

8:00 p.m.

December 8, 2011, LCHS MEDIA CENTER

Board Members Present: Joan LeFrancois, Jon Leonard, James Schmidt, Steve Short, Christine Brown, Don Hammack and Caitlin Larson Student Representative

Board Members Absent: Donna Lowery

Others Present: Superintendent Mepham, Principal Utter, Principal Graves, Principal Lucey, Activities Director Ed Newell, Clerk Becky Evins, 21st Century Director Shelley Zauner, Nick Tomaskie, Steve Newman, and Nikki Meyer of the TV News

Call to Order: With a quorum present called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Chair LeFrancois asked Steve Short to lead the pledge.

General Public Comment

Nick Tomaskie expressed concerns about where his placement was on the Agenda. He also spoke to several concerns he had over not getting a meeting with the Board Chair and other policy violations and due process. He also concerned about his confidentiality being violated. He also said that in the minutes there was a correction which was noted.

Board Reports

Student Representative: Kaitlin Larson told the Board that the students are looking forward to the Christmas break.

Facilities report: None

PR report: PR Newspaper was out today. It will take up to 72 hours to get to everyone. Approximately 4000 were sent out.

Finances- None

Communications

Review Agenda

Chair LeFrancois asked if there were any changes. There was a correction to the last month's meeting under Administrative, section c, Principal Utter it should say "Principal Utter told the Board he would be hiring a Basketball coach". Chair LeFrancois asked that the consent agenda be passed with the correction noted.

Consent Agenda (E)

- a. Approval of minutes: November 10, 2011 Regular Board Meeting (11/12-18 E)
- b. Approval of Claims for Elementary (11/12-19 E) \$93,138.57
- c. Approval of Payroll for Elementary (11/12 -20E)\$306,460.64
- d. Approval of Elementary Transportation and Out of District Attendance Agreements

Consent Agenda (HS)

- a. Approval of minutes: November 10, 2011 Regular Board Meeting (11/12-18 HS)
- b. Approval of Claims for High School (11/12-19 HS) \$47,810.95
- c. Approval of Payroll for High School (11/12-20 HS) \$151,554.66
- d. Approval of High School Transportation and Out of District Attendance Agreements

Both consent agendas were approved by unanimous consent with noted correction to minutes.

Administrative Report

- a. **21st Century Director Shelley Zauner** spoke to the Board about the Extended Day program that she is currently running. It currently has 32 kids, Monday thru Thursday, K-7 right after school. They do a variety of things including snacks, homework, crafts, computers and a PE program. We have a great need in this community and it is so nice for parents to be able to pick their children up with the homework done so they can have some family time at home. The program is funded by 2 grants, 21st Century and the MOST grants. It is about \$55,000. It is for 2 hours per night. She would like to have more people involved and can always use help. The summer program runs for 6 weeks. It provides breakfast, lunch and snacks. It is very academic. Principal Lucey commended Mrs. Zauner and the work she does and the energy she brings to the program.

Goal 4-Heighten participation in extracurricular activities.

- b. Activities Director Ed Newell talked about the fall sports seasons. He told the Board that 126 students participated in the sports an increase from last year. We hosted the Divisional Girls Volleyball tournament and the feedback was very positive. The teams would like to have it here again. Everyone did a great job. Board member Don Hammack asked how the businesses reaction was and Mr. Newell said he needs to check with them and find out. He spoke to the eligibility policy and explained that they did not lose one varsity player in any sport during the fall season. Winter sports have started and we currently have 125 participants. We received a certificate from MHSA for good sportsmanship. He had a coach's dinner for all of them to meet and get on the same page. The booster club sponsored it.
- c. Principal Utter as the Middle School Activities Director explained to the Board that they had 67 students out for sports. They are just finishing up the Girls Basketball season and the boys are starting. They will get 15 games in and will not miss any school with the weekend jamborees. Principal Utter discussed the Middle School after school program. It is a voluntary program. With the Gear Up funds they are looking at offering different activities such as an outdoor club, art club, robotics club, a book club and a science club.

- d. Superintendent Mephram explained to the Board that we were applying for a literacy grant. It is for \$300,000 and is for 3 years. He feels we have a good chance at getting this. He then discussed the town's water situation and how the school was handling it. We used our emergency automated phone system and it worked very well. At present we are not drinking the water. We are in close contact with the town and helping in any way we can.

Personnel Report

a. Elementary/Junior

- 1. Add to Substitute list;
 - Patricia Gill Teacher sub 1-8
 - Mary "Kit" Foss Teacher sub K-4
 - Tom Vogel Teacher sub K-8, Bus Driver
 - Shawn Madden Teacher sub K-8
 - Robin Little Kitchen

Motion: Jon Leonard moved that we accept the subs for both the Elementary and High School, second by Chris Brown and passed unanimously.

- 2. Accept Bill Bullock resignation Bus Driver and Special Olympics Coach

Motion: James Schmidt moved to accept Bill Bullock resignation, second Steve Short, passed unanimously.

- 3. Accept Brent Holder resignation

Motion: Jon Leonard moved to accept Brent Holder resignation, James Schmidt second, passed unanimously.

- 4. Hire Michelle Brandon for Gear Up Tutor

Motion: Jon Leonard moved to hire Michelle Brandon for Gear Up tutor, second Don Hammack, passed unanimously.

- 5. Hire Jason Persson JH Basketball coach

Motion: Jon Leonard moved to hire Jason Persson for JH Basketball coach, second James Schmidt, passed unanimously.

- 6. Hire Amber Fauvelle Special Education Aide

Motion: Jon Leonard moved to hire Amber Fauvelle Special Education Aide, second Don Hammack, passed unanimously.

b. High School

- 1. Add to Substitute list
 - Tom Vogel Teacher Sub 9-12, Bus Driver
 - Shawn Madden Teacher sub 9-12
 - Robin Little Teacher sub 9-12, Kitchen
- 2. Bill Bullock resignation Bus Driver and Special Olympics Coach

Motion: James Schmidt moved to accept Bill Bullock resignation, second Steve Short, passed unanimously.

- 3. Larry Benson Girls Basketball assistant coach resignation

Motion: Chris Brown moved to accept Larry Benson resignation, second Steve Short, passed unanimously.

- 4. Hire Girls Basketball assistant coaches, Charli Chapman, Amanda Anderson

Motion: Chris Brown moved to hire Charli Chapman and Amanda Anderson for Basketball, second Don Hammack, passed unanimously.

New Business

a. **Approve student trips for 2011-2012 High School, Middle School and Elementary**

Principal Utter explained that there was not a Montana History trip this year because of the rotation of Montana History being taught as an 8th grade class and the 8th grade has already gone on the trip. He also said this will be the last year for the 8th grade Silverwood trip. The Montana history trip will be the 8th grade trip from now on. There was some discussion about the overnight trip to Glacier Park. The Board felt they needed to know more about this before approving it which Principal Lucey agreed with.

Motion: Jon Leonard moved to accept the trips with the exception of the 4th grade overnight trip, second Steve Short, passed unanimously.

b. **Recommendation to improve current method of Substitute approval**

Superintendent Mephram explained that in the past the Board approved names for the sub list before a background check had been done. He wants to change this so that when the Board approves all of the necessary checks have already been done. Board member Steve Short asked about the kind of background check that is done. There was discussion on this. There was discussion on having a Substitute workshop and training that would better prepare the subs. Mr. Mephram said he would look into all the ideas and see if he could improve on our background check. Chair LeFrancois said we need to do some brainstorming on this. Superintendent Mephram will report back.

c. **Midyear Superintendent evaluation**

Chair LeFrancois said that this meeting is an open meeting but the matter coming before the Board tonight is a personal matter and it is my determination as follows:

1. That the matter involves individual privacy;
2. That such privacy demands protections of the individual and that little, if anything would be gained by publicly disclosing the information to be discussed; and
3. That the demands of individual privacy clearly exceed the merits of public disclosure in this matter.

Therefore the meeting will be closed to the public while this matter is discussed. No action will be taken during the closed session. Only the person being discussed can request an open meeting. Mr. Mepham asked for it to be closed. The meeting was closed at 9:20 p.m.

Chair LeFrancois reopened the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

Information only

Superintendent Mepham discussed forming a Multidistrict agreement between the Elementary/Middle School and the High School in Tech maintenance. He will bring more information back next month.

Prep Agenda

Adjournment

Motion: Don Hammack moved to adjourn, Chris Brown second, passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Board Chair

Date

Clerk of Board