

Yuma School District-1
January 9, 2017 Regular Meeting
Yuma School District-1

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Dan Ross, President

Marc Baucke, Vice President

Kim Langley, Sec/Treas.

Thomas Holtorf, Director

Dianna Chrisman, Superintendent

Sherry Dennis-Murphy, Business Manager

Angela Weathers, Executive Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Lindsey Galles, Director – arrived at 7:18 pm

1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Ross called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:02 p.m. on Monday, January 9, 2017 in the Yuma School District Board Room.

2.0 AGENDA-ADDITIONS/DELETIONS-APPROVAL

- Superintendent Chrisman noted revised agenda; order placement of certain items, addition of 8.4 Amend School Board Meeting Minutes from a previous meeting that mistakes were found in.

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 December 5, 2016 Regular Board Meeting

ENCLOSURE

Moved by Langley, seconded by Holtorf to approve the December 5, 2016 Board Meeting as presented.

Voting Aye: Baucke, Holtorf, Langley, Ross. Motion Carried

4.0 ROUTINE BUSINESS

4.1 Financial Report as of December 31, 2016

ENCLOSURE

- Secretary/Treasurer Langley asked what the Commodity Fees are. Sherry Dennis-Murphy replied that they are food service fees for bulk items. She added that Cory Sabo does not have say in what is delivered, he marks what he wants to keep and that there was an outstanding balance from last year that they were unaware of due to not being billed. Langley stated that the fees put food service over budget. Dennis-Murphy stated that Sabo became aware of overage once the outstanding fees were billed.
- Langley asked if the new Suburban has arrived. Superintendent Chrisman stated that it has and transportation is currently looking in to lettering for the side of the vehicle.
- Director Holtorf asked about Post-Secondary Options. Dennis-Murphy replied they are for NJC and some of the charges are reimbursed.

- Langley asked if any of Rasmussen charges are for repairs made from last week's heating issues. Dennis-Murphy replied that they are not. Superintendent Chrisman added that she has additional information in her report that pertain to that process.
- Langley asked for an update on auditorium lights. Chrisman stated she has not received an update yet, but believes there are some charges for bulbs and items that are not yet accounted for.

Moved by Holtorf, seconded by Langley, to approve the Financial Report as of December 31, 2016 as presented.

Voting Aye: Baucke, Holtorf, Langley, Ross. Motion Carried

4.2 Check Register

ENCLOSURE

- Secretary/Treasurer Langley asked if the tractor is working well. Chrisman stated that it is working out well to get the exterior buildings and walkways cleared, maintenance is able to start earlier and that it was a good purchase.

Moved by Langley, seconded by Baucke, to approve the Check Register as presented.

Voting Aye: Baucke, Holtorf, Langley, Ross. Motion Carried

4.3 Donations

ENCLOSURE

- Sherry Dennis-Murphy stated that the high school Yearbook Class received cameras from Quality Heating and cooling and Chromebooks that were partially funded by Google.org. Also, the district received 24 monitors from Premier Farm Credit.

5.0 VISITORS COMMENTS/REQUEST

None

6.0 SCHEDULED AUDIENCE WITH BOARD

None

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

- President Ross thanked the YSD-1 staff for sending notes of appreciation.
- A letter with suggestions regarding the bond was received. President Ross stated that should another bond be re-proposed in the future, the Board will consider the suggestions from the letter.
- President Ross further stated that he appreciates all the correspondence from the community.

8.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

8.1 Personnel

8.1.1 Recommendations:

- ❖ Marisela Estrada, Little Indians Para
- ❖ Ken Bretz, Middle School Math Long-Term Sub
- ❖ Jenny Noble, YHS girls Basketball Assistant Coach
- ❖ Kyle Newton, YHS Wrestling Volunteer

8.1.2 Resignations/Separations:

- ❖ Rachelle Knudson, Middle School Math
 - ❖ Jenna Zahller, High School Science
- President Ross noted that the district is saddened by the resignations, but are happy and supportive of the opportunities that have presented for Ms. Knudson and Mrs. Zahller. Chrisman agreed.

8.2 Ratify Activity Trip Request

8.2.1 YHS Student visit to College in North Platte, NE

8.3 Ratify Closing of School

8.3.1 Ratify the closing of school Thursday, January 5, 2017, due to inclement weather.

8.3.2 Ratify the closing of school Friday, January 6, 2017, due to transportation and heating issues.

- President Ross stated that he fielded a few calls during the closures. Once it was made clear that there were further issues that the public may not have been aware of, some of the stress was alleviated.
- Superintendent Chrisman stated when transportation made the recommendation due to multiple buses not operating at 100 percent, with the cold temperatures exacerbating the problems, the risk of a breakdown, stranding students in such cold weather was not worth the risk. Safety is the highest concern
- Superintendent Chrisman further stated that it is her hope that the community understands the decision to close school is not taken lightly. Typically, the decision begins the night before, she is up by 4 a.m. speaking with transportation and other Superintendents doing comparisons of the roads up north verses down south.

8.4 Amend School Board Meeting Minutes

8.4.1 Special Meeting June 28, 2016

- Sherry Dennis-Murphy stated that while updating Financial Transparency on the district website, it was noticed that the minutes for the June 28, 2016 Special Meeting excluded discussion for the 2016-2017 preliminary budget. She noted that she recalls President Ross was absent from the meeting, discussion about the preliminary budget and Vice-President Marc Baucke signing the Proposed Budget Appropriation Resolution for 2016-2017.

Dennis-Murphy further stated that per auditor, we must acknowledge that we are aware of the discussion and make note in the minutes. Superintendent Chrisman added that procedurally, everything was completed correctly, but the wording did not make it in to the minutes, some reason.

- President Ross noted the arrival of Director Lindsey Galles at 7:18 p.m.

8.5 Executive Session called at 7:19 pm by President Ross for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter involving Superintendent Contract pursuant to C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(f) with all the Board Members, Superintendent Dianna Chrisman and Executive Secretary Angela Weathers.

Moved by Ross, seconded by Holtorf, to move in to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter involving Superintendent Contract pursuant to C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(f).

Voting Aye: Baucke, Galles, Holtorf, Langley, Ross. Motion Carried

- Brought in to Executive Session by President Ross at 7:20 p.m. with the School board, Executive Secretary Angela Weathers and Superintendent Dianna Chrisman.
- Executive Session adjourned at 7:52 p.m. by President Ross, continued the general session.

9.0 ACTION ITEMS

9.1 Personnel

Moved by Baucke, seconded by Langley to approve the personnel as presented.

Voting Aye: Baucke, Galles, Holtorf, Langley, Ross. Motion Carried

9.2 Ratify Activity Trip Request

Moved by Galles, seconded by Langley to approve Ratify Activity Trip Request as presented.

Voting Aye: Baucke, Galles, Holtorf, Langley, Ross. Motion Carried

9.3 Ratify the closing of School

Moved by Holtorf, seconded by Langley to approve Ratify the Closing of School as presented.

Voting Aye: Baucke, Galles, Holtorf, Langley, Ross. Motion Carried

9.4 Amend School Board Meeting Minutes

Moved by Baucke, seconded by Galles to approve amend School Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

Voting Aye: Baucke, Galles, Holtorf, Langley, Ross. Motion Carried.

9.5 Superintendent Contract

Moved by Langley, seconded by Holtorf to extend the Superintendent Contract to include the 2019-2020 school year.

Voting Aye: Baucke, Galles, Holtorf, Langley, Ross. Motion Carried.

10.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- BOCES superintendents have met; have a recommendation for 2017-2018 in-service dates and spring break. Calendar committee can begin for 2017-2018 school year. Calendar may be available to present to Board by March.
- HVAC problems are with the control system; Morris and YMS are shot, YHS needs updated. \$230,000 - \$240,000 preliminary estimate for project to fix middle school and elementary school system and replace one boiler. Anthony with Rasmussen will make presentation at next Board meeting with breakdown of costs.
- Transportation- Bus #10 had issues on drive to Limon last week. Another bus is having oil leaks – engine block is cracked. New motor was picked up and should be installed soon. Cold temperatures exacerbated bus problems. One bus had air issues which impacts the brakes, one had fuel gelling, another had no heat. All problems have been addressed and the buses are up and running.
- Preliminary School Performance Frameworks – CDE has changed systems. We are accredited, noted low participation due to testing opt-outs. Overall, on track as a district. Summary of district levels is clumped together, is inaccurate - it does not match building levels for our district. Morris had a great year, exceeds academic growth. Yuma Middle School is on an improvement plan, Mrs. Klobberdanz has been addressing areas in need of improvement and working with staff. Lower than we would like, but not all bad, YMS is not in jeopardy of dropping to priority improvement. First year using PARCC information for baseline of assessments. Yuma High School performance percentage is above level, but is on improvement plan due to misadministration; some students received scores but were not counted, which dropped participation scores. Over 100 of 167 school districts have gone through a Request to Reconsider based on similar concerns. YSD-1 request has been submitted, but has not yet been taken to State Board. Hopeful that the request is accepted and Yuma High School status will change to a Performance level school which will increase the District's overall rating. Misadministration issues have been rectified, plans for trainings are in process. There are some areas of academic achievement that needs improvement, but overall ratings are good. Unified Improvement plans must be submitted to the state yearly for schools that receive ratings under Performance. It is a working document.
- President Ross asked if the ratings affect school financing. Superintendent Chrisman stated that it does not. Ratings first goes to priority improvement, then to turnaround. We are in no jeopardy of being in those levels. All data is based on PARCC scores for YMS and Morris. YHS is based on PARCC and ACT scores, which will be SAT and graduation rate.
- President Ross stressed the importance of students doing well on these tests. Chrisman stated that she has heard some talk in regard to some work started on new state guidelines for the use of PARCC scores as one way to prove proficiency in order to graduate. Students that do not take the PARCC exam have one less opportunity to prove they have earned their diploma.

- Once final ratings are received, they will be presented to the Board.

11.0 BOARD REPORT/COMMENTS

- Director Galles reported on CASB Conference attended with Director Langley and President Ross. Galles and Langley sat in on an information session regarding bonds. She remarked that there are misconceptions on grants; they are difficult to acquire, do not cover as much and have many stipulations. It is imperative to stress that the stipulations restrict what can and cannot be done with grant money. Galles also stated that it is important for the Board to improve on informing people and getting information out when the bond is revisited.
- Another topic session was on Finance. The entire state of Colorado is struggling, not just the education system. It is imperative for the public to be aware of the state's financial stability. Superintendent Chrisman stated that she is looking in to some upcoming legislative activities to further understand beyond school finance and how they are intertwined. Chrisman asked if any of the sessions spoke on the use of Calculator. Galles replied that the sessions covered the negative factor with use of Calculator. Chrisman stated that with budget cuts, schools are expected to do the same work with significantly less money.
- Galles also commented that the state is beginning to look at safety measures that will be required by schools, with the costs, it is imperative for the district to put something in place.
- Superintendent Chrisman stated that she is looking in to the BEST Grant to help cover the HVAC system work, but the school must be in very bad condition in order to be approved of the BEST Grant at this point. It may be beneficial to put together a presentation on how the BEST Grant works and how grants come with many strings attached.
- Secretary/Treasurer Langley commented on the CASB session regarding BOCES. She received the presentation and stated she scan the documents and email them to anyone who would be interested. The presentation discusses the job responsibilities of the Board in vs. that of the community. There are twenty BOCES units in the state of Colorado, and there must be at least two administrative units to make a BOCES unit. Superintendent Chrisman suggested that the information be given to Angie Weathers, who can include it in the upcoming Board book.

12.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Called by President Ross for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions pursuant to C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(b).
- Superintendent Chrisman recommended for motion to include the Board of Education, Angela Weathers, Executive Secretary, Superintendent Dianna Chrisman, Janna Young, HR and Sherry Dennis-Murphy, Business Manager.

Moved by Holtorf, seconded by Langley, to move in to Executive Session for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions pursuant to C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(b) to include the Board of Education, Superintendent Chrisman, Angela Weathers, Janna Young and Sherry Dennis-Murphy.

Voting Aye: Baucke, Galles, Holtorf, Langley, Ross. Motion Carried

- Brought in to Executive Session by President Ross at 8:32 p.m. with the School board, Angela Weathers, Dianna Chrisman, Janna Young, Sherry Dennis-Murphy and Michael Schreiner of Caplan & Earnest via telephone.
- Disclosure statement provided by Michael Schreiner of Caplan & Earnest, asking that the recording device be turned off during Executive Session for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions.
- Recording device turned off per request at 8:34 p.m.

Executive Session adjourned at 9:02 p.m. by President Ross, recording resumed; continued the general session.

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Moved by Langley, seconded by Holtorf to adjourn the meeting.

Voting Aye: Baucke, Galles, Holtorf, Langley, Ross. Motion Carried

Sincerely,



Kim Langley, Secretary/Treasurer
Yuma School District-1
Board of Education



Dan Ross, President
Yuma School District-1
Board of Education