

Yuma School District-1  
February 13, 2017 Regular Meeting  
Yuma School District-1

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dan Ross, President

Marc Baucke, Vice President

Kim Langley, Sec/Treas.

Thomas Holtorf, Director

Lindsey Galles, Director

Dianna Chrisman, Superintendent

Sherry Dennis-Murphy, Business Manager

Angela Weathers, Executive Secretary

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**

None

**1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Ross called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:01 p.m. on Monday, February 13, 2017 in the Yuma School District Board Room.

**2.0 AGENDA-ADDITIONS/DELETIONS-APPROVAL**

- Superintendent Chrisman noted revised agenda; additions to 2.1.2 – Resignation of Kara Dudley, high school English, Discussion Item 8.3 and Action Item 9.3 – New Payroll Checking Account.

Moved by Langley, seconded by Holtorf to approve Agenda - Additions as presented.

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

**3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

3.1 January 9, 2017 Regular Board Meeting

ENCLOSURE

Moved by Langley, seconded by Baucke to approve the January 9, 2017 Board Meeting as presented.

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

**4.0 ROUTINE BUSINESS**

4.1 Financial Report as of January 31, 2017

ENCLOSURE

- Sherry Dennis-Murphy stated that a reimbursement check has been received from NJC in the amount of \$20,247. This leaves the district cost for fall college courses at \$3900.
- Secretary/Treasurer Langley asked if the buses are now in good running order. Superintendent Chrisman replied that all are in running order, except for bus #13.
- Langley asked if the snowplow charges are for the new snowplow. Dennis-Murphy replied that it is.
- Langley asked if the new Chevy Suburban is running well. Chrisman stated that there have not been any indications of issues, it is in the “break-in” phase, with limited use. Rachel Garcia stated that it was used by the Knowledge Bowl team to travel to Regionals and it was very comfortable. They had strict rules to not allow drinks or food while in the vehicle.

- President Ross questioned why the Food Service Commodities amount is so far over. Sherry Dennis-Murphy reminded him of the unknown charges from late billing that has put Food Services over budget.
- Langley asked about the cameras at Morris Elementary. Chrisman stated that the Superintendent report will further detail security updates at the schools.

Moved by Holtorf, seconded by Langley, to approve the Financial Report as of January 31, 2017 as presented.

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

#### 4.2 Check Register

ENCLOSURE

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

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

### 5.0 VISITORS COMMENTS/REQUEST

None

### 6.0 SCHEDULED AUDIENCE WITH BOARD

6.1 Rachel Garcia, Yuma High School Science teacher spoke on behalf of the Calendar Committee to present the Board with a recommendation for the 2017-2018 school year calendar.

- Calendar Committee has met twice in discussion.
- Information pulled from staff input on questionnaire as well as meetings within all schools, including Little Indians.
- Calendar option #3 is noted recommendation; not necessarily a four-day week, is similar to four-day calendar adopted by surrounding districts and throughout the state of Colorado.
- Superintendent Chrisman noted that this proposal is what the staff feels is the best instructional calendar.
- Chrisman stated that the calendar change is significant and that community input is important to the process. It is comparable to current year's schedule, with early release days and no-school days for in-service.
- Consensus of school staff with most response based on consistency.
- Yuma High School would have same block schedule as current school term, with the exception of "Crazy Eight" days.
- Professional development opportunities will be available, as well as grade level and core team meetings, and will allow for vertical alignment meetings for K-12 curriculum and standards.
- Elementary intervention teams will have more time to meet with students and individualize student needs.
- Superintendent Chrisman stated that with Option #3, total hours are factored in for staff and students will meet the state required 1,080 hours at the

secondary level. This calendar provides two full days for staff development that does not cut in to school days for students.

- Chrisman also stated that the primary reason for the schedule change is not as a means to save money, rather to provide consistency and development for teaching staff and support staff. Trainings will be increased with bus drivers and food services, such as food handling safety, and also with the para professionals. That is the difference between the proposed calendar option and a traditional four day week schedule.
- Secretary/Treasurer Langley asked if students will have four day week all year until May, where it will then be five day. Mrs. Garcia stated that August will also have five day to help establish routine, and assessment of students, four day will begin in September. May tends to have more activities such as field trips, five day weeks at the end of the year will allow for those activities.
- Superintendent Chrisman added that by having those full contact student days, the school day will not be increased as much in order to meet the 1,080-hour requirement at the secondary level. Without the extra days in the fall and spring, the school day would need to be increased by forty-five minutes in order to meet the required hours.
- Langley noted the two additional snow days. Chrisman replied that after meeting with the principals and staff, it was suggested decreasing two in-service days at the beginning of the school year in order to add two student contact days, meeting the 153 student contact day mark.
- Rachel Garcia added that by starting on a Thursday, it allows, at the high-school level a chance for students to see both red and white days and helps all students ease in to the beginning of the school year, especially for elementary students.
- Chrisman noted all students, K-12 will start on the same day.
- Langley asked if surveys have gone out to the community. Chrisman stated that the calendar is first being presented to the Board to see if it is something that the Board wants to pursue, or another direction. She has looked at surveys from other districts and something can be put together for community and parent feedback with Board approval.
- Garcia commented on teacher and staff survey results; the middle and elementary school voted overwhelmingly in favor of option #3, the high school vote was 50/50 between options #2 and #3. She noted, this was largely in part to para concerns for cut hours. But once the schedule was more explained, the weight shifted more towards option #3.
- Superintendent Chrisman reiterated that teacher time is not decreasing. Days are decreasing, but hours are not. Days and hours will be rearranged to be more efficient.

- President Ross stated that staff development is very important. If the district should go in the direction of this proposed calendar, stipulations must be made to make staff development days mandatory with little leniency. He added that due to other obligations outside of the district, for some staff, such as food service and transportation, current training and staff development days are difficult. This new calendar schedule would be beneficial in allowing for those trainings.
- Chrisman added this calendar option will benefit the CTE Program, as far as scheduling. The CTE Program will be further discussed during the graduation guidelines portion of the agenda.
- She also stated that Mr. Nighswonger was on the Calendar Committee as well, he will be able to work with scheduling athletic events differently in the next cycle with the available time.
- President Ross stated that a survey will definitely need to be presented community-wide for input. The Board agreed.
- Superintendent Chrisman stated that she will move forward with designing a survey and get information out. The district will work with Tony at the Yuma Pioneer and the information will be posted on the school website and hard copies will be made available at the District Office.

#### 6.2 Rasmussen Mechanical – HVAC

- Anthony and Brian from Rasmussen Mechanical gave an update on annual inspections at all three schools.
- No large problems as first thought, but many small compounding issues.
- Issues have now been addressed and everything is in operable condition.
- New Control Systems needed across the district. The current allergen system that is in place at the schools is obsolete, parts cannot be purchased. If a controller goes out, it cannot be replaced.
- Controls are priority number one.
- Budget numbers are in process of being finalized to replace elementary and middle school systems first, then the high school.
- Superintendent Chrisman will have estimate numbers in time to meet BEST Grant application deadline.
- Will present Board with estimate at next month's meeting; will include options for cooling system in the middle school.
- Job will be presented in to multiple phases. The high school will be the last phase.
- Existing steam boiler in the middle school potentially can be reused. Hot-water hydronic boilers will be an option with higher efficiency.

- Built-in ventilators will need to be torn out and replaced with both heating and cooling coils.
- Director Holtorf asked what a rough estimated life expectancy is on the current steam boiler in the middle school. Anthony, with Rasmussen stated that with proper maintenance, another 10-20 years. Though that is not guarantee.
- Brian with Rasmussen commented that they will also present the positives and drawbacks to both steam and hot water hydronic systems.
- Phases two and three will include estimate for air conditioning in elementary gymnasium.
- Superintendent Chrisman stated that a full plan with all the phases, time expectancy and full money piece will be needed to aid in applying for the BEST Grant to potentially help fund the project. Best Grant deadline for next cycle is February 24, 2017.

### 6.3 Jodene Boerner – Yuma High School Graduation Guidelines

- Jodene Boerner and Brandi Lippert from Yuma High School presented to discuss Board policy for graduation requirements and graduation guidelines from CDE, beginning with the graduating class of 2021.
- The current student handbook differs from Board policy.
- Discussions with departments on current requirements focused on standards and evidence outcomes, core class caps, and career outlooks for students.
- Administration met and agreed to adopt CDE graduation guidelines for Proficiency Math and English credit. Guidelines were presented to high school staff and agreed to propose to Board.
- Proposing graduation requirements of four units of English, four units of Math, three units of Science, three units of Social Studies, one unit of physical education; Health is embedded in to P.E. class, one unit of individual career and academic (ICAP) plan, half credit of financial literacy, half credit of employability skills and ten elective credits. One unit equals one credit.
- Contents of Science and Social Studies courses align with PSAT and SAT testing.
- Met with JP Carwin to vertically align 7-12 Social Studies.
- Recommending financial literacy and employability credits at senior level to better prepare students for after high school.
- ICAP mandated by state in 2010. Individualizes exploratory experiences for students to find potential career outlook and four-year academic plan, as well as post-secondary plans.
- Student advisors placed based on career pathways.

- Course relevancy for student career pathway is very beneficial.
- Brandi Lippert in contact with community businesses and Economic Development for CTE Program.
- Career internships will hopefully earn students certificates prior to graduation.
- Drop-out rate is not bad, but could improve with better invested students. Give meaning to courses that are directly related to future career path.
- Superintendent Chrisman stated that there are districts around the state that have processes in place that give students the opportunity to earn vocational certificates prior to completing high school.
- The goal is to get businesses on board with program with clear expectations and understanding on both sides that the student is to be treated as an employee.
- Starting at sophomore level, students will job shadow for a full day a couple days per quarter to see all sides of potential careers. Work study – internship piece currently places students in job for ninety minutes each day.
- CTE Breakfast for community businesses will be held Wednesday, February 22, 2017 from 7:00am to 8:00am at the high school library.
- Chrisman noted that procedurally, the recommendation for graduation guideline policy revision would normally be presented for a first and second reading. The revision will be included in the complete overhaul this summer for first and second readings. The guidelines can be revisited again prior to overhaul.
- Director Holtorf commented that the new guidelines would be good for students who do not necessarily plan to attend post-secondary education, but there are liability concerns.
- Chrisman stated that we can verify with the district's insurance carrier. There have been some changes recently in worker's comp rules in regard to student work study. That information can be provided.

## **7.0 CORRESPONDENCE**

President Ross again thanked the community for the letters and greeting cards. They are much appreciated.

## **8.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **8.1 Personnel**

#### **8.1.1 Recommendations:**

- ❖ Wesley Horton, Custodian
- ❖ Jamie Robinson, YHS Gifted and Talented Coordinator
- ❖ Tammy Law, YMS Gifted and Talented Coordinator

- ❖ Christine Daugherty, MES Gifted and Talented Coordinator
- ❖ Anehely Lefever, Little Indians Teacher Assistant
- Superintendent Chrisman noted that the Gifted and Talented positions are newly created in order for additional training for the program.

8.1.2 Resignations/Separations:

- ❖ Skylar Josh, Little Indians Para
- ❖ Leslie Crosby, 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science
- ❖ Kara Dudley, YHS English
- President Ross asked if Kara Dudley will be continuing through the end of the school term. Superintendent Chrisman replied that she is.

8.2 Ratify February 2, 2017 Late Start

- Superintendent Chrisman noted that procedurally, a late start due to weather must be ratified by the Board in order to acknowledge the shortened day.

8.3 New District Payroll Bank Account

- Sherry Dennis Murphy stated that there was a breach with the payroll account that is in the process of being rectified. For safety purposes, a new account for payroll has been opened, new signature cards were signed, which require Board action. Payroll will be on time.
- Superintendent Chrisman praised Ms. Dennis-Murphy for her quickly catching the breach.

8.4 Property Acquisition

- Superintendent Chrisman stated the property acquisition located on the high school grounds is complete, the District now owns the property. She also stated the next step is to decide what to do with the house on the property.
- Chrisman suggested the possibility of putting the house up for bid to be sold and moved, rather than tearing it down. This could potentially save money; costs to move house would be incurred by bidder.
- President Ross suggested looking at sending out a request for bids on having house moved first. Chrisman will begin process.

8.5 Little Indians Preschool – Head Start Program

- Superintendent Chrisman stated the Federal requirements for Head Start have changed, it is anticipated they will be pulling out of Yuma.
- Chrisman noted that this could open up the possibility to serve more preschool students; attain more CPP (Colorado Preschool Program) slots and have self-pay options.
- Ana Arvizo of Little Indians will be in contact with CPP, looking to acquiring additional slots.
- Secretary/Treasurer Langley asked if there is BOCES involvement with changes. Chrisman replied that CPP and Head Start are similar for how BOCES covers special

needs. BOCES will continue to work with Little Indians Preschool.

- Additional information to come, expecting confirmation by end of week.

#### 8.6 Yuma School District-1 2017-2018 Calendar

- Secretary/Treasurer Langley stated that she will side with what the community decides.
- Director Galles stated the necessity of informing the community and making the information accessible.
- President Ross suggested sending information home with students in order to get a full consensus of parent and guardian input.
- Director Galles asked what negatives are associated with the recommended calendar. Chrisman stated that research shows no specific academic drawbacks. Factors surrounding childcare are the greatest concern.
- Galles asked how the schedule change may affect students who struggle with learning. Chrisman stated that some students are able to do better with the four-day due to different teacher planning, time for rest, and the potential for Friday opportunities for additional student help.
- Chrisman also stated that according to school performance frameworks, studies are showing much improvement with the districts that have moved to a four-day week.

### 9.0 ACTION ITEMS

#### 9.1 Personnel

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

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

#### 9.2 Ratify February 2, 2017 Late Start

Moved by Langley, seconded by Holtorf to approve ratify February 2, 2017 late start as presented.

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

#### 9.3 New District Payroll Bank Account

Moved by Galles, seconded by Baucke to approve new district payroll account as presented.

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

### 10.0 SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Celebrations
  - ❖ 32 of the 44 active FBLA (72%) members qualified for the State Conference. There will be upcoming fundraising efforts. Possibility of National qualifiers!
  - ❖ High School Knowledge Bowl team placed 2<sup>nd</sup> at Regionals. Will know by Friday if they qualify for State.
  - ❖ Yuma High School Wrestling team qualified four wrestlers for State.



- Nebraska Fire and Safety will be at the high school on February 27<sup>th</sup> to install new entry buzz-in security system.
- Will meet again on Monday with consultant firm on high school project. Will look in to phasing out project for cost purposes, to see what can be completed first. Firm has a new team member with BEST Grant experience. She will hopefully be able to help with that process.
- Request to reconsider for School Performance Frameworks has been approved, Yuma High School is now at Performance level, which keeps the district at Performance rating.
- It is testing season. Encourage assessments, information is used for curriculum structure. The testing is shorter than prior testing.

#### 11.0 BOARD REPORT/COMMENTS

None


#### 13.0 ADJOURNMENT


The Board Meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Moved by Langley, seconded by Baucke 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