

Yuma School District-1
July 20, 2020 Regular Meeting
Board of Education

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Dan Ross, President – Arrived @ 8:55 PM
Duane Brown, Vice President
Kim Langley, Secretary/Treasurer
Thomas Holtorf, Director
Lindsey Galles, Director

Dianna Chrisman, Superintendent
Sherry Dennis-Murphy, Business Manager
Rhonda Metcalfe, Executive Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

- None

1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Vice President, Duane Brown called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:02 p.m. on Monday, July 20, 2020 in the Yuma School District Board Room.

2.0 AGENDA-ADDITIONS/DELETIONS-APPROVAL

- Superintendent Chrisman directed the board member's attention to a revised agenda with the following changes: two resignations under 4.3.2 – one for Faith Alt and one for Mariah Lightle. Also changes in the discussion/action items 8.0 – added at 8.1 is Approve Resolution to Define “Actively Engaged in the Educational Process” and Student Attendance for the 2020-2021 School Year. 8.3 Sports Fee Changes is deleted. Also added is Approval of additional Instructional Planning Day (Teachers, Admin and Counselors).

Motion by Thomas Holtorf, seconded by Langley to approve the agenda as presented.
Voting Aye: Brown, Galles, Holtorf, Langley. Absent: Ross Motion carried.

3.0 FINANCIAL OFFICER REPORT

- Business Manager Sherry Dennis-Murphy gave financial report for the month of June.
 - ❖ Expenditures \$1,063,629; Revenue \$1,186,513; Payroll and Benefits \$588,624
 - ❖ Highlighted expenses:
 - Yuma Turf for fertilizer and weed control for \$5,005.
 - Midwest Bus Sales for 2 buses. One has been delivered and the other one will hopefully be delivered in September - \$121, 292. This came out of the Small Rural money that had to be spent in the 19-20 school year.
 - Strictly Tech for View Boards for MES for \$3,850 out of Furniture and Fixtures Grant that also needed to be spent in 19-20 school year.
 - J&J Flooring for annual gym finishes - \$6,552

4.0 CONSENT AGENDA

4.1 Approval of Minutes

4.1.1 June 22, 2020 – Regular Board Meeting

4.2 Routine Business

4.2.1 Financial Reports as of June 30, 2020

4.2.2 June 2020 Check Register

4.2.3 Donations

❖ None

4.3 Personnel

4.3.1 Authorizations

- ❖ Kelly Seward – YHS Weight Room Monitor
- ❖ Dave Sheffield – YHS Weight Room Monitor
- ❖ Rory Lynch – YHS Weight Room Monitor
- ❖ Kyle Newton – YHS Weight Room Monitor
- ❖ Joseph Oss – YHS Weight Room Monitor
- ❖ Kristin Metcalfe – YHS Weight Room Monitor
- ❖ JP Carwin – YHS Weight Room Monitor

4.3.2 Resignations and Separations

- ❖ Courtnee Elliott – Special Ed Para
- ❖ Faith Alt – Career Explorations/Specials
- ❖ Mariah Lightle – MES 1st Grade Teacher

4.4 Activity Trip Request

4.4.1 YHS Volleyball Team Camp – CSU July 27-July 30, 2018

Motion by Langley, seconded by Galles to approve Consent Agenda as presented.

Voting Aye: Brown, Galles, Holtorf, Langley. Absent: Ross. Motion Carried.

5.0 VISITORS COMMENTS/REQUESTS

- Savanna Neb, YHS Alumni, spoke to the board stating she felt it important to address issues happening in our country and our town and how they affect everyone. Savanna referred to a handout that was included in the board member's board books regarding the addition of Black History into the school's curriculum that was sent out to all. Savanna asked the board to please consider making these additions to the Black History curriculum in the Yuma School District-1.
- Superintendent Chrisman added that some conversations have already begun at the District level. More information will be coming forward in the future.

6.0 SCHEDULED AUDIENCE WITH BOARD

- Project-1/Neenan BEST Project Update
 - ❖ Chad Rayl with Project-1 gave an update on the building project. He stated that at the YHS campus they have mobilized a crane in the south parking lot and will be erecting the precast panels for the gym walls. All concrete footers have been formed and poured for the precast panels. Also at YHS the mainline electrical is getting prepped for the next phase. At YMS drywall is done and prep is being done for painting. Carpet will be installed in the next couple of weeks. He reports good progress and project is on schedule at YMS. The rooftop unit was set last week for the Jr High wing HVAC. The bus loop at YMS is still underway with good progress being made. Rayl reports the project is still on track budget-wise. He stated that the FGMP for the remainder of the existing high school and VoAg addition wing for board review with September time frame. General discussion regarding irrigation lines at YMS and sod.
 - ❖ Abby Collins & David Kurtz with Neenan joined the meeting via telephone. Kurtz reported that regarding schedule and budget there is not a specific update. They are working with subcontractors to get final drawings completed.
 - ❖ Collins gave a presentation showing the interior design and focus of the project stating they have been working to refine and define the showcase zones at YHS. Early on they developed a concept plan which really grew to group YHS academic functions into different showcase zones. Collins guided a walkthrough of the YHS project via 3D presentation. Superintendent Chrisman stated that Neenan has held true to the original comments of focusing on showcasing and identifying specific areas to celebrate academics and all of the vocational programs, athletics and all components. VP Brown asked about the ceiling tile going into the Senior locker area and library. Chrisman responded that it is similar to tiles found in local businesses in town. General discussion.

7.0 CORRESPONDANCE

- None

8.0 DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- 8.1 Approve Resolution to Define “Actively Engaged in the Educational Process” and student attendance for the 2020-2021 School Year
- ❖ Superintendent Chrisman reported that CASB sent out options for school districts to address the temporary expectations or allowances that the legislature and CDE are allowing in response to COVID. Part of that could have been a revising of Policy ICA, Student Instructional Plan. If the district elected to change the policies, which are 2 or 3 that would need to change,

then they would need to be changed again next year or changed as CDE makes any adjustments in the response. The other option is to do a resolution which accomplishes the same legal pieces. The resolution states what the district is going to include within the “actively engaged in the educational process”. This falls into student contact hours and attendance policies. Chrisman recommends utilizing the resolution rather than the multiple policies that would require multiple readings. The resolution is more efficient. Chrisman pointed out on the resolution, item 3 relating to potential remote instruction which states that student contact days may include remote learning days implemented as a result of public health and safety measures. Remote learning days may include use of: services provided with Colorado Digital Learning Solutions, assigned and prepared work packets, pre-recorded classed, participation in live stream instructional systems or other method(s) utilized by the district. Teacher-pupil instruction and contact may occur in the following ways:

- a. Presence during in-person instruction;
- b. Assignments completed at home;
- c. Logging into the online learning platform;
- d. Signing an online form attesting to work completed at home;
- e. Student demonstration of learning;
- f. Responding to teacher emails or communication; or
- g. Participation in live streaming instruction systems

Chrisman reports the goal of this is to remain broad as the district may not necessarily utilize all of these, but at any given time may utilize some. Chrisman recommended approving the resolution. She called for questions.

VP Brown pointed out that in the second to last resolved clause it states “the Resolution is in effect for the duration of the 2020-2021 school year, unless otherwise rescinded or extended by the Board upon a two-thirds majority vote”. He asked why it needed a two-thirds majority. Chrisman was unsure of the answer. She offered to do some research into why it would require two-thirds majority vote. Brown made the suggestion to make it a simple majority vote. Brown states in making that change he would be fine with the resolution. Chrisman stated she will make the change to read “upon majority vote”.

Motion by Langley, seconded by Holtorf, to approve the resolution to define “actively engaged in the educational process” and student attendance for the 2020-2021 School Year. Voting Aye: Brown, Galles, Holtorf, Langley. Absent: Ross. Motion carried.

8.2 COVID Reopening of Schools Protocol

- ❖ Superintendent Chrisman directed the board members attention to a handout regarding the reopening of schools drawn up by a joint effort based on the county variance. This plan has been put together working with the four Yuma County superintendents - Yuma, Wray,

Idalia and Liberty. They have been working with the Wray Hospital and Yuma Hospital, as well as the county commissioners, COVID task force and health department. Chrisman read through the handout. This document has been sent to the county commissioners and the task force to be reviewed under the current variance and it has been approved. This system was set up with local control and local needs in mind. This document provides general provisions with areas depending on if there are outbreaks. Status will be identified by color – Red if situation is bad, yellow for caution and green means things are a go. The response will be based on community outbreak and community need. The goal of all four school districts is to provide a home remote learning option with primary goal of having school on site.

- ❖ VP Brown asked for clarification on a point regarding the guideline that states students/employees who test positive may not return to school until they have met certain requirements. He asked if that refers to an actual COVID-19 test. Chrisman answered yes.
- ❖ Director Langley asked when the response regarding whether schools could reopen would be coming. Chrisman responded that currently the state is not requiring approval to return to school. The State is leaving this up to local control. The YSD-1 board will work until the local health department. Trish McClain is the primary contact through the NE Colorado Department of Health.
- ❖ VP Brown again asked for clarification regarding the student/employee who tests positive not returning to school until they have met certain requirements. He is again asking if this refers to an actual COVID-19 test or just a screening. Chrisman states, yes to both. The practice developed in conjunction with this says that if a student is sick at school they are sent home because they have COVID symptoms. The district must assume someone with symptoms is COVID positive until proven otherwise but at the same time is leaving room for parent choice. The group collaborating on this plan does not believe in mandating a test for every student who is exhibiting symptoms as this should be a parenting option. Brown expressed concern that this plan didn't explain all of this in enough detail. Chrisman responded that this document is an umbrella with general guidance and further breakdown and explanations of each component will be coming soon. General discussion followed on this.
- ❖ VP Brown asked when the state will let YSD-1 know when we are at the Protect Our Neighbor phase. Chrisman did not have an answer for this. Chrisman did respond that part of the discussion with her administrative team is that it might be prudent and less stressful for students if YSD-1 function under yellow guidelines from day 1 so that the district does not get used to doing it one way and then having to shift as far as screening and other pieces go. This is not a

- recommendation at this point but just being discussed.
- ❖ Director Holtorf asked a question on the statement under the Care of students and staff with Chronic Conditions that says “Assist a student or employee in any accommodations necessary to help protect them from disease exposure”. Chrisman states that this is a next piece being looked at and it is a recommendation to what can be done to protect vulnerable populations. Holtorf points out the words “in any accommodations necessary”. Chrisman states there are limits in this but the goal is to provide additional accommodations and protection to those who may need it. Langley added that the wording should perhaps say “any reasonable accommodations necessary”. Chrisman agreed that this was indeed an oversight in wording and that adjustments can be made in the wording. She will bring it up to the group in their next meeting and ask that this be amended.
 - ❖ VP Brown stated he is looking forward to the next document with more detail as he feels this one is too vague. Chrisman responded that now this document will be expanded under each umbrella item and made specific to our district plan which will have the specificity that Brown is looking for. Brown stated that he is not pleased with this document but he will vote to approve it with caveat that the district is continuing to work on the details with each building administrator and knowing there will be more precise in detail.
 - ❖ Superintendent Chrisman reported further on the direction this is headed. She reports there are varying opinions on whether school should open. She states we will follow the guidelines as given but the goal is to provide options for families. Regarding instruction the district is looking at three levels: the first being in-school within the new framework of what in-school instruction would look like. Currently the guidelines from CDPHE look to be recommendation of masks for students 11 years and older in certain areas. The district will come up with what YSD-1 expectations on that are and the board will vote on those in the coming weeks. Therefore, in-person instruction is an option. The district is also looking at systems to do live-streaming instructions. The district is trying to balance teacher organization and work load on top of student need. The streaming option would be for students who are unable or choose to not attend in person, they can follow a regular schedule. Looking at the fact that it didn’t work very well in the spring for teachers to take a video giving a snapshot of instruction and then expecting families to provide the instruction on top of the video. With the streaming option the student will be able to follow the teacher and daily bell schedule live. They will hear the teacher teaching, they will be able to ask questions, and they will be able to interact. This way teachers are not having to manage multiple students who are out either waiting for testing, trying to do packets and trying to facilitate make-

up work. This will streamline the teacher workload. The third option is a true online option under YSD-1 utilizing Colorado Digital Learning Systems. These courses are completely independent classes. The district pays for the classes and provides the Chromebook. This option is for families choosing not to deal with closures, illnesses, and who are not ready to go to a permanent online school hoping that COVID will pass and we will be able to go back to some sort of new normalcy. Again, the three options are at school, which will look different, the online streaming, and the true independent online option. VP Brown asked how the independent online option compares regarding number of hours and classroom instruction. Chrisman states that one would have to get into the online syllabi. They provide the CDE contact hours and it is all in their system. As long as the district acknowledges, which was done in the resolution, that this is a system the district would count as engagement in instruction the students can be counted in full time instruction. Chrisman reports there are still many details to work through but feels if the district can provide as many options as possible the district can meet as many needs in the community as possible. None of the options will be traditional school as it has been, this is not possible at this point.

- ❖ Chrisman reports that for further planning the administrative team will be meeting, Tuesday, July 21st, working on a plan to work with staff giving them the opportunity to ask questions and help brainstorm things moving forward.
- ❖ Director Galles asked if a student chooses to do the live stream option if they would be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities. Chrisman responded yes, they are still a student and would be allowed to participate as they are still complying with instructional engagement time which is the purpose of this instruction. There would be some parameters that the student would have to meet.
- ❖ Chrisman asked for feedback from the board as to their feelings on the plan thus far. General discussion followed.
- ❖ Chrisman also reported that a virtual Town Hall meeting is being worked on with the countywide school districts, hospitals, and COVID task force so that as people have questions they can be addressed by the appropriate person.
- ❖ Superintendent Chrisman asked that as a first level general umbrella that the board of education approve the reopening under this protocol.

Motion by Langley, seconded by Ross, to approve the COVID reopening of school protocol.

Voting Aye: Brown, Galles, Holtorf, Langley, Ross. Motion carried.

8.3 Approval of Additional Instructional Planning Day

- ❖ Superintendent Chrisman stated it has become apparent as the district continues to work on the next level of school reopening protocol that time is needed sooner than later with the staff. Chrisman is asking to add an optional day for staff to help sort through plans and details. This would cost the district about \$20,000 to have staff in for the day. Chrisman is recommending the district do this. This day would be done in a work day fashion. This would be voluntary for teachers, administration, and counselors. The recommendation is to add one paid day, 8-hour equivalent, to work through some of these pieces on the reopening. VP Brown asked if one day is enough. Chrisman responded that she is not sure but for now this would be a good starting point. She contemplated asking for two or for one plus one as needed. These would be highly valuable days in getting our district open. Two days would be used. Chrisman states there are some COVID funds out of the CARES Act money that could be directly attributed to this. This day would not be part of the staff member's permanent contract but just an extra day. Directly Langley asked what day would be used for this. Chrisman states in meeting with the administrative team on Tuesday, July 21st, they would look at what would make the most sense. Langley asked if the district shouldn't wait on this to make sure schools are able to open. Chrisman responded that at this point the district is moving forward and are planning to go back to school. President Ross stated that regardless of whether the district is able to reopen school the extra day of planning is going to be necessary. Brown recommended having one day and then if another day is needed to come back to the board for another approved day. Chrisman stated that this would be fine except that time is of the essence and doing that would require an additional meeting of the board. Another option would be to give Chrisman to make a decision on a 2nd training day at her discretion. Brown agreed this would be a good option and Ross stated he would also be in agreement due to timing.

Motion by Brown, seconded by Holtorf, to approve an additional instructional day for teachers, admin, and counselors and to give Superintendent discretion to add one more additional day for instructional planning.

Voting Aye: Brown, Galles, Holtorf, Langley, Ross. Motion carried.

9.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- ❖ Superintendent Chrisman reported that the senior class had a very nice event on Sunday, July 19th, celebrating their graduation. YHS administration and parents worked hard on getting approval for the event. Michael Dischner gave a brief

report on the event stating that the seniors were able to do a walkthrough of the school and they viewed a video from their graduation day. Dischner was pleased with the number of students in attendance. The senior parents then did a barbecue and with money that had been raised through junior class meals, etc, they presented each student with an Amazon Gift Card. This event provided the seniors with some closure and it was a very nice event. Chrisman noted that the parents followed all requirements given by the health department for serving the barbecue. Chrisman stated it was nice seeing the students having their last opportunity to be together. The students seemed appreciative.

- ❖ Chrisman again reported on the Town Hall meeting opportunity that is being discussed. This will be a great forum to provide to families in the community to get accurate information.
- ❖ Registration is being planned. Information will soon be out on details. One priority will be obtaining updated and correct contact information from each family. This is imperative this year as the district must have good contact info in case their student becomes ill and needs to be picked up in a timely manner. Families will be encouraged to give as many contacts as they feel comfortable giving. A drive through registration is being planned for families to pick up paperwork. More information will follow.
- ❖ Chrisman reported the district is working through parameters on student fees, especially extracurricular sports fees. The district may need to hold off on collecting those fees until it is clear what the fall sports season will look like. Galles asked if CHSAA has come out with guidance yet. Chrisman states everything the district has received from them so far states they are waiting for the state to give their timeline and approval.
- ❖ Chrisman stated she is sure there will be need of a special board meeting sometime between now and the next scheduled board meeting to discuss reopening. Also there will be a special board meeting August 31st to approve the GMP for the YHS project.
- ❖ Chrisman also reminded the board that this is typically the time of year that invitations are received for the CASB Convention. This year there are two options, in person or hybrid virtual attendance. As a reminder, hotels go quickly so once the district gets the notification and if members wish to attend in person arrangements needs to be made soon to guarantee rooms. The dates for this are December 3rd, 4th, and 5th.

10.0 BOARD REPORTS/COMMENTS

- ❖ None.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM by Vice President Brown.

Motion by Holtorf, seconded by Langley, to adjourn the meeting.
Voting Aye: Brown, 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