

Yuma School District-1
September 21, 2020 Regular Meeting
Board of Education

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Dan Ross, President
Duane Brown, Vice President
Thomas Holtorf, Director
Lindsey Galles, Director
Kim Langley, Secretary/Treasurer

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 President, Dan Ross called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 21, 2020, in the Yuma School District Board Room.

2.0 AGENDA-ADDITIONS/DELETIONS-APPROVAL

- Superintendent Chrisman stated she had planned to give a COVID update during her superintendent's report but wanted to give the board the preference of moving this to a discussion item. President Ross stated he would like to discuss it. Chrisman recommended moving it to 8.6 on the agenda for discussion.
- President Ross stated two corrections that need made to August 17, 2020, minutes. The first being in 3.0, Financial Officer Report, where it was stated that Dennis-Murphy reported she had closed the books for the 1920 financials. This should read the 19-20 financials. Secondly, in 8.1, approval of fuel bids, the minutes state that one bid was received from CVRS, and should read CRVS.

Motion by Ross, seconded by Langley, to approve agenda as amended.

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

3.0 FINANCIAL OFFICER REPORT

- Business Manager Sherry Dennis-Murphy gave financial report for the month of August.
 - ❖ Expenditures \$772,744; Revenue \$673,847; Payroll and Benefits \$576,169.
 - ❖ Larger Bills
 - Heartland School Solutions for renewal of food services program for \$2,203.
 - Explore Learning for site license renewal of \$3,295.
 - Strictly Tech for chromebooks, paid out of CARES Act, for \$205,088.
 - Bluffs Bulk Supply for \$136,630

- Black Bear Orchard for FCCLA fundraiser for \$2,725.
- Dennis-Murphy reports the auditors were here last week working on finalizing the field work. The hope is to have everything finalized, submitted and presented at the November board meeting.
- Donations are listed on the agenda.

4.0 CONSENT AGENDA

4.1 Approval of Minutes

4.2 Routine Business

4.2.1 Financial Reports as of August 31, 2020

4.2.2 August 2020 Check Register

4.2.3 Donations

- ❖ Smithfield for YHS Football Club - \$100
- ❖ Yuma Lions Club for MES Computer Headphones for \$150

4.3 Personnel

4.3.1 Recommendations

- ❖ Abbie Reed – Volunteer Softball Coach
- ❖ Brenda Davis – YHS Secretary
- ❖ Brittany Ross – YMS Para
- ❖ Chelsea Gorman – YMS Para
- ❖ Adrian Brower – Grounds/Maintenance
- ❖ Dave Sheffield – Route Driver
- ❖ Jose Rivera – Route Driver
- ❖ Ben Inouye – Route Driver
- ❖ Kent Chrisman – Route Driver
- ❖ Alma Perez – Custodian
- ❖ Janet Baquero – Custodian
- ❖ Cyrstal Schwartz – MES GT Coordinator
- ❖ Tammy Law – YMS GT Coordinator

4.3.2 Separations and Resignations

- ❖ Trevor Neb – Maintenance Director
- ❖ Irene Holguin – Custodian
- ❖ Sherri Vance – Bus Route Driver

4.4 Approval of Policies – 2nd and Final Reading

- ❖ Policy JII – Student Concerns, Complaints, and Grievances
- ❖ Policy JBB* - Sexual Harassment Under Title IX and Other Prohibited Misconduct of a Sexual Nature
- ❖ Policy AC – Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity
- ❖ Policy AC-E-1 – Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity
- ❖ Policy AC-E-2 – Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity (Report Form)
- ❖ Policy AC-E-3 – Title IX Formal Complaint

4.5 LEA Plan

4.6 Assessment Calendar

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

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

5.0 VISITORS COMMENTS/REQUESTS

- None

6.0 SCHEDULED AUDIENCE WITH BOARD

6.1 Project One Project Update

- ❖ Chad Rayl gave a brief update on the building project. Regarding YMS, everything has been pretty much closed out. The kitchen staff is back into the YMS kitchen to start serving hot lunches. There is still work being done on the site punch list. They still have to paint the railings at YMS drop off location and also the railings in front of the classrooms. HVAC/air conditioning is working well at YMS.
- ❖ At YHS, the gym is getting closed in with interior work beginning soon. The slab has been poured. Starting to set the roof top curbs. On the CTE wing, a lot of the utilities are relocated. By the end of week everything should be relocated and live. There will be a water shut down at the end of the week.
- ❖ Rayl reports the project is on schedule and the budget remains healthy. Internal discussions will begin soon regarding additional funding sources for other ways to improve the school for staff and students.
- ❖ Chrisman reported the Ag Advisory Group will participate on Friday with the Ag teachers and Neenan for the design features, equipment placement, etc.
- ❖ Rayl also gave an update on the bus loop. He stated that the crew will be coming in and put gravel in spots where needed. He states they are working on getting the whole area asphalted. There will also be more sidewalk added where the students walk.
- ❖ General discussion followed.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

- None

8.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

8.1 Bus Fleet Reduction

- ❖ Jeanne Yenter, Transportation Director, reported the

Transportation department would like to get rid of two wheelchair lift buses that are no longer being used. She states they would also like to get rid of Bus #3, which has had mechanical issues and is not used. Also, the red suburban and the Aerostar. Chrisman reported that these are the recommendations. She stated that in the past there have been sealed bids on each piece with a deadline and then highest bids get the vehicles. Langley asked if this would be advertised. Chrisman responded that it would.

Motion by Ross, seconded by Holtorf, to accept sealed bids on the fleet reduction as suggested by the Transportation Department.

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

8.2 Transportation Plan

- ❖ Superintendent Chrisman reported that over the past couple of years there have been discussions about changing the transportation plan which is why the additional two new mini buses were purchased. As anticipated there has been difficulty bringing in large bus CDL drivers. This year in utilizing the 2 mini buses the district has 4 certified staff members, each taking one leg of the country routes. Chrisman and Yenter have been discussing whether or not the district needs to consider a 3rd mini bus purchase, understanding that it takes a while to get them here once ordered. Chrisman states she believes the district could use another mini bus in this process to help with students who are having to ride the bus late due to limited number of drivers. Chrisman reports that Yenter has to almost daily make adjustments to the routes. Chrisman asked Yenter to share some of the difficulties she is facing in getting CDL Passenger approved drivers – getting them to apply and/or getting them qualified.
- ❖ Yenter reported that the transportation department lost another CDL Driver. Her last day was Friday, September 18th. The district has been advertising for drivers since 2007. Two of the most current drivers were people Jeanne contacted personally about driving. She has contacted numerous people with CDLs who say they are not interested.
- ❖ President Ross stopped Yenter to ask a question. Ross asked if Yenter knew if there was a reason the district is unable to obtain drivers. Is it a financial reason? Is it hours? Yenter reported that finances is some of it, but also some don't want to work with the split hours. Ross stated he knows all the answers to the questions he is asking but is attempting to make everyone understand where the questions are coming from and why the district cannot obtain drivers. Chrisman stated that in addition the requirements now to

obtain the licensure is much more difficult than what it has been in the past and many do not wish to go through that piece. Yenter states that even with a CDL you have to basically start over with a written test, a permit, extra training, driving test, and it is not a simple procedure. Yenter reports there is a gentleman that will be starting soon who will drive a mini bus to start.

- ❖ Yenter states she is having a very difficult time trying to cover all of the routes even with no athletics and now athletics are going to be starting. Yenter reports the transportation department has no substitutes. It is becoming increasingly difficult to cover both town and country routes. Discussion followed on concerns if one of the drivers gets ill or has a family emergency and what strategies or changes need to be made with the needs in transportation at this time.
- ❖ The board discussed barriers to finding drivers including hours and pay, as well as ideas to address all of the issues and struggles currently facing transportation.

8.3 Approval of Policy AC-R-1 Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity (Complaint and Compliance Process) 2nd and Final Reading

- ❖ Superintendent Chrisman summarized Policy AC-R-1. She reported that Vice President Brown had come in and sat in on a phone call with the school district's attorney to ensure proper understanding of this policy and Policy AC-R-2 and the differences between the two. Policy AC-R-1 is the policy that would be used if a complaint did not rise to the level of a Title IX complaint. The AC-R-2 is the form and process used if the complaint did rise to a Title IX complaint. All dates were verified in both policies as far as the amount of time for reporting, etc. Chrisman states she feels comfortable with the policy and with her understanding. Vice President Brown added that he is in agreement and that the policies are to his satisfaction.

Motion by Brown, seconded by Langley, to approve the 2nd reading of Policy AC-R-1 Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity as presented.

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

8.4 Approval of Policy AC-R-2 – Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Process – 2nd and Final Reading

- ❖ Superintendent Chrisman states the same for this policy as the previous.

Motion by Holtorf, seconded by Brown, to approve the 2nd reading of Policy AC-R-2 Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Process.

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

8.5 Policy DN – School Property Disposition Plan

- ❖ Superintendent Chrisman stated that the district has started to accumulate some items from the YMS portion of the renovation and the district is ready to go through the process of property disposition. With COVID it has been a little more difficult as an in-person auction like it was in the past. Chrisman states it is necessary to do something now as the district is running out of space to store these items. She is recommending this be set up as an on-line auction where people can go in and bid up to a certain date and then at that point they can come get it. Chrisman is asking the board for approval that throughout the process of the construction project and as property is accumulated the district can list them as needed on a perpetual virtual auction.

Motion by Ross, seconded by Langley, to approve a virtual auction site for the disposition of property.

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

8.6 COVID-19 Discussion

- ❖ Chrisman reported on the current status of COVID. There has been a pretty significant and quick turn of events since last Wednesday, September 16th. Chrisman first addressed the timeline of what has been happening. Wednesday, September 16th, the district was notified of the first positive case impacting the school district. The CDPHE guidelines on the quarantine took some time to go through. There were two options – one being to say that school is out and everyone is considered quarantined. The decision was made to move to remote instruction to give time to go through contact tracing with the health department in order to identify students who had been exposed versus those with no exposure. A plan was made to cover for teachers who were required to be in quarantine and the plan made it possible for all students not in quarantine to return to in-person learning on Monday, September 21st. However, on Saturday there was notification of two additional cases. Contact tracing was completed. The number of students impacted was not the majority yet that would be under quarantine, however, the number of teachers impacted made it basically impossible to cover the classes on-site while teachers had to be quarantined. Therefore, decision was made that YHS would be unable to hold in-person instruction. Again, Chrisman clarified that this was not due to the number of cases at YHS but the quarantine impact with the staff. Additionally, another

case at YHS was reported today taking the number to 4. Three of those exposures did have an impact at MES as well. It is further complicated in working with the health department on the duration of the quarantines as they go off of a last exposure. There is one class that only needed to be quarantined for two additional days but had others that needed to be 14 days. This is based off of what the health department directs on contact days. Chrisman reports this has been very difficult and complicated. Additionally, there has been a YMS impact showing spread in additional places.

- ❖ Chrisman reported on questions that have been coming in. The biggest question is that people don't understand that with the reopening plan it said that if the district had 0-10 cases the district would operate in the green zone, if the district had 10 cases it would move to yellow with extra classroom cohorts and restrictions, and if the district hit 30 cases then the district would go to remote instruction. There are two parallel systems that have been happening. The reopening guidelines that the task force helped create as a county wide school group was prior to the CDPHE quarantine guidelines coming in. Chrisman reported that the group needs to meet again as what is currently in place does not meet what the requirements are. The district did not go to remote instruction at the high school because there were 3 active cases. The district went to remote instruction at the high school because there was not enough staff to continue with in-person instruction. The other question that keeps coming in is, if it is an automatic that if a student is in a classroom with another student then why is the district bothering to wear masks and other precautions. Chrisman has asked the health department and is waiting on a response for that. The health department has the responsibility and authority to assign quarantines. The school district does not. What the school district has the responsibility for is identifying students who have been on quarantine are not in school as to potentially expose other students. To be clear the district is not assigning quarantines. That is not in the district's professional responsibility. The district is working with the health department to identify because otherwise if the district does not help with contact tracing it is a blanket and all of the students in certain groups are out. These are the bulk of the questions that have come in. Chrisman gave more information on the cohorting and the challenges that arise with staff, especially with specials teachers. Chrisman stresses that the main goal still is and will remain to be trying to keep school open for as many students as possible. She stated that the district knew this day would come but was hoping it would be a little further down the road. Chrisman does state that the process for remote learning is much improved from what it previously was. She notes it is still not perfect but improving from what it was in the spring.

- ❖ Vice President Ross states he was hoping the district would not have

to deal with this at all. He doesn't understand how as a county a variance was created but yet it cannot be followed because of rules being changed. Chrisman responded that it was really a variance that was created but a reopening plan with the original variance that the county had applied for. However, right now the variances look very different. She explained further how the state plan looks. She reports that the task force needs to meet again to update the plan according to the most recent guidelines. She also noted that Yuma County never did receive a variance for "Protect Your Neighbor" status. Discussion followed on mask usage and the various aspects of quarantining, etc.

- ❖ There was discussion over confusion with phone calls going out from the Health Department to students/families prior to communication coming out from the school. Chrisman states the district will work with the Health Department on these procedures for getting information out to families as soon as possible as new situations develop. Phone calls from the Health Department will be followed up with written documentation from the district as soon as possible.
- ❖ Superintendent Chrisman reported the different sports seasons now approved through CHSAA. Athletic Director, Michael Dischner, reported that 31 1A teams chose the fall season and 11 chose spring. The district's league looked at it together and chose the fall. Dischner gave further explanation of how the football season will look and the various restrictions and rules that will be in place. General discussion followed.

9.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- ❖ Superintendent Chrisman reported that the audit has been completed. She is hoping to have the presentation sooner than later. October will be too quick but November will be the goal. There are just a few clarifying things coming up but overall things seem to be in order. As soon as the report is received the district will start doing the mid-year revisions to the budget with updated personnel, supplies, etc.
- ❖ Chrisman reports that the A sports season is winding down. There were two golfers at Regionals. Cross Country has a little bit of a break right now and they are doing very well. Softball games had to be rescheduled during the quarantine.
- ❖ Director Langley asked about the pupil count. Chrisman responded that the district's preliminary numbers are within one or two of the projected count. The numbers look pretty much in line with last year.

10.0 BOARD REPORT


- ❖ Director Galles commented on how well her daughter's teacher is doing with the remote learning process.
- ❖ Chrisman stated that she is very appreciative of the excellent staff that

YSD-1 has and she recognizes how hard this has been and that the staff is tired. President Ross added that he feels the district needs to be very aware of the student's mental health through all of these difficult times. Chrisman stated that there has already been discussion with the student support group in coming up with ways to reach out to the students. She states there is a really great team in place to address these issues. Ross acknowledged the great staff and administration that the district currently has. Galles added the importance of community also being there to support staff and students.

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm by Dan Ross.

Motion by Langley, seconded by Galles, 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