

Yuma School District-1
April 19, 2021 Regular Meeting
Board of Education

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Dan Ross, President

Duane Brown, Vice President

Thomas Holtorf, Director

Dianna Chrisman, Superintendent

Sherry Dennis-Murphy, Business Manager

Rhonda Metcalfe, Executive Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Lindsey Galles, Director

Kim Langley, Secretary/Treasurer

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, April 19, 2021, in the Yuma School District Board Room.

2.0 AGENDA-ADDITIONS/DELETIONS-APPROVAL

- None

Motion by Ross, seconded by Brown, to accept the agenda as presented.

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

3.0 FINANCIAL OFFICER REPORT

- Business Manager Sherry Dennis-Murphy gave financial report for the month of March.
 - ❖ Expenditures \$731,395; Revenue \$1,664,539; Payroll and Benefits \$637,619.
 - ❖ Several smaller bills were paid as noted in reports.
 - ❖ Dennis-Murphy also reported several voided checks as she cleaned up outstanding checks. She sent approximately \$450 to Colorado Payback for unclaimed funds.
 - ❖ Dennis-Murphy stated the district is finishing up purchases for the year. There are several grants and activity funds that are still purchasing. If needed a supplemental will be done next month.
 - ❖ One donation is listed on agenda for \$1000 to Gifted and Talented for 3rd and 4th Grade.
 - ❖ General questions, observations and discussion.

4.0 CONSENT AGENDA

4.1 Approval of Minutes

4.1.1 March 22, 2021 – Regular Board Meeting

4.2 Routine Business

4.2.1 Financial Reports as of March 31, 2021

4.2.2 March 2021 Check Register

4.2.3 Donations

- ❖ Joy Hoffman - \$1000 for 3rd/4th Grade Gifted & Talented

4.3 Personnel

4.3.1 Authorizations

- ❖ 2021-22 Administrator/Special Services/Teacher Contracts
- ❖ Karli Corey – YMS 8th Grade Assistant Volleyball Coach
- ❖ Jamie Devlin – YMS 7th Grade Assistant Volleyball Coach
- ❖ Joe Oss – YMS Volunteer Track Coach
- ❖ Luz Sanchez – YMS Assistant Track Coach

4.3.2 Resignations and Separations

- ❖ Andrea Valenzuela – YMS Para
- ❖ Jackie Doggett – YHS Para

4.3.3 Retirements

- ❖ Patsy Cox – Cook
- ❖ Barb Brown – MES Secretary
- ❖ Vicky Savolt – K-4 Intervention Teacher

Motion by Holtorf, seconded by Brown, to approve Consent Agenda as presented.
Voting Aye: Brown, Holtorf, Ross. Absent: Galles, Langley. Motion carried.

5.0 VISITORS COMMENTS/REQUESTS

- None

6.0 SCHEDULED AUDIENCE WITH BOARD

6.1 Mascot Discussion – Roubideaux Family

- Superintendent Chrisman stated that the purpose of this scheduled audience is to talk about what has happened so far with the mascot bill, to talk about what the district knows now and look at what could potentially happen in the future. Chrisman reported that there is a meeting with the Rural Alliance and some other people from the state level with superintendents and board members. The meeting is open to any school districts that have concerns with this bill. The district will have a better idea of options to pursue after the meeting. Chrisman assumes that after the stated meeting there will need to be a work session with community involvement. Chrisman prefaces this conversation with the fact that there may not be answers in this board

meeting or even have all the components to discuss but that the district wants to stay on this situation.

- Superintendent Chrisman gave her appreciation to Lee and Teresa Roubideaux, as well as to Vice President Brown, for going to the State Capital to testify. Chrisman reported that the bill did pass out of the Senate Education Committee. The bill will now go to the Senate floor. It is unclear at this point what the next steps will be. Chrisman states she is hoping for more clarification after her meeting on Tuesday, April 20, 2021.
- Superintendent Chrisman stated for clarification purposes that this is not something that the district has not been aware of. The bill was introduced not long ago. There are misconceptions that this bill was brought up in 2015. There was a commission established to look at these things and there were some recommendations but there were no mandates, no specific expectations at this time. The district has been watching this evolve and has met the intent of what the recommendations from the commission were.
- Vice President Brown shared information on how, when and why the bill was drafted and introduced. Brown expressed his gratitude to the Roubideaux family for their testimony.
- Chrisman reported on community feedback that has been received at this point indicating that Yuma as a community stands very much behind the use of the Indian mascot as a sign of respect, acknowledgement and pride. From here it is a matter of what are the district's avenues to argue the case. Also, what information needs to be gathered and what are the next steps. If the bill passes with no amendments, then there are no options other than to pay the fine which is \$25,000 per month. The other thing is that the district would have until June to have a solid plan on how the district would remove all visible components that the district has. However, as VP Brown explained there is a discrepancy in the bill regarding the fine and when the changes would have to be made.
- Superintendent Chrisman reported that some of the things the district has talked about is that there are a few previous graduates that are of Native American descent and are very proud that they graduated as an Indian. One of these graduates has indicated that he is talking with his tribe. One of the amendments that may be in place is any school that is in a current agreement with an approved tribal nation will be able to maintain their mascots. She explained this further.
- Lee and Teresa Roubideaux talked about what they have done to contact Lee's tribe and what needs to still happen. They shared conversations that have happened, their thoughts on the issue and the experience at the Senate Education Committee hearing.
- Michael Dischner, Athletic Director, shared his thoughts around keeping the mascot.
- VP Brown reported that he has reached out to Senator Sonnenberg who has indicated issues with the bill. Senator Sonnenberg indicated that he will continue to fight for the district and help by being our voice when we need it.

- Superintendent Chrisman stated that if the district does have other graduates with Native American heritage or if we know of any other graduates who are supportive we will reach out to get as many names as possible and make some calls. These types of testimonials seem to have the most impact.
- Director Holtorf thanked the Roubideaux's and VP Brown for attending the hearing and representing Yuma.

6.2 Neenan/Project-1 Update – Chad Rayl

- Chad Rayl, Project-1, reported that they are currently working on a game plan for the summer work on the project with the biggest scope of the project being finishing up the CTE wing at YHS and starting the renovation piece of the existing high school. He gave an update of what is currently being done with the overall project. There was general discussion and questions.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

- President Ross indicated several emails had been received regarding the mascot situation.

8.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

8.1 Approval of Health Insurance Plan 2021-2022

- Superintendent Chrisman reported that in the board packet was the renewal recommendation from Janna Young. Janna included a list of the committee members' names that met with the district's representative. There is a 6.3% overall increase, which is great compared to some in previous years. Chrisman went over the cost to district and to employee. Chrisman stated there are two proposals. Option A is to continue the same percentage split that would increase the district's cost by \$54,000 and the total cumulative to the staff by \$14,000. Option B would be for the district to pick up the entire increase, which is a difference of \$14,000 over the \$54,000 to \$68,000. The benefits did not change.

Motion by Holtorf, seconded by Ross, to approve renewal scenario Option A, equal share renewal increase between the district and employees.

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

8.2 LifeLock Employee Benefit

- Superintendent Chrisman reported that this had come up during the insurance renewal conversations with a new benefit that the district's servicer is providing. There was a large number of the district's employees who were affected by the unemployment fraud that many employers experienced this year. Names and identifying information were sent as unemployment claims. This was not a breach of district information. There are several districts looking at providing LifeLock for their employees.

Chrisman explained the two options for providing this service as seen on the handout in their board book. Chrisman is recommending the district consider providing this for the employees.

- General discussion and questions. It was decided to table this until next month's meeting so that more information can be gathered and clarifications can be made.

8.3 Network Server Hardware Purchase

- Superintendent Chrisman stated the district needs to replace and update the server. The cost is \$30,550 plus approximately \$3,000 to \$3,500 for installation. The plan is to use COVID monies for this which is allowable.
- Chrisman gave a recap of COVID funds that are still coming.
- General discussion followed.

Motion by Ross, second by Brown, to approve the Gertge Technology bid for the \$30,550 for the new server.

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

8.4 COVID Update - Discussion

- Superintendent Chrisman reported there has been some statewide changes that have impacted most everyone but the school district. There is a new public health order that puts counties who are within certain parameters in charge of their own COVID response. This would give a little more local control in finishing out the school year. The public health order and these changes exclude schools, prisons, health care facilities, nursing homes, daycares, and those kinds of places. Therefore, the district is still under full mask order as it has been in schools. Chrisman spoke with one of the commissioners today to see if in their conversations if there were any parameters that they saw. They had conversations and were hopeful too that they would have control over the entire county but their hands are tied when it comes to the schools. There will be another announcement on May 4th that may or may not impact the schools. The biggest COVID change is that capacities have changed and increased. However, the district still has the obligation in that order to maintain the six-foot distance. No significant changes to education at this point.

8.5 Budget Planning Process – Discussion

- Superintendent Chrisman reported on budget planning. She stated that the district is waiting for the state. Chrisman gave a brief report on what she does know at this time. Bottom line is the district should be receiving good solid funds next year to cover new expenses; i.e. raises, insurance changes, etc. Chrisman states there should be more information in May. Intention is to build the budget on the last typical year and hope to get to be in a typical year. Not a lot of anticipated changes.

- Chrisman gave an update on HVAC. The district is looking at about \$650,000 for the Pit. ESSER 2 funds is about \$550,000. The remaining will come out of ESSER 3. Chad Rayl met with a representative for the elementary school. No dollar amounts yet but it should not be too huge of a project to add air conditioning to the elementary as part of the project. Rayl explained what will have to be done at the elementary school. One additional need for HVAC is in the units directly over the middle school offices. The district is exploring the cost of those as well. There will be plenty of ESSER funds to cover all of this. The district has until September of 2024 to use these ESSER funds.
- Chrisman reported that the budget has to be done by June 30th.
- Chrisman stated the district is working on a list of things coming out of the COVID dollars. There is part of the project that the district will need to allocate some district capital funds or reserve funds to. At the south side of the auxiliary gym at the entrance to the football field there are plans to add a storage shed there because the others need to be taken out. Chrisman would like to get with Iron Steel to talk about some options for a building there.

9.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Superintendent Chrisman reported that YHS graduation will be at 1:00 PM on May 16th. This will be at the YHS football field. New guidelines state that at an outdoor event masks do not have to be worn but will still need to maintain some distancing.
- Students and parents opted for a non-school related prom which took place on Saturday, April 17th.
- Options are being explored for 8th grade continuation. Mrs. Kloberdanz is meeting with a group of parents on April 20th for indoor versus outdoor planning.
- Last day of school is May 14th. There are 2 days that staff will come back. All teachers will be assigned to rooms at YHS to help with the final push to move everything out. This will be an incredibly complicated transition to get all things out and sorted.

9.0 BOARD REPORT

- President Ross extended gratitude to VP Brown and the Roubideaux family for their extensive efforts in representing the community at the state level regarding the mascot bill.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 8:27 P.M. by President Dan Ross.

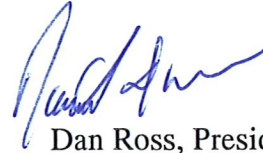
Motion by Holtorf, seconded by Brown, to adjourn the meeting.

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

Sincerely,



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



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

