

Yuma School District-1
July 25, 2022 Regular Meeting
Board of Education

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Duane Brown, President	Dianna Chrisman, Superintendent
John Deering, Vice President	Sherry Dennis-Murphy, Business Manager
Thomas Holtorf, Director, arrived at 7:02	Dani Crossland, Executive Secretary
Lindsey Galles, Director	
Terri Cooper, Secretary/Treasurer	

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board President, Duane Brown called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 25, 2022, in the Yuma School District Board Room.

2.0 AGENDA-ADDITIONS/DELETIONS-APPROVAL

- Superintendent Chrisman stated some additions to the consent agenda – 4.3.1 and 4.3.2
 - Authorization of Mariya Mekelburg – C Team Volleyball Coach
 - Authorization of Sarah Leifheit – YMS Floating Classroom Instructor
 - Authorization of Jenna Wall – YMS Para
 - Resignation of Lee Vetter – YHS Agriculture Teacher
 - Superintendent Chrisman recommends tabling the approval of the school handbooks, Agenda items 8.2, 8.3, and 8.4, to the August meeting after finding a few things that need corrected before approval. This will move Agenda item 8.5, Capital Outlay Planning/Process up to 8.2.

Motion by Galles, seconded by Brown to approve agenda as revised.

Voting Aye: Brown, Cooper, Deering, Galles. Absent: Holtorf Motion carried.

3.0 FINANCIAL OFFICER REPORT

- Business Manager Sherry Dennis-Murphy gave financial report for the month of June. The reports included in the Board Book are not the final reports for year end, awaiting final invoices and also some revenue that hasn't been received yet. Anticipating closing the books next week as all of the information needs to be sent over to the Auditors to get ready for the audit on September 1st and 2nd.
 - Expenditures \$1,315,638; Revenue \$971,709; Payroll and Benefits \$617,983.
 - Larger Bills
 - Asmus Equipment – \$8,450 for Walker equipment, traded in 2 older mowers and a snow blower
 - Bedrock, LLC – \$9,502 for wood chips for the playground

- Colorado FBLA – \$5,043 for hotel and registration for Nationals, paid from activity account
- Premier Environmental - \$88,363 for abatement for the renovation
- Transfer of appropriated Capital projects - \$330,842

4.0 CONSENT AGENDA

4.1 Approval of Minutes

4.1.1 June 20, 2022 – Regular Board Meeting

4.2 Routine Business

4.2.1 Financial Reports as of June 30, 2022

4.2.2 June 2022 Check Register

4.2.3 Review YSD-1 LEA Plan

4.2.4 Donations

- ❖ El Pomar Foundation - \$5,000 for Little Indians Preschool

4.3 Personnel

4.3.1 Recommendations

- ❖ Jane Wakefield – MES Para
- ❖ Lidia Avina – YHS ESL Para/Interpreter
- ❖ Tonya Serl – MES Para
- ❖ Lesa Halcomb – 5th & 6th Grade Science Teacher
- ❖ Mariya Mekelburg – C Team Volleyball Coach
- ❖ Sarah Leifheit – YMS Floating Classroom Instructor
- ❖ Jenna Wall – YMS Para

4.3.2 Separations and Resignations

- ❖ Lee Vetter – YHS Agriculture Teacher

4.4 Policy Parameters and Special Policy Updates

4.4.1 2nd & Final Reading

- ❖ GBGG - Staff Leave
- ❖ IKF - Graduation Requirements

4.5 Assessment Calendar

President Brown asked to move Agenda Item 4.2.4 Donations to Discussion Item 8.3. Motion by Deering, seconded by Holtorf, to approve Consent Agenda as modified. Voting Aye: Brown, Cooper, Deering, Galles, Holtorf. Motion carried.

5.0 VISITORS COMMENTS/REQUESTS

- Ronella Noble expressed her appreciation to Director Holtorf for voting against the Ag Renovation project. She shared that she didn't know enough to be for or against the project, she just appreciates when the board talks and expresses their own thoughts and thinks it's good that there isn't always a rubber stamp that everybody always

votes yes. She also showed her appreciation to President Brown for always asking the Board for their feedback and comments as well as toward Superintendent Chrisman for meeting with the teachers in the schools last year.

6.0 SCHEDULED AUDIENCE WITH BOARD

- CMR Consulting Renovation Update, Transportation/District Office/Maintenance Building – Chad Rayl
 - ❖ Schedule update-abatement is completed
 - ❖ Demo is completed on the interior of the building
 - ❖ Rearranging a few things on the schedule while we wait for the State approval on permits
 - ❖ Electrical rough in has started
 - ❖ Sonar testing showed that there aren't any tanks in the ground on the north side of the building
 - ❖ Scheduled to be completed by mid November, but might have some delays due to supply shortages
 - ❖ \$1,379,000 for design and construction
 - ❖ There is a staircase on the south side of the shop that will need to be removed or upgraded as it is unsafe, assuming it will be under \$10,000
 - ❖ Everything is finalized, going forward any changes would require an official change order
 - ❖ Masterplan that was done in February 2019 included a plan to address the building needs to make it last another 50+ years
 - ❖ There were some components that would have to be taken care of to use the building even to use it for Transportation and Maintenance-including the plumbing, fire sprinklers and lighting to name a few
 - ❖ Black Hills will take care of the remaining gas lines.
 - ❖ Starting on concrete work this week to widen the north entrance and the fire lane, then work will start on the sidewalk on Ash Street.
 - ❖ Superintendent Chrisman updated on the ESSER Projects with Rayl. HVAC in the Pit and MES rooftop units are delayed. As soon as the units come in installation will be scheduled for a long weekend, Thanksgiving, or Christmas Break.

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

- None

8.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

8.1 School Resource Officer Proposal

- Yuma Police Officer D.J. Hass spoke to the Board about School Resource Officers. In 2015 there was a legislative mandate through Peace Officer Standards and Training, which is the training guidelines for the state, that every municipal police department and every county sheriff's office must have 1 officer or deputy certified as a school resource officer whether they are utilized in that role or not.

- In the past we have had some officers that have gone to the certification, but at this time, we didn't have anyone. Officer Hass has been to the training so they will meet the mandate. After discussions, they decided that they should try to get his training utilized the way it should be.
- Total calls to Yuma Schools from July 2021 to July 2022 were 35 at MES, 170 at YMS, and 166 at YHS. Having a School Resource Officer would make those responses quicker and more efficient as well as better trained.
- Hass is a crisis negotiator through the FBI who specializes in de-escalation and crisis intervention. He also has the required NASRO (National Association of School Resource Officers) training. The School Resource Officer would not be involved in school discipline.
- Hass went over a few options to establish a Memorandum of Understanding signed by Yuma School District and the Yuma Police Department to move forward.
- Cost options were discussed, there is a "COPS" grant that could help with funding that could be applied for next year. Likely that the District would pay the salary of the School Resource Officer.
- Superintendent Chrisman shared that she is in favor of a School Resource Officer and that school safety and security is very important and it would be a big benefit to the School District.
- Discussion about uniform and what would be best for the School Resource Officer to wear in the schools (traditional police uniform or soft look uniforms).
- Noted these are preliminary discussions only and will need to be discussed with the City Council.
- Board would like to get some information and look more into the School Resource Officer position.

8.2 Capital Outlay Planning/Process

- Superintendent Chrisman is looking for some feedback from the Board on the process to plan for Capital Projects and future purchases-as processes and availability around capital projects has changed over time. Superintendent Chrisman shared the current list of Capital Projects for this year and future projects—all of the items have deficits that need to be addressed.
- Just notified of a delay on the work on the track because of a rubber shortage. Might not be able to complete at this time with football season starting. The track has one lane that isn't a complete lane now because the concrete has been breaking away for so many years creating a hazard. The track surface has some areas that have cracks that are getting larger. If we are able to get the supplies now it will be hard to coordinate with football to get the track done and then we will be into colder weather. Would be best to postpone to next year with the delay in receiving rubber.
- Not able to use the auditorium currently, no lights or audio in the auditorium.
- Hard to get companies to bid as they have plenty of work along the Front Range.

- After trying for quite some time (almost a year), we were able to get a quote for \$580,000 for the auditorium. During the time searching for a quote, the houselights completely failed which caused a significant increase in the price.
- ADA requirement for audio enhancement system that we currently don't have, that quote came in at \$4,100- Superintendent Chrisman is recommending two sets.
- Received an updated estimate for middle school bleachers, we've had that in the plans for quite a few years (all pre COVID) to provide aisles and hand rails to make them safer.
- Auditorium system was designed in 1994 and the School District purchased it in 2005, and as a used system.
- Within the Capital Project Outlay budget the money has been appropriated and we are still within the dollar amount, Superintendent Chrisman recommends moving forward with sound and lighting for the auditorium. Superintendent Chrisman would like to have Board approval before proceeding because of the dollar amount.
- Director Holtorf is apprehensive to continue spending money on Capital Projects after doing the Best Project. He stated he would not support a capital budget that goes into reserves. He stated it wouldn't have been a problem moving forward with the auditorium if we weren't already committed to the District Office/Transportation/Maintenance building.
- Cooper understands that we need to have the buildings usable, but at some point, the spending needs to slow down.
- Superintendent Chrisman stated this would be a good discussion for the group as to what the purpose is of reserves. The way she and Business Manager Dennis-Murphy formulate the budget is to not utilize any reserves for operating expenses, but that the purpose of the reserves is for one time purchases. She reiterated that we had to build those reserves because of the extensive HVAC and other deficiencies that had to be addressed at the high school and middle school. If not for the BEST Grant and Bond, we would have depleted our reserves and still would not have completely functioning systems. The reserves are available for one time expenses.
- We have funds available because the Best Grant took care of some of the things that needed taken care of, but the auditorium and PIT were areas we did not include in the BEST grant because it would have limited our chances of getting our grant approved.
- President Brown isn't comfortable leaving the auditorium non-functional, as it's a core part of our high school, and we have the funds in reserves to take care of it. We will still have healthy reserves after fixing the auditorium and the other Capital Projects.
- Director Galles reiterated that an entire group of students does not have the ability to do what they love without an auditorium.
- Vice President Deering stated that while it's hard to spend that money, we also need to have buildings and equipment in working condition.

Motion by Brown, seconded by Galles, to pursue the lighting and sound system project as presented with Bret's Electric with the additional \$4,100 for another assistive listening system.
Voting Aye: Brown, Cooper, Deering, Galles. Voting Nay: Holtorf. Motion carried.

8.3 El Pomar \$5,000 Donation

- President Brown wanted to discuss the El Pomar Foundation and the donation for Little Indians. He also asked about the name of the preschool, Little Indians, and when we are going forward with changing that. Superintendent Chrisman shared that a new name for the Preschool has not been determined yet. A community member applied for a grant through El Pomar and wanted the funds to go to the Preschool for what is needed at the Preschool.
- Funds need to be spent within a year and we will need to do a final report.
- The playground at the Preschool is out of compliance with the State, so students can't play on the playground. They have been going over to Morris Elementary and using the playground there.
- We had been looking at using funds from the general fund for the playground, but it's good to have the opportunity to use different funds for the playground instead of general funds.
- Brown's questions regarding El Pomar Foundation were answered by Superintendent Chrisman and Business Manager Dennis-Murphy.

9.0 SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Getting ready for the 2022-23 school year.
- Recommend moving next Board meeting to August 15th as the Yuma County Fair will still be going on and we have some conflicts.
- Admin will be starting on August 1st, District wide registration is on August 2nd, teachers first day will be on August 8th. Students will start on August 16th.
- Finalizing some new hires with a few open positions still available. Have a new opening for an agriculture teacher at YHS.

10.0 BOARD REPORT

- Director Galles thanked President Brown for gathering signatures for Initiative 63.
- President Brown wants the District to come up with a standard 'Y' that everyone can use as our symbol. Superintendent Chrisman will get some things together for the next Board meeting.
- Brown gave an update on Initiative 63. Great Schools, Thriving Communities was hoping to raise enough money to hire paid circulators for the petition on the front range. They weren't able to raise the money needed, so it is very unlikely that the Initiative will get on the ballot.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 9:23 P.M. by President Duane Brown.

Motion by Cooper, seconded by Galles to adjourn the meeting.
Voting Aye: Brown, Cooper, Deering, Galles, Holtorf. Motion carried.

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July 25, 2022

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Terri Cooper in blue ink.

Terri Cooper, Secretary/Treasurer
Yuma School District-1
Board of Education

Handwritten signature of Duane Brown in blue ink.

Duane Brown, President
Yuma School District-1
Board of Education