

YUMA SCHOOL DISTRICT-1
418 S. Main Street, P.O. Box 327
Yuma, Colorado 80759 - 0327

Agenda for a regular meeting of the Board of Education to be held at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 20, 2013, at District Board Room.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Weinrich
Baucke
Brown
Ross

Superintendent Stannard
Beth Dischner
Sherry Dennis-Murphy

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Roth

1.0 CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Baucke called the special meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 20, 2013 in the District Board Room.

2.0 DISCUSSION ITEMS

2.1 Presentation of Background – Superintendent Robert Stannard

Introduction of Guests

- Elizabeth Davis: Principal of Calvert Academy and has a couple of our students
- Brad Miller: Entrepreneur, Lawyer, Classroom Educator -> Lawyer for Falcon School District 49

Proposal Partnership with Falcon 49 aka “Digital BOCES”

- History
 - Five big projects
 - Alternate school, likely 7-12
 - We are being driven to start an alternate school for our kids
 - Technology-intensive strategy frequently referred to as “Blended”
 - Extensively working on our technology
 - Not interested in being a fully online school – aiming more for blended education
 - Alliance with higher education
 - UNC is a front runner – long negotiation
 - ELL
 - Security
- Alt-School
 - YMS is in partnership with Calvert Academy
 - Provide students with a blended environment
 - Mold needs of kids – cases where student is transferred to Calvert Academy and we see them every week

- Advocating for flexibility to change for students needs
 - YHS is in partnership with G.O.A.L. Academy
 - Provides students with fully online environment
- Types of Students
 - YSD-1 has students who have a full time aid – they are all or partly online learners and remain in the building
 - Special Ed and not
 - No possibility of them becoming fully online, we have to work with them and adjust environment to work with them
 - Flexible schedule: variable hours for intervention and enhancement
 - Students with family issues, law issues, social and emotional issues
 - Schedule needs to be changed with technology so they don't lose learning time
 - This schedule provides a modularized standards based instruction, which allows them to take a student and pluck curriculum directly from technology program the lessons that directly address the standards the students have missed due to their circumstances
 - This schedule is allowing schools to do something productive that really works positively for those students
 - Drop-out Prevention: Local, at home, drop ins for counseling and help sessions
 - Population extends to age 21 - most prominent in high school
 - They can't be in classroom mainly because of their age and circumstances, but have a great desire to learn
 - YSD-1 has dug up old computers and put them in the homes of those students so they have the opportunity to finish school online
- Students We Wish to Serve
 - NYC students and other severe circumstance as well as students in transition thereof
 - Courts see a lot of the superintendent and they are a lot more lenient to students when a superintendent can assure the court that they have a plan in place for them
 - There are 2 dozen students that would benefit from brick and mortar alternative campus
 - Heavily based technology driven to be financially viable
 - Leader of Alt School, Sergeant of Arms
- Technology
 - YSD-1 will see a 10-fold increase in internet bandwidth this year
 - World is headed to more bandwidth
 - Very high speed connection between buildings by the end of the summer
 - Reorganization of Yuma's network including light fiber, servers and room layouts
 - Network optimization
 - ELL – have major high quality video and interactive ELL materials free from Mexican Consulate - handle this all without shutting down our network
 - Security – video surveillance – needs to have its own channel on our network

- Alliance with Higher Education
 - Teacher Professional Development
 - YSD-1 won a scholarships to UNC for teachers to get Culturally Linguistically Diverse certificate, but it is a hardship for them to drive to Greeley, so we are working get them to come to Yuma – long negotiation process
 - Enhance Early College for Students
 - We have a good relationship with NJC
 - Use technology to give students opportunities to study different subjects
 - Adult Education
 - This is part of our improvement plan – we have materials, but need to cheaply move it around our network
 - We'd like to bring instructor to us from higher education institution.
 - School Improvement
 - Top Education schools are all about school improvement
 - YSD-1 desires a relationship with higher Ed schools.
- Tie together
 - More Efficiency and More Expertise
 - 3 weeks ago idea was to acquire charter school
 - Hold, via transfer, the Charter of a small existing Colorado accredited multi district online school of compatible philosophy
- Charter for Yuma?
 - Most charters looking at it 3 weeks ago wouldn't address Higher Ed and it would tax YSD administration heavily despite advantages
 - Steep learning curve
 - YSD-1 would be fiscally responsible for academic scores – just got off of academic probation
 - Alt School and Online School
- Falcon 49/Digital BOCES
 - Approximately 71 page document written by Denise Mund formerly of the CDE
 - When she was at CDE, charter schools were under great examination and she has found a way to improve charter schools
 - Last week 49 Board approved this Digital BOCES idea
 - Extremely well researched and well written
 - Understand public concern regarding the weakness with online schools and this document addresses those concerns in great detail
 - Excellent governance, reporting and process (governance, assessment, action)
 - This document also addresses Yuma's Big Three (see above)
- Digital BOCES
 - Falcon 49 has a reputation for innovation in technique and technology
 - This will be low cost/low risk and self funding/self managing
- Summary
 - This gives Yuma a seat at the table and a chance to add a rural, small district voice
 - Syncs with Yuma's plans as well as boost project work

Brad Miller

- Lawyer for Falcon and part of the Charter School Governance

- G.O.A.L Academy that Yuma uses has come into the Falcon Charter and created a Digital BOCES team
- This BOCES is unique
 - Partner with 1, 2, or 3 Higher Education Schools and one Community College
 - Addresses Special Needs
 - Focuses on rural interests
 - With this BOCES, 10th graders can skip the Geometry TCAP by taking a college calculus course.
 - Propose a two partnership with Falcon 49 and YSD-1 and higher education.
 - They are not looking to partner with another school district as they desire no bureaucracy
 - They are going to aggregate professionals – students get the best of the best
 - Rural Districts are not equipped to handle online alternative schools, but this alternative school will allow rural districts to be able to utilize them more and they won't have to worry about the financial obligation

Elizabeth Davis

- Began as an educator then became a homeschooling parent when large public schools did not have the needed flexibility her children needed to learn
- Most educators when using online solutions they believe that a computer can substitute for a real teacher and that really doesn't work
- Even with online education, student interaction with an actual teacher is essential to students' success
- G.O.A.L. – school for at risk students, but not only for them – can be used for other students in a positive way as well – her daughter was able to take 30 credit hours from a college that the state paid for through G.O.A.L.
 - This is a really positive program and provides constant re-examination of students goals
 - Pushes bureaucracy aside and really evaluates that students goals.
 - Through this partnership students are able to take classes that interest them that are not offered in public school.
 - 1/7 of money online school and rest to your school
- This BOCES will take the lid off the box and get the student what they need.
- G.O.A.L and Calvert Academy have personally for YSD-1 made profound changes in a couple of student's education
- For Parents and Educators, Digital BOCES is a win/win
- They will collaborate with YSD-1 from the beginning and will adapt to changing technology
- Digital BOCES helps technology advances
 - They will be responsible for outcome
 - Test scores will count in BOCES
 - Partnering district no longer responsible for online since it will be under BOCSE
 - Eliminates the risk of academics
 - Growth score will be very positive for district and BOCES
 - This partnership is risk free and powerful

Board Member Ross asked when this partnership will take place and about the Digital BOCES board – answer is immediately and will begin accepting new applications for 2013-2014 school year; and they select the superintendent of the district as well as other members from Falcon, Higher Education Community, State Board and Legislature (roughly there will be 5 board members). Superintendent Stannard said that there are still MOU's to be written, but with this proposal, Yuma has a shot at a good alternative school solution.

- 2.2 A Proposal for cooperative services in alliance with the Falcon School District 49 for Alternative, Blended, Online Education (aka, "Digital BOCES") ENCLOSURE
Secretary/Treasurer Weinrich read that resolution for everyone in attendance.

3.0 SCHEDULED AUDIENCE WITH BOARD

- 3.1 Elizabeth Davis (see above)
3.2 Brad Miller (see above)

4.0 VISITORS COMMENTS/REQUESTS

No Comments

5.0 ACTION ITEMS

- 5.1 Resolution for 2.2

ENCLOSURE

Moved by Weinrich, seconded by Ross, to approve the Resolution presented in 2.2.
Voting Aye: Weinrich, Ross, Baucke, Brown. Absent: Roth. Motion Carried

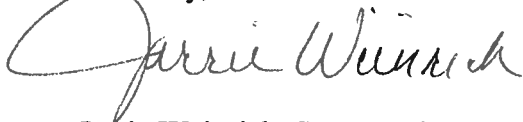
6.0 BOARD REPORTS/COMMENTS

Board Member Weinrich said "Digital BOCES sounds like a great opportunity."
Board Member Ross asked that the CHSAA letter being printed in paper.
President Baucke wanted to Congratulate Boys and Girls on their trip to State.

7.0 ADJOURNMENT

The board meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Sincerely,



Jerrie Weinrich, Secretary/Treasurer
Yuma School District-1
Board of Education



Gary Baucke, President
Yuma School District-1
Board of Education

