

NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1J

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

JULY 15, 2014

District Administration Building

6:30 P.M.

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at the District Administration Office was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Mark Bahr, President.

ROLL CALL

Mark Bahr, aye; Russell Braiden, absent; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was cited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

A motion was made by Steve Sorensen to approve the agenda with no additions, seconded by Joseph Baroz.

Mark Bahr, aye; Russell Braiden, absent; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye. The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Robert Chavez to approve the minutes for the regular Board Meeting of May 19, 2014 with the correction of Natalie Rogers being tardy and not absent , seconded by Joseph Baroz. (attachment #1 and attachment #2)

Mark Bahr, aye; Russell Braiden, absent; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye. The motion passed.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No citizens present to address the board

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/ACTIVITIES

Achievement Report:

The Principals were not required to be at the July board meeting, therefore, there was no achievement report.

BOCES Report:

Mr. Mark Bahr reported that there will be a BOCES meeting on July 16, 2014 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The BOCES meeting will consist of board legal training. Mr. Wilson will be attending and will e-mail notes from the meeting to board members. He stated that the meeting will cover information about the "Sunshine Law".

NCEA Report:

There was no one attending the board meeting to report from NCEA.

Administration Report:

Mr. Wilson asked the board to please give any feedback concerning the format of the agenda, minutes, etc. to make the board meeting most efficient.

Curt brought up the construction agreement between NCS D and X-Cel Energy for the CHS football field lights. Mr. Wilson requested an estimate from X-Cel and was told the estimate was \$8,225.00, but X-Cel is waiving that construction cost. He is most appreciative to X-Cel and many good people who are making good things happen for kids.

The New Horizons Program has been officially changed to the North Conejos Alternative Program. Paperwork was submitted to CDE and this program, the North Conejos Alternative Program, is set up as an entirely new school.

Curt Wilson met with Wendy Helms concerning "Little Treasures". Wendy has done a great job in submitting her paperwork and as a result there is funding for additional kindergarten teacher aides in both Manassa and La Jara Elementary.

Curt updated the board on the new Alternative Ed. Building. The district is having to make changes to the building to make it ADA compliant, with changes on the walk ways, bridge, sidewalk, doors, etc. Less work is needing to be done than what we anticipated at the site. The small house next to the alternative building may be used as a testing center or tutoring spot for the district.

Mr. Wilson told the board that RMMI was paid \$36,000 by the district to have past human resource and board minute files put on disks electronically. We have the disks and they are extremely hard to read. RMMI started with the most current files and those files were destroyed by RMMI. A phone call was made and the district can pull the information from the cloud. Curt stopped service with RMMI and we will learn how to retrieve those files with a webinar.

There have been a high number of claims with our Worker's Compensation insurance which has changed our status from preferred to standard. The district will have to pay the insurance at a higher rate since our status has changed. Curt Wilson and Victor Valdez will be doing monthly trainings with janitors and staff as needed to help curtail injuries on school grounds and hopefully get our status back up to preferred. We are trying to educate to prevent claims and provide necessary equipment to employees as a deterrent.

Curt brought out that the parking lot paving is complete and there is a concern over drainage at the front/side of CMS. Curt visited with Victor about proper water usage etc. to prevent water from collecting in this spot.

Valley Lock and Security has completed their work at the new North Conejos Alternative site. Curt has observed the work done there to see what we may need to do elsewhere in the district.

The heat issue at the high school was brought up by Mr. Wilson. The heaters run, but don't produce adequate heat. Mr. Wilson got a quote of \$10,000.82 to resolve the problems with the heat at the high school and is asking the board for permission to move forward. He believes in the long run it will save the district money to do these repairs at this time. We need to keep the glycol full and repair the leaks in the system.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Motion by Steve Sorensen to approve the \$10,000.82 to repair the heating system at the high school, seconded by Mark Bahr.

Mark Bahr, aye; Russell Braiden, absent; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye. The motion passed.

Curt will be meeting with Dustin (Best Grant) on July 30th to see what is still available. We need to update the bathrooms at CHS and make them handicap compliant.

The 2014-2015 NCS D calendar is proof ready and looks to be more detailed.

Mr. Wilson shared memorandums with the board that will be given to district employees. They include district procedures, staff report dates and agenda, calendar, and district registration information. He expressed the importance of keeping everyone informed. (attachments #3, #4, and #5)

Curt would like to move the approval of yearly contracts to the April board meeting to get a jump on any positions that may need filled. He is consulting the school attorney concerning proper wording on district contracts.

Mr. Wilson reported that NCS D 10th grade reading and math scores were above state average and LJE & ME showed good growth. There are some challenges with our 7th grade math. He expressed that the number one measurement in student growth is that teacher absences affect learning. We need to protect teacher/student contact time. He has the data to back his belief.

Central office has been working on updating the district web page.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

District Policy (payment on un-used days):

The board discussed district policy of payment on un-used days (GCC). Mr. Wilson brought up that district policy needs to be followed; even if it may not have been followed in the past.

District Policy (sabbatical):

There was discussion on district policy concerning sabbatical (GCAAF). It was asked if we could leave the policy in place, but not grant sabbatical. We need to be careful to be consistent and fair to all who

desire sabbatical leave. A copy of the policy was handed to each board member. Mr. Wilson brought up that the greatest deterrent to student learning/achievement is teacher /student contact days. We need to safe-guard that student and teacher contact time. With SB191 in effect, how do we evaluate a teacher who is on sabbatical leave? How often is sabbatical used in the district?

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Bills:

A motion was made by Joseph Baroz to approve the bills for the month of June 2014 totaling \$203,049.26, seconded by Robert Chavez. (attachment 6)

Mark Bahr, aye; Russell Braiden, absent; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye. The motion passed.

The board would like to have the financials before their next meeting so they have the opportunity to more carefully review them. The board discussed the need to balance the food service budget. Robert Chavez brought up Provision 2 and would be happy to give any assistance to Cheryl McCann, food service director. It was brought up that 70% of the students qualify for free/reduced meals. The question was asked of that 70% how many students actually eat?

Auditor Engagement Letter:

A motion was made by Robert Chavez to approve the auditor engagement agreement, seconded by Joseph Baroz. (attachment #7)

Mark Bahr, aye; Russell Braiden, absent; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye. The motion passed.

The auditor is aware of the issues we have had in the past and will address those issues in the future.

District Resignations:

A motion was made by Joseph Baroz to approve the district resignations as presented, seconded by Steve Sorensen. (attachment #8 and attachment #9)

Mark Bahr, aye; Russell Braiden, absent; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye. The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Steve Sorensen to go into executive session, per CRS section 24-6-402 4 Sub 4R, to discuss privileged information and personnel issues, Curt Wilson was asked to attend, seconded by Joseph Baroz.

Mark Bahr, aye; Russell Braiden, absent; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye. The motion passed.

Approval of District Hiring's:

A motion was made by Joseph Baroz to approve the proposed additions for district hiring as recommended per salary schedule, seconded by Steve Sorensen.

Mark Bahr, aye; Russell Braiden, absent; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye. The motion passed.

NEXT REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 19, 2014 @ 6:30 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT