

**NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1J
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

March 17, 2015

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 6:34 pm by Mark Bahr, President.

ROLL CALL

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, aye ; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Natalie Rogers, absent; Steve Sorensen, aye.

PREDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA/CHANGES TO CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Steve Sorensen to approve the consent agenda items as presented, seconded by Chuck Finnegan. **(attachments #1 - #5)**

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, aye ; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Natalie Rogers, absent; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

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

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, aye ; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Natalie Rogers, absent; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

No one signed up to address the board of education.

FALCON AWARD

Mike Creel was presented the March Falcon Award. Mike is a business teacher at CHS and part-time technology staff for the district. He is dedicated and regularly goes above and beyond his responsibilities. Mike's teaching is spectacular and as technology support staff he is very thorough and very prompt in getting the technology concerns in the district resolved in a timely and professional manner. He prepared students and helped them in the process of becoming certified tax assistants. Mr. Creel and his students, along with TSJC, held a number of free community tax days as a service to our community. Mike's wife, Patti, was also presented a falcon award for her continued support of her husband and his service to the district.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/ACTIVITIES

Achievement Reports: (attachment #6)

See attached Principal reports.

BOCES Report:

Mark reported that he will attend the BOCES meeting tomorrow night, March 18, 2015.

NCEA Report:

Bonnie Keller reported that NCEA is looking at legislature concerning the parent opt out on testing and other issues. The TEL survey was completed this past week and so far we have 42% participation in our district. This survey gives good insight to our schools. NCEA would like to send a team of representatives (1 administrator and 6 teachers) to a professional development concerning 'theory into practice'. NCEA has Gates money to pay for this development. Mrs. Keller strongly asks that we send a team and bring that information back to all district staff for our professional development.

Administration Report:

Mr. Wilson would like to support NCEA's desire to go to 'theory into practice' and have those representing our district return and share what they learned. He feels that our staff already uses much of what will be taught because we have great staff.

There are issues with testing and these issues are statewide. Mr. Wilson thanks staff and students for doing the best that they can. The test is challenging, but our kids have stayed the course. Testing has invaded classroom teaching. We must show growth yearly and the testing situation affects small districts more than the larger schools. Brad Huffaker created an 'opt out' form for all parents desiring to opt out their children from testing. He has done a great job.

In our CASB policy review it was discovered that we have 2 policies that are no longer relevant and CASB recommends we repeal those policies. There are also 5 policies that are mandated by law that are either missing or can't be easily found that the board needs to approve as district policy. We need to

continue working on updating our district policy until we have sound policy in place. Curt asked the board if they would like to work on 5 policies each month until we are updated.

Mr. Wilson met with other superintendents in Conejos County and would like to have county-wide unification on attendance issues with our schools. North Conejos and Sanford School Districts are already working together to get a process in place to address attendance issues where we have support from other services in the county.

Curt would like to get a 5, 10, or 15 year plan in place so we can address building and district concerns before we have a crisis. It is much easier to be pro-active so things don't hit all at once. He would like to make a priority list of those concerns now.

In discussing the district finances, Mr. Wilson told the board and those in attendance he places no blame on the board as they voted on information that was given them and that information was not complete. Our audit told us a lot about our financial status. Curt will be meeting with the district finance director tomorrow to make some tough decisions concerning our budget. We are in a fiscal situation in our district. His goal is to take care of teachers and kids, but tough decisions will have to be made to have a balanced budget. A power point was presented by Mr. Wilson concerning our financial status. He would like to do everything we can in the district before we ask tax payers for a mill levy increase. Principals were given a purchase order cut-off date of the first week in April to help us get a better idea of where we stand.

A calendar committee met and in a matter of 1 hour and 15 minutes came together to create a calendar for school year 15-16. There was representation from every building. Curt let the board know that this was a great committee and they accomplished good things for staff and students.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

State Assessment/PARCC:

This was previously discussed in the administration report.

North Property Purchase:

Mr. Wilson reported that if the property is going up for sale indicators are that the property will be priced between \$10,000 and \$15,000 dollars. Curt will give the board information as we get it.

Sound System:

Joseph Baroz reported that people and businesses are donating to the sound system. We will just keep working at it.

ACTION ITEMS

Repeal NCSB Board Policy AEC: Accomplishment Reporting to the Public and AECA: School Accountability Reports: (attachment #7 and #8)

A motion was made by Steve Sorensen to repeal board policies: AEC and AECA for the first reading, seconded by Joseph Baroz.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, aye ; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Natalie Rogers, absent; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

Present and discuss board policies GCKAA: Teacher Displacement, IHBK-R: Preparation for Postsecondary and Workforce Success, ILBC: Early Literacy and Reading Comprehension (Colorado Read Act), ILBC-R: Early Literacy and Reading Comprehension (Procedures to Implement the Colorado READ Act), JICH: Drug and Alcohol Involvement by Students for the first reading: (attachments #9, #10, #11, #12, #13)

It was decided to have this as a discussion only item and vote for first reading next month.

2015 – 2016 NCSB Calendar : (attachment #14)

A motion was made by Robert Chavez to approve the 2015-2016 district calendar as presented, seconded by Joseph Baroz.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, aye ; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Natalie Rogers, absent; 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 Sub 4R, to discuss privileged information and personnel issues, Curt Wilson was asked to attend, seconded by Robert Chavez.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, aye ; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Natalie Rogers, absent; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

The board met for 27 minutes in executive session; 12 minutes on topic one, 5 minutes on topic two, 8 minutes on topic three, and 2 minutes on topic 4.

Next Board meeting April 21, 2015 at 6:30pm.