

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

May 19, 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 6:30 pm by Mark Bahr, President.

ROLL CALL

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; 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 Joseph Baroz. **(attachments #1 - #4)**

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

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; 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

Mr. Wilson presented the current North Conejos School Board members with the **Falcon Award** for May. He appreciates the service board members give to the district and their willingness to serve. Bonnie Keller, NCEA President, presented the board members with their Falcon pins. The board doesn't always hear the positive so Curt and Bonnie thanked the board members for their efforts throughout the 2014-15 school year. Valentina Valdez and Indica Mestas were also presented Falcon Awards for May. The young ladies are good students and good people, and were two of 40 Boettcher Scholarship winners for Colorado, selected among the 1,500 applicants for this prestigious scholarship. Many of the small daily things that these young ladies do in the school and in the community were mentioned and commended. NCSd and the entire school community wish them the very best in their future and know they will represent Centauri High School very well.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/ACTIVITIES

Achievement Reports: (attachment #6)

See attached Principal reports.

BOCES Report:

Mark Bahr reported that there is a BOCES meeting tomorrow night, May 20th.

NCEA Report:

NCEA President, Bonnie Keller, thanked Mr. Wilson, the administration, and the board for a very good year. She expressed appreciation for administration working with staff and supporting and helping them to grow and develop.

A motion was made by Steve Sorensen to amend the agenda to add item (e) staff resignation, to the action items, seconded by Robert Chavez.

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

The motion passed.

Administration Report:

SB191 – Assurance report states NCSd is compliant, and will stay in such a state, with the law and requirements of the bill. There may be challenging issues with data tainting the results of testing opt out, dependent on the percentage of students who opted out, the effort students gave to the exams as many felt 'over-tested'. Mr. Wilson noted the rubric will not change for next year, and the district will again utilize the RANDA evaluation system developed by the CDE. NCSd may look at weighting some of the standards differently, in conjunction with staff input and administrative feedback.

SB-213 is the Clair Davies Safety Act, which is a hotly debated and can prove to be what may be termed a scary proposal. Schools can be sued up to \$900,000 as each school has a now "limited" governmental immunity. Upon implementation, insurance rates will rise approximately 20%. There is a 2 year delay on this bill and work to be in compliance with the demands as they are issued.

Mr. Wilson is proud of how administration, and each teacher, for the manner in which they have handled our budget and bills this year. Ten million in funding is set aside by the state for rural schools. The cap to receive this funding has been set at 1000 pupils or less in a district, and NCSD has 970 students registered, and will receive this funding: \$257,000 in a one-time only payment.

Commissioner Hammond with CDE will be leaving his position as the leader of CDE, and Curt asked that we fill out a survey on him in the near future as asked via email. Commissioner Hammond's replacement prospect is Mr. Elliot Asp. The State Board must approve that interim position candidate.

Mr. Wilson is very appreciative of staff. He asks that all employees fill out a survey as to how the administration can help them to do better next year, and how he as a superintendent can assist to help each staff member perform his or her duties. He asked that teachers, other administrators, and support staff have the opportunity to evaluate his performance.

It is time to renew with our health insurance providers. There were some concerns and those concerns were addressed by Mr. Wilson and staff. It was discovered that last year the district received a one-time gift of \$20,000 which makes for a greater increase in rates this coming year. Mr. Wilson feels that any overage on the insurance should go back to the employees. He does not want to make money for the district off of staff.

We will be honoring those retiring from the district at a staff luncheon on Friday, May 22nd.

Curt attended the BEST Grant interview and selection this past week for a new security system upgrade for the district. We should hear from the BEST officials by Friday, May 23rd.

The sound system has been installed and was used at the band concert this past week. It is an excellent system and the large crowd's opinion of the new system was heavily positive. Mr. Wilson is looking forward to using the system at this year's graduation ceremony and extends appreciation for all those who made the acquisition of the system feasible.

An ad will be run in the Valley Courier honoring this year's graduating seniors and celebrating the 50 year anniversary of the graduating class from Centauri High School (class of 1965). The ad will also let the community know that we have an open enrollment policy in the district and will share the achievements, classes offered, clubs offered and all things possible for the growth of all kids in the North Conejos School District.

Mr. Wilson shared information on our copier agreement with Gobins. We now have a per use copy charge on all copiers which will save the district substantial costs which it inherited with a prior agreement. The former agreement was too large of an expense and did not meet the needs of the district and Mr. Wilson thanks Gobins, specifically Mr Dave Barrows for working with him to mold the contract to a workable agreement.

Curt updated the board on the bus garage renovation/ compliance project. He visited with the state fire inspector and worked to save just under \$60,000 to renovate the bus garage and bring the building in compliance with what the state inspector wants vs the original proposal.

Centauri High School welding class will be making the hand rails for the alternative program building of North Conejos Alternative Programs, of which Mr. McCarroll has been an intricate part. More than saving substantial costs, having our own program build the bridge (with plans approved by the state inspector) brings more meaning and the bridge is customized by the best of CHS welders.

Jesse Shawcroft and the DAC are applying for a GOCO grant for the high school track and surrounding facilities. Mr Shawcroft will keep the board and Mr. Wilson apprised of the progress and the plans for such as they unfold.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

School Survey:

Much of this topic was covered in the administration report. There will be a survey given to staff on Friday concerning how the administration could assist all employees to do their job more efficiently for kids. These surveys will ask for the staff's name to be included, and staff is welcome to offer opinions without fear of retribution.

North Property Purchase:

Mr. Wilson hasn't heard anything news concerning the north property purchase as he was promised. He will try contacting Boyd Campbell, the realtor dealing with the property, and pursue the option of purchasing land NCS D needs to acquire for possibly a new high school or other uses.

Sound System:

The sound system was discussed in the administration report. This is a quality system that should serve the district well.

CDE Data Pipeline/Audit:

Curt received a letter from CDE expressing thanks to the staff for addressing concerns in the financial realm, and notes NCS D has made substantial strides to get NCS D in compliance with financial protocol and is please that the name of the district is now in a positive light.

Proposed District Survey:

Mr. Wilson asked the boards' permission to send a community survey concerning building a new high school. He would like to use CASBO assistance and previous experiences of two specific individuals in

building this survey so the district can get quality data returned. “Do we build a new high school or repair the existing one?” was a large part of the discussion and one which needs heavy input from the community. The board gave their approval for Curt to begin the survey process.

ACTION ITEMS

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 third and final reading - attachments #7, #8, #9, #10, #11

A motion was made by Steve Sorensen to approve policies GCKAA, IHBK-R, ILBC, ILBC-R, and JICH for the third and final reading, seconded by Joseph Baroz.

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

The motion passed.

Present and discuss board policies ADD-E: Safe Schools, AED: Accreditation, AEE: Waiver of State Law and Regulation for the second reading – attachments #12, #13, #14

A motion was made by Robert Chaves to approve policies ADD-E, AED, and AEE for the second reading, seconded by Chuck Finnegan.

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

The motion passed.

Present and discuss board policies AC: Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity, AC-R-2: Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity (complaint and compliance process), AC-E-1: Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity (compliance officer for the district), AC-E-2: Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity (complaint form) for the first reading - attachments #15, #16, #17, #18

A motion was made by Robert Chavez to approve policies AC, AC-R-2, AC –E-1 and AC-E-2 for the first reading, seconded by Chuck Finnegan.

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

The motion passed.

Retirement Approval

A motion was made by Joseph Baroz to approve the staff resignation as presented, seconded by Chuck Finnegan.

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

The motion passed.

The board decided to meet for a work session on June 9, 2015 at 6:30pm in the board room with the topic being the 2015-16 budget.

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 Natlie Rogers.

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

The motion passed.

The board met for 28 minutes on topic one and for 14 minutes on topic two in executive session.

Meeting adjourned at 9:17 pm

Board Work Session will be June 9, 2015 at 6:30 pm

Next Board meeting June 23, 2015