

NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1J
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
SEPTEMBER 23, 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 6:37 p.m. by Mark Bahr, President.

ROLL CALL

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

PREDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

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

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Robert Chavez to approve the minutes for the regular board meeting on August, 19, 2014, seconded by Steve Sorensen (attachment #1)

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

APPROVAL OF BILLS

A motion was made by Steve Sorensen to approve the bills for the month of August 2014 totaling \$144,436.47, seconded by Robert Chavez. (attachment #2)

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

FALCON AWARD

This month's falcon award was presented to CHS counselor, Beverly Glynn. Ms. Glynn did a great job dealing with the CHS master schedule this year. CHS had some late hires and Ms. Glynn re-did the schedule with little time before school began. Beverly never complains; she just makes things work and she is fantastic at working with all students.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/ACTIVITIES

Achievement Reports: (attachment #3)
See attached Principal reports.

Federal Programs Report:

Susan Hamilton said she would come with more information for the board next month. Tiered instruction puts the district UIP into goals and objectives so they correlate with grants that are written. Strategy based budget is based on building needs and what each building qualifies for. Mrs. Hamilton met with building principals to give them this information. \$351,544 in federal grants paid for some staff salaries.

BOCES Report:

Mark Bahr reported that there will be a standard response protocol meeting October 29 from 8:00a.m. - 12:00p.m. @ ASU for all valley schools with valley law enforcement also invited. The whole state needs assistance with accreditation. Migrant programs are working with valley kids. The consent agenda was also discussed to speed things up in meetings. Gifted and Talented was discussed. BOCES employees received raises.

NCEA Report:

Bonnie Keller reported that they have already met with Mr. Wilson and they are looking at the double dipping policy and the sabbatical policy in the district. There are pros and cons with the sabbatical policy. Things are going great so far this year.

Administration Report:

Mr. Wilson brought to the board's attention the "I Love You Guys" safety protocol program that NCS D would like to implement. There is going to be a meeting at ASU on October 29 from 8 – 12 with valley law enforcement and valley school districts on board. This will be a question & answer format to come up with solutions to our unique valley situations. This program strives to keep it simple to make it work. We will be getting more training in the future.

The buses in our district run extensive routes with some roads being very poorly maintained. The route by terrace reservoir is very difficult and students are being picked up at a central point (El Centrito). The safety of all students and maintenance breakdowns are a big concern. Parents are asked to meet the buses at designated bus stops to assist in the safety of all on the buses and to alleviate bus breakdowns.

Mr. Wilson and administrators have discussed the SLV RTTT staff development. The staff attended the first SLV RTTT this year and Mr. Wilson feels that in past RTTT trainings our staff didn't have what they needed for the training to be successful. He told the board "we have things we need to fix at home". He trusts our staff to be able to build more and do more here at NCS D than what we are getting at the SLV RTTT trainings. District staff worked on our UIP vertical alignment during the last staff in-service

day. There will be some staff going the SLV RTTV meetings, but much can be done here within our district to help staff and students succeed.

NCSD enrollment is down and our numbers appear to be lower this school year. The poor economy and jobs taking families elsewhere are taking its toll on our enrollment numbers.

Mr. Wilson asked the board to move the December board meeting to December 9, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. to allow more time to get reports, etc. completed before the year end. The board agreed to move the date from December 16th to December 9th.

The district's EEOC statement has been updated through our enrollment in the minority outreach program. All job positions will be advertised through local, state and national job sites, which will reach a more diverse population.

The budget this year has been somewhat stressful because we have had no pattern to follow. Due to some prior year commitments by past administration, we are obligated to honor prior contracts and agreements. Mr. Wilson is committed to making major strides to make this years' budget, but wants the board to understand he will be over budget due to circumstances beyond his control.

Board of education expenditures were brought up at last month's board meeting. Mr. Wilson apologized to the board for possibly giving the wrong impression to those in attendance and will use his words better to make things clear in the future.

CMAS testing: Forty percent of students met TCAP proficiently. Things will be moving up at the state level. Scores are going to drop by approximately 15% due to criteria change. Every student leaving high school in the state will have to receive a proficient score in math and language to be able to receive a high school diploma. For example, all seniors will have to pass an Algebra II level class to graduate. Mr. Wilson just wants to give the board a heads-up. The Feds don't measure by growth – growth gap, they measure achievement. It is being predicted that there will be a drop in rating in many school districts. Mr. Wilson is going to fight the implementation of these recommendations.

Curt Wilson reported on his trip to Washington and thanked the board for allowing him to attend and to be able to share with many the great things about the North Conejos School District.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Double Dipping (attachment #4):

Curt e-mailed the other superintendents in the valley and met with our district NCEA to get more information concerning the double dipping policy. The board had previously discussed being able to double dip for only one year or possibly two. We need to come up with some type of plan. We need to keep good people here in the district. Curt will talk with PERA to get more information and details and bring back that information to the board.

Early Retirement:

The district needs a language revision in policy for clarity. It is more of a clarity issue rather than a policy change. Modify the language of the policy.

BOE Expenditures:

This was previously brought up by Mr. Wilson in his report. The board can gain insight and information by attending CASB. However, there is a need to be careful and watch how district monies are spent. In hard times we all need to be careful .

635 Main Expenditures:

The district has incurred large architect fees in striving to make the new NCAP building compliant. Mr. Wilson reported there were many incurred costs to begin the school year.

104 Spruce:

More costs will be incurred in making the old bus garage compliant. Work needs to be done to make another exit route and to improve ventilation in the building.

Financial Internal Controls:

Mr. Wilson wanted the board and the public to know that the district is implementing internal financial controls to assure all that we are handling district finances in an appropriate, honest, and effective manner. A district employee can't sign a check or document that would appear to benefit them in any way. There will always be two people counting money, signing checks, etc. to assure proper procedure. We want to avoid any and all appearance of wrong doing. The district will have the same auditors this year and he wants them to be very specific about these internal controls. He will be speaking with them about any concerns we may have.

13-18 Committee DAC:

Our district accountability commit will serve as the 13-38 committee. A board member and a representative from CEA will need to attend.

District DAC Representative from BOE:

Robert Chavez volunteered to be the board representative on the District Accountability Committee.

Regional CASB Meeting (September 30/Alamosa):

Mr. Wilson asked if any board members were interested in attending the regional CASB meeting in Alamosa on September 30, 2014. He invited them to go if they could. Curt will send the board an e-mail giving them information on the meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Potential Appointment of New Board Director for District B:

A motion was made by Natalie Rogers to approve the appointment of Chuck Finnegan to board director for District B, seconded by Steve Sorensen.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chaves, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

Chuck Finnegan was sworn in by board president, Mark Bahr. Chuck then signed the confidentiality affidavit and was seated as new board director for District B.

EEOC Statement Adoption (attachment #5):

A motion was made by Steve Sorensen to approve the adoption of the revised EEOC statement, seconded by Robert Chavez.

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

The motion passed.

School Accreditation:

A motion was made by Joseph Baroz to approve the accreditation of La Jara Elementary at performance, Manassa Elementary at performance, Centauri Middle School at improvement, Centauri High School at performance, and North Conejos Alternative Program TBA, seconded by Chuck Finnegan.

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

The motion passed.

Out of Valley Trips (attachment #6):

A motion was made by Robert Chavez to approve the presented out of valley school trips, seconded by Steve Sorensen.

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

The motion passed.

Wednesday Night Waiver:

A motion was made by Natalie Rogers to approve the presented Wednesday night waiver for the CHS band, seconded by Joseph Baroz.

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

SB191 Assurance (attachment #7):

A motion was made by Joseph Baroz to approve SB191 Assurance: Implementation of Great Teachers and Leaders Act, seconded by Chuck Finnegan.

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

The motion passed.

District Hires (attachment #8):

A motion was made by Steve Sorensen to approve the new district hires as presented, seconded by Joseph Baroz.

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

The motion passed.

Substitute Approvals (attachment #9):

A motion was made by Robert Chavez to approve the substitutes as presented, seconded by Joseph Baroz.

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

The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board did not go into executive session this evening.

NEXT REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 21, 2014 AT 6:30 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT