

**NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1J**  
**REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
December 10, 2019  
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 Joseph Baroz, President.

**ROLL CALL**

Joseph Baroz, aye; Tanner Bagwell, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Brandon Thomas, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

**PREDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA/CHANGES TO CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Mary Jane Valdez to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Chuck Finnegan.

Joseph Baroz, aye; Tanner Bagwell, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Brandon Thomas, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

A motion was made by Garth Crowther to approve the agenda with the addition of item 11(c) new staff hiring and 11(d) staff resignation, seconded by Tanner Bagwell.

Joseph Baroz, aye; Tanner Bagwell, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Brandon Thomas, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed.

### **Falcon Award**

Tyler Huffaker, CMS Principal, asked Mr. Andrew Shelton to present a falcon award to Bryson Schneider. Bryson entered the soil/water conservation poster contest for Centauri Middle School and was among the top 5 in the SLV Watershed District. His poster went on to the state contest where he took top honors in the state of Colorado. Bryson's poster will be entered in the National contest in February. Mr. Shelton is very proud of the time and effort Bryson took in creating his poster and we anxiously wait to see how Bryson does in the national competition.

### **OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD**

Cade Huffaker addressed the board concerning NCEA. He feels that the association is dying and suggested to the board that we do something more local such as organizing a local teacher association where teachers and students are the main focus of teacher efforts.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS/ACTIVITIES**

#### **Principals Reports**

See attached reports

#### **BOCES Report**

No one attended the meeting

#### **NCEA Report:**

None

#### **Administration Report:**

Mr. Wilson asked Amber Martinez and Melissa Caldon to share what has been going on with the Health and Wellness Grant the district has been awarded. The mission of the NCSD Health and Wellness Task Force is to ensure that every student in the District will develop positive lifelong traits and habits while flourishing in the real world by being supported by his or her community. Each student will become a leader, a mentor, and a contributor to future generations. Students will accomplish goals which will ensure their healthy and safe upbringing; while thriving physical, emotionally, and psychologically. The task force conducted a baseline assessment of student health using Healthy Kids Colorado Survey to all middle and high school students. Students completed the survey voluntarily. After reviewing this data,

the taskforce had the following takeaways: (1) physical activity is important (2) Could ask parent/guardian for help with a personal problem (3) High percentage of students think it's important to finish HS and to go to college (4) High percentage of students are having dental and physical exams/check-ups (5) High percentage of students are participating in extracurricular activities at school (6) Seat belt usage is moderate. The concerns were: (1) Students considering suicide (2) Self harm (3) Texting while driving (4) Bullying (5) Chewing tobacco (6) Marijuana/Alcohol usage (7) Not using pregnancy prevention/safe sex (8) Fighting in MS and HS (9) Hungry from lack of food (10) Sleep. After reviewing data about our school and students and soliciting community input, we selected the following student health problems to focus on: (1) Mental Health (2) Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug use (3) Bullying. Amber and Melissa gave board members a handout outlining what the task force plans to do to help in these three areas.

The January 17<sup>th</sup> professional work day has been moved to January 10<sup>th</sup> to accommodate the SLV Professional Development that will be held at our district site this year.

Mr. Wilson reported that the auditors will be here this week and next week to perform the NCSA audit. We look to have the audit complete and ready for board approval at our January board meeting.

Mr. Wilson told board members to be prepared to discuss the purchase of a new bus for the district at the January board meeting.

We are in the process of purchasing vape detectors for the CMS and CHS restrooms and locker rooms in January. This is the next step in prevention of vaping in our district.

Mr. Wilson went to a Fire Training in Brighton this past month and it was excellent. He would like all security personnel to attend as the training is very beneficial. He is working on getting scholarships so we can send all district security personnel.

The CHS/CMS Band concert is scheduled for Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup> with the La Jara Elementary Christmas program on Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> and Manassa Elementary program on December 18<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Wilson told board members that we have a very basic dress code. We plan on enforcing the basic dress code rules and keeping what we have in place. He told all district administration to uphold what we have in place.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **Proposed Agreement to Enforce Tax Lien**

Conejos County Attorney, Nick Sarmiento, addressed the board concerning the receivership involving the Railroad, and requested financial assistance to enforce our property tax liens. The San Luis and Rio Grande Railroad owes Conejos County \$370,000 in state assessed taxes. Of that amount, approximately \$132,000 is owed to Conejos County, approximately \$93,000 is owed to the NCSA, with the remainder owed to other school districts and taxing entities. The Railroad is currently in a receivership, with assets

being sold free and clear of all liens. Conejos County wants to protect our lien and enforce it. The county is finalizing an agreement for legal services with a Chicago based law firm and is requesting financial help with some of the attorney's fees from NCSD. Any donation would be appreciated.

### **CASB Policy Update**

Mr. Wilson went over each policy per CASB recommendations and made his recommendations to the board concerning each policy. Those recommendations will be available for a first reading next month.

### **BEST Update**

Architect interviews will be held December 17, 2019 at the District Office. Mr. Wilson gave board members an activity summary report of the BEST so far.

### **Concurrent Enrollment Ideas (CHS)**

Mrs. Montague told the board that we must tighten up on our concurrent enrollment due to costs. The high school budget for concurrent enrollment is limited so Mrs. Montague and counselor Jamie Thomas have come up with concurrent pre-requisites for students wanting to take concurrent classes. Students must complete pre-requisites for the specific course and must take the class at the high school if we offer the class before a college class is taken. They must (1) have a passing score on the SAT, (2) have a rolling GPA of above 3.0, and (3) be currently passing all classes and be on track to graduate. If at least one of the three guidelines is met, then the student can enroll in concurrent classes up to board policy. The administration reserves the right to approve or deny any class for special circumstances. Mrs. Montague feels that students need to have skills to succeed and that students need to work on those skills before taking concurrent classes. The board can consider having students pay some of the cost of concurrent classes taken.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Mill Levy Certification**

A motion was made by Chuck Finnegan to approve the mill levy certification as presented, seconded by Tanner Bagwell.

Joseph Baroz, aye; Tanner Bagwell aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Brandon Thomas, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed.

**Staff Bonus**

A motion was made by Mary Jane Valdez to approve the staff Christmas bonus of \$175.00 as presented, seconded by Garth Crowther.

Joseph Baroz, aye; Tanner Bagwell, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Brandon Thomas, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed.

**Staff Hiring**

A motion was made by Garth Crowther to approve the hiring of Alfred Sanchez as a Bus Route driver, seconded by Tanner Bagwell

Joseph Baroz, aye; Tanner Bagwell, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Brandon Thomas, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed.

**Staff Resignation**

A motion was made by Mary Jane Valdez to approve the resignation of Chris Dingfelder, CHS Custodian, seconded by Brandon Thomas.

Joseph Baroz, aye; Tanner Bagwell, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Brandon Thomas, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

No Executive Session needed

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Next regular board of education meeting will be Tuesday January 21, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.