

HOT SPRINGS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting
December 18, 2008
Board Room
7:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Hot Springs County School District No. 1 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room by Chairman, Liz Mahoney.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Liz Mahoney, Breez Daniels, Belenda Willson, Hub Whitt, Karen Leyba, Clay VanAntwerp, Dr. Travis Bomengen, and (ex-officio) Superintendent Marty Kobza

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: none

OTHERS PRESENT: Administrators Dustin Hunt, Jodie Cameron, Matt Spring, Janet Philp; Kelly Andreen, and approximately 15 visitors.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Mahoney called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Daniels, seconded by Bomengen to approve the December 18, 2008 board agenda with the following additions:

- Change wording on VI. New Business, Item G to read student matters

Ayes 7

Nays None

Motion Carried

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Mahoney asked if there were any requests for items to be pulled from the consent agenda: Hub Whitt requested that items E and F under staffing be pulled for discussion. Belenda Wilson requested that item C under staffing be pulled for discussion

Moved by Leyba, seconded by Whitt to approve the consent agenda with the exceptions of Items E, F, and C under staffing, which includes:

- Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 18, 2008; Minutes of the Executive Session of November 18, 2008; and Minutes of the Special Board Meeting Of December 1, 2008
- Bills and Financials
- Approve Pat Schmidt as the community representative on McCurdy Scholarship Committee
- Consider for Approval Staffing Recommendations
 - ✓ Employ Nancy Madrigal as bus aide
 - ✓ Accept the resignation of Carolyn Lynch effective February 20, 2009
 - ✓ Accept resignation of Pam Kerr as freshman volleyball coach and advertise for the position
 - ✓ Employ Kara Hulse as co-head coach for indoor track
 - ✓ Approve Amy Mason as the school district representative on the McCurdy Scholarship Committee

Ayes 7

December 18, 2008

Nays None
Motion Carried

Due to the nature of the staffing items that were pulled, item C will be discussed in executive session. Item F, advertise for drop out prevention specialist, will be needed if item B (resignation of Carolyn Lynch) and item E (transfer Amy Mason to high school guidance counselor and Cody McLean to K-8 Counselor) are approved as Cody McLean is currently the drop out prevention specialist.

Moved by Bomengen, seconded by Leyba to approve items E, Approve transfer of Amy mason to high school guidance counselor and Cody McLean to K-8 Counselor, and Item F, Approve advertising for drop-out prevention specialist

Ayes 7
Nays None
Motion Carried

DELEGATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS

Visitors/Public Comment
None

Staff Recognition

Principal Hunt introduced Jim Cramer who is being recognized for going above and beyond for his students. Thank you Jim!

OLD BUSINESS

Curriculum Leadership Institute (CLI)

A copy of the proposal from CLI is included. The cost is less the more years you are committed, however, you can make a one year commitment. Additional costs for meals and airfare would be approximately \$6000. The amount of time required of staff noted in the proposal should be sufficient to complete the tasks required.

Moved by Bomengen, seconded by Leyba to accept the proposal from Curriculum Leadership Institute with a 3 yr commitment from the school district.

Ayes 7
Nays None
Motion Carried

NEW BUSINESS

Fremont County BOCES Presentation

Sandy Barton and Larry Christensen, representatives from Fremont County BOCES, gave a presentation regarding the options available to the school district. The programs available consist of pre-school, CNA, Energy Exploration, Pro-Start and Military Science. The programs can become part of the regular school schedule. Students receive class work as well as hands on experience. BOCES will find the adjunct instructors for the programs. The pay for instructors is based on the class and the amount of time spent. The cost is \$20,000 for the program and the administrative cost is based on a 3 year rolling ADM average. The board has requested the academic team pursue further details and bring back potential costs and scheduling, including the pre-school component.

07-08 Audit Report

Michel Wright, representative from Koerwitz, Michel, Wright & Associates, presented the board with the 07-08 audit. Items noted in the audit include the HSC Rec. District financial statements are not prepared on GAAP basis. Due to the size of our organization, it is not practical to have enough staff for adequate segregation of duties, therefore board oversight is extremely important to mitigate this risk. Minor non-compliance issues noted include the record keeping for capital assets, expenditure reports not signed, and payroll reporting. The auditors have given suggestions to correct these deficiencies and many items have already been addressed.

Moved by Whitt, seconded by Daniels to approve the 07-08 audit as presented.

Ayes 7

Nays None

Motion Carried

Special Education Report

Principal Cameron reported to the board that the Special Education Department will be monitored on-site in February by the state. During the initial monitoring this fall, the state determined that the district falls under the “needs assistance” category. The state will review paperwork, interview teachers, administration, and parents, and may want to visit with board members. The department has already begun to make corrections.

Principal Cameron included a handout that shows the proficiency rates for the special education students. Currently, we have 83 students, K-12, in special education. In the past years, this number has been higher which shows the district is exiting students back into regular education. There are 13 different categories of disabilities that the students fall into.

Academic Opportunity Report

The academic team has been reviewing student data and student failure rates. During this review, it was noted that students are not completing assignments. The vision of the academic team is to ensure student learning and to make every effort to give all students the best opportunity for success. From this review and vision, the academic team has developed academic opportunity guidelines that will be implemented beginning with the 2nd semester. The basic guideline is when a student is missing an assignment they will be given the “opportunity” to stay after school that day or the next day to complete the assignment. This “opportunity” is required and will be considered a truancy if the student does not attend. There will be teachers available at all buildings during this after school time to help students with their assignments. The assignment must be of quality work in order to be considered complete. We are expecting 10-20 students per night. Students who need help with homework would be able to attend on a voluntary basis. The funding is available for these extra hours. A letter will be sent home to parents explaining the guidelines.

“1 Before 2” Child Development Screenings

The school district would like to partner with CRC in promoting their “1 Before 2” Child Development Screenings. These screenings look for any discrepancies that are interfering with learning or impeding future potential of the child. The expectation is to have children screened at least once before they are 2 years old and twice before they are 5 years old. CRC will be working with the daycares, Head Start, public health nurse, hospitals, and doctor’s offices to reach as many parents as possible. The board gave consensus for the district to send out a letter to parents regarding the screenings.

Construction Project Agreement

Moved by Whitt, seconded by Leyba to approve the amendment to contract no. 7HOT1510.
 Discussion: The project is currently in the asbestos abatement portion. The next issue is to verify if an engineering firm must be contracted before the actual demolition. The timeline is still based on having the demolition completed by mid-spring.

Ayes 7
 Nays None
 Motion Carried

Executive Session 9:18 p.m.

Moved by Willson, seconded by Leyba, to go into executive session to discuss student matters.

Ayes 7
 Nays None
 Motion Carried

Adjourn out of Executive Session 9:54 p.m.

Moved by Whitt, seconded by Leyba, to adjourn out of executive session.

Ayes 7
 Nays None
 Motion Carried

Part-Time Student Status

Moved by Whitt, seconded by Leyba to accept the student request to become a part-time student if there is space in the classroom and if the district schedule allows, and that quarterly progress will be provided for the classes being taken through home-school. Adequate progress must be maintained in all classes to remain enrolled in HSCSD#1.

Discussion: At the January board meeting, the board will begin review of policies for part-time students in the district.

Ayes 7
 Nays None
 Motion Carried

Student Expulsion

Moved by Leyba, seconded by Daniels that the student referenced in Docket No. 2008-1 be expelled from the schools of Hot Springs County School District No. 1 for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year for continued disobedience and conduct threatening the health and safety of students and staff.

Ayes 7
 Nays None
 Motion Carried

Staffing Recommendations

Moved by Willson, seconded by Daniels to accept the retirement of LeRoy Hayes.

Ayes 7
 Nays None
 Motion Carried

Special Board Meeting

Moved by Whitt, seconded by Daniels to hold a special board meeting on January 15 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the superintendent's evaluation.

Ayes 7

Nays None

Motion Carried

OTHER BUSINESS**Board Reports**

Rec. Board: The first meeting for the new members will be held on Monday.

BOCES: Karen Leyba reported that she attended her first meeting on Wednesday. BOCES currently has 15 students and is expecting 3 more.

Other:

The legislative meeting will be held February 8 and 9. The local legislative dinner will be held January 5 at NW BOCES at 6:30 p.m. Dinner will be provided. Please RSVP to NW BOCES.

Superintendent's Report

1) Statistics for traffic to the new website were included in the board packet. There have been over 1.5 million hits since September. The reports also show what part of the website people are going to.

2) A newsletter from the Wyoming Housing Network was included for the board's review. Thermopolis and Hot Springs County are referenced in the newsletter giving an overview of the WHN programs/projects that they are implementing.

3) An educational report from the School Finance Committee is included for the board's review. The committee now uses 3 components to review when considering new buildings for school districts. The latest addition is educational suitability. This review show well the school facility supports the ability to deliver a quality educational program.

4) Supt. Kobza congratulated Janet Philp and the staff for their work on the 21st Century Grant. The district has been awarded \$100,000 per year for the next 5 years. This will allow the Lights On after school program to continue.

Adjournment 10:06 p.m.

Moved by Daniels, seconded by Leyba, that there being no further business to come before the Board, to adjourn this meeting.

Chairman

ATTEST:

Clerk