

**Canyon Creek School District #4**  
**Yellowstone County, Billings, MT**  
**6:30 p.m. - Library**

**Call To Order**

**October 8, 2020**

Chair Amy Sironi called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, to order at 6:30 p.m. by leading those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following trustees and officers were present: Amy Sironi, Chair, Amy Gibbons, Vice-Chair, and John Soucy, Trustee. Amanda Agyeman-Budu, Trustee was present via Zoom. Brent Lipp, Superintendent and Seara Stovall, Business Manager/District Clerk were also present.

Additional guests present: Haley Morales, Dean of Students, Jason Gibbons, Katie Kading, Ali Helgeson

**Public Comment**

None submitted.

**Consent Agenda**

Superintendent Lipp noted an addition to the agenda, New Business item – New Hire: Roving Substitute / Paraprofessional – Kurt Wambaugh.

*Amy G. moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the addition of New Business item – New Hire: Roving Substitute / Paraprofessional – Kurt Wambaugh as presented. Amanda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Administrative Report**

- Superintendent’s Report–
  1. COVID/School Health Report – Superintendent Lipp shared that there was a 4<sup>th</sup> grade student who tested positive. The class and all siblings were quarantined, amounting to 61 total quarantined students. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade quarantine is over, effective 10/08/2020. All students and staff will return to school tomorrow 10/09/2020. The school has not been notified of any further positive cases from that large 4<sup>th</sup> grade classroom. There is no way to explain why there was no further transmission of the virus. When the positive case occurred there was a cold going around school that had an effect on the student body. Upon starting the quarantine, the illness within the school seemed to diminish. Superintendent Lipp noted that from this there has been a lot of comparing of other District policies when a positive test occurs. There has been several frustrated calls from parents noting that they do not feel the District policy is appropriate. There is frustration over the impact to so many students being quarantined and the impact on student-athletes and loss of participation. Superintendent Lipp did reach out during the weekly conversation with Mr. Felton and Yellowstone County Superintendents to clarify a comment from a parent that stated

kids will not transmit the virus to other kids. Mr. Felton and others participating on the county-wide, weekly call stated that was completely false. The virus can be transmitted from one kid to another.

Superintendent Lipp did share with the board of trustees that if they feel the school plan is needing revisited, it can be added to the agenda in the future. He asked for board guidance and is wanting to know if they want to have an active involvement in decisions when a positive case is communicated with Administration. Amy G. noted that she is thankful and comfortable with Superintendent Lipp making the decisions when Administration is notified of positive cases. The District plan in place may be more stringent but the quality of the plan is appropriate per the board of trustee's standards. Amy S. shared that the stringent level of our District policy is appropriate and in the best interest of all students and staff members.

Superintendent Lipp shared the School Nurse's report with the board of trustees. The constant consultation with the nurse has provided positive feedback on our District protocols.

Superintendent Lipp shared data from the Yellowstone County weekly report with Mr. Felton and county Superintendents. Amanda shared that covidactnow.com is a website with current data.

2. Lunch Program – Currently operating under the USDA sponsored Summer Food School Program where all District enrolled student meals are free. This program is approved through December 31, 2020. Amanda noted that she was super thankful for the meals provided while her children were under quarantine.
  3. Girls Basketball Tournament – The tournament will be held in different gyms, on different nights to adhere to social distancing standards. Trinity is the “hosting” school and will host the championship game.
  4. School Safety Grant/AED – There is an opportunity through OPI to be awarded a grant for training and AED units. Superintendent Lipp is working on completing the grant.
  5. TEAMS – Ms. Stovall has the TOES and Compensation Expenditure report completed and Superintendent Lipp will be working to complete the TEAMS report.
  6. Special Education Position – Current college student who is interested and could potentially work as an intern under a provisional, Class 5 license. Superintendent Lipp is awaiting response from OPI on guidance to pursue opportunities.
  7. Early Out – Staff members worked on mid-terms and were able to get caught up. John noted that he has heard amazingly positive comments about the pick-up and drop-off during regular days. He shared that on the early out day, there was a lot more congestion.
  8. MCEL Conference – October 15-16<sup>th</sup> virtual training is scheduled. Amy S. is registered.
- Dean of Student's Report –
    1. Conduct Reports – September averaged approximately 2 write-ups a day. There have been 49 referrals in 20 days. October has had one referral per day to date. There has been a lot of defiance/insubordination/non-compliance, physical aggression K-1<sup>st</sup> grade

and inappropriate language 6<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The classroom and playground seems to be the most consistent locations of issues.

2. Cole's Pantry – The program is up and running again. Currently we are serving seven families with seventeen children. There will be additional communication out in the newsletter.
3. Special Olympics Polar Plunge – Mrs. Morales is the coach and due to Covid, each school has been asked to hold their own virtual polar plunge. She will be sharing more information about the virtual event, donations and team prizes for money raised. The athletes will also still be able to participate in Special Olympics bowling.

## **Old Business**

- A. SPED Certified Teacher position recruitment status update was given. No current certified applicants. Due to the open position, there is potential for accreditation issues and funding issues without having the position filled.
- B. Open Board Trustee Position recruitment status update was given. No new known individuals of interest. The Board asked the audience to spread the word.

## **New Business**

- A. New Hire – Roving Substitute / Paraprofessional – Kurt Wambaugh – Discussion was held. Kurt has worked for the District on and off as a substitute in the past. He most recently started subbing again this school year.
  - *Amy G. made a motion to approve the hiring of Kurt Wambaugh as a Roving Substitute / Paraprofessional for FY21, pending a completed background check, as presented. Amanda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*
- B. Extra-Curricular Contracts FY21 – Discussion was held.
  - BBB 5/6 – Rylan Kuntz
  - *Amy G. made a motion to approve Rylan Kuntz as the 5/6 BBB Coach for FY21 as presented. Amanda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*
  - GVB 5/6 – Delaney Johnson – Amanda asked to table the hiring of the girls volleyball positions until closer to the season. She has expressed previously that she is recruiting outside of the school for coaching recruits. Amy G. noted that as a board we need to be consistent in giving preference to staff, prior to opening up positions to outside individuals. Amy S. noted that we will table both GVB hiring positions until the next BOT meeting. John noted that he felt if the District is going to change hiring practices and not offer coaching positions to staff members as first preference, the hiring processes should not be changed mid-year. Amy S. shared that she felt we should move forward with this FY hiring processes. She also shared we can add hiring processes to a future board meeting.
    - *Amy G. made a motion to approve Delaney Johnson as the 5/6 GVB Coach for FY21 as presented. Amanda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*
    - GVB 7/8 – Ashley Vogl
    - *Amanda made a motion to approve Ashley Vogl as the 7/8 GVB Coach for FY21 as*

*presented. Amy G. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

- C. Out of District Attendance Agreements - Discussion was held. Currently there are seventy-five out-of-district student attendance agreements.
- *Amy G. made a motion to approve the Out of District Student Attendance Agreements for FY21 as presented. Amanda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*
- D. Outside User Agreements – Discussion was held and each submitted agreement was evaluated and considered by the Board of Trustees. John shared that he will not vote against the Boy Scouts but does have some concerns about what is currently happening with that organization. He will not stand in their way but will also not support them. Amy G. noted that she felt she should abstain from commenting due to the request from the Billings Bombers and her family relationship.
- *Amy G. made a motion to approve the Outside User Agreement for Non-Denominational Fellowship of Christian Churches and the Billings Bombers Travel Basketball Team as proposed. Amanda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*
  - *Amy S. did remove from Superintendent Lipp’s memo the noted request from the Boy Scouts as they did not submit a completed Outside User Agreement Form. The board agreed that if they submitted a form it would be put on a future agenda.*
- E. Public Comment Notice – Discussion was held. Amy S. noted that there is a public disconnect with the public comment section and processes of that section during our open meetings. Amy G. shared a sample agenda that defines each subsection of a public agenda. Amanda felt a reformatting of the form and clear communication of expectations, laws and chain of command is needed.
- A great idea shared was to add the public comment notice to the school webpage so that the public could print and complete the form prior to board meetings. Written submissions are also allowed for public comment. Superintendent Lipp did share that MTSBA could be brought in for some training and mock board meetings. It could help the board in correct processes and give some confidence to those who wish to share in public comment sessions.
- It was noted that this item will be placed on a future agenda.
- F. Policy
- Policy 1400 – Board Meetings – final reading was completed.
  - *Amy G. made a motion to approve Policy 1400 – Board Meetings as proposed. Amanda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*
- G. Enrollment / ANB Update - Discussion was held. Ms. Stovall presented the fall enrollment count for the school district. The total enrollment was 253 students K-8. Last year’s fall enrollment count was 246 and spring enrollment was 257.
- H. Coronavirus Relief Funds – Expenditures to Date – Ms. Stovall presented the current expenditure report for the Coronavirus Relief Funds. Discussion was held and plans forward for expenditures were shared.
- I. Trustees evaluate prior year board performance – Discussion was held. Superintendent Lipp shared a board goal evaluation form from the 1000S series and proposed that the Board of Trustees fill it out and remit to the business office by October 29<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Stovall will compile the data for review at November’s regular meeting.

## **Agenda Items for the Next Regular Meeting – November 12<sup>th</sup>**

- A. Board of Trustees goal evaluation summary
- B. Superintendent Lipp shares his goals
- C. Covid / School Health Report

### **Adjournment**

The next Regular Meeting will be held Thursday, November 12, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Canyon Creek School District Library.

*Amy G. moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 p.m. Amanda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

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Amy Sironi, Chair

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Seara Stovall, Business Manager/Clerk