

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

**Call To Order**

**January 18, 2021**

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, John Soucy, Trustee, Amanda Agyeman-Budu, Trustee. Brent Lipp, Superintendent and Seara Stovall, Business Manager/District Clerk were also present.

Additional guests present: Katie Kading, Teacher and Ali Helgeson, Teacher. Mrs. Morales was absent from the meeting.

**Public Comment**

None submitted.

**Consent Agenda**

*Amanda Agyeman-Budu moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Amy Gibbons seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Correspondence**

Superintendent Lipp shared Nurse Rock's monthly report.

**Administrative Report**

- Superintendent's Report–
  1. Athletics – Sports are currently in transition. There will be an overlap of the boys' basketball and girls' volleyball seasons, which will result in morning and evening practices for a short timeframe. There is a good turnout of sign-ups for girls' volleyball.
  2. Possible New Position in the CBEE Cooperative Pre-School – Due to the possibility of student needs, another paraprofessional may be required to meet IEP's. There may be an increased need in nursing hours as well.
  3. Covid Pandemic / Canyon Creek Health Report – Superintendent Lipp will share this information during agenda item #10.
  4. Principal Conference – Mrs. Morales has signed up to attend the 2021 MT Principals Virtual Conference. Superintendent Lipp may also be attending depending on availability.
  5. Special Education / Student Numbers – Superintendent Lipp shared the increase in SPED numbers and the need for a certified staff member. There has been zero applications to date. Due to the increased case load, there is awareness of the possibility of more than one Special Education teacher needed.

6. Negotiations Update – Superintendent Lipp shared that the Canyon Creek Education Association (CCEA) did request his attendance at a meeting this coming Thursday to discuss legislative updates, timeframes and possibilities. Pending that discussion, the CCEA will draft a letter to the Board of Trustees to initiate discussions.
  7. Legislative Update – Superintendent Lipp noted that the MTSBA thread has had a significant amount of information provided and encouraged the trustees to follow the discussions. The 2021 Legislative Session Summary was provided to the board of trustees and Superintendent Lipp touched on a handful of bills to be aware of.
- Dean of Student’s Report –
    1. Conduct Reports – Superintendent Lipp reported out due to Mrs. Morales’ absence. Since the last board meeting, there have been 33 write ups. A lot of them came forward after Christmas break. Teachers shared students of concern during our last P.I.R. Day, which correlated with a lot of our most recent write ups. Most reports are physical aggression, disrespect or insubordination. Superintendent Lipp inquired with the Board of Trustees to if they felt sending out a letter of concern to the parents, referencing the TikTok app and the potential for inappropriateness and harm. There was support from the Trustees.
    2. SPED – Superintendent Lipp gave an update on the status of the SPED department, stating that it is very busy. Due to a recent increase in enrollment, the SPED caseload is currently sitting at 34 students. There are two students who are currently still being tested, whose qualification will be determined at the end of the month at their ER meetings.

## **Committee Reports**

- A. Board of Trustees Goals – report out and setting of goals. Discussion was held and the draft document provided by the committee was reviewed in detail. Amy Sironi shared that she felt this may be a starting point for discussion and the rest of the trustees may want to take the month to review/revise as desired.
 

The Board Education sub area was of interest to all. There was discussion on the requirements to attain the Golden Gavel award, which requires each board member to obtain 12 credited hours in a fiscal year for certification. With full board certification, the board then qualifies for the Golden Gavel Award.

*Amy Gibbons made a motion to set Board Education as a Board of Trustees Goal for FY22 as presented. Amanda Agyeman-Budu seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

## **Old Business**

- A. SPED Certified Teacher position recruitment status update was given. No current certified applicants. Superintendent Lipp shared that most likely we will not get this position filled.
- B. Open Board Trustee Position recruitment status update was given. No new known individuals of interest. Superintendent Lipp reached out to Mr. Kinnett and there are discussions in the works

with no current commitment.

## **New Business**

- A. Covid / School Health Report – Discussion was held. Currently there is no one out due to a positive Covid test. There are two students out due to contact tracing. Student cases county-wide have showed a very small increase but it's mostly at the high school level. Multiple BinaxNow tests have been completed on students and staff members, with negative results. Superintendent Lipp reported the test results as required.
- Superintendent Lipp shared his results from the staff email, inquiring if there was a change to the mask mandate, if they would want to continue the mandate while at school. The overall consensus was that the staff requested to continue the mask mandate within the school. John Soucy mentioned that it may be beneficial to survey the parents on their thoughts on if the mask mandate is dropped at a state level, what their thoughts would be on continuing the mask mandate within the school.
- Vaccination for teachers and school employees has been pushed back per the CDC phased vaccination plan. There was discussion on awareness of community perception in getting the vaccine during the appropriate timeframe per the phased vaccination plan.
- Superintendent Lipp has continued with the planned quarantine time-frame as is.
- Superintendent Lipp shared that they will complete another round of NWEA testing to set a data point, to determine our student learning loss impacts due to Covid. This will give us a comparison between the beginning of the year results and recent results.
- B. Election – Declaration of Intent and Oath of Candidacy – Ms. Stovall informed the board of the requirements. Candidates for a trustee election may file a Declaration of Intent and Oath of Candidacy between December 10, 2020 and March 25, 2021. The candidate for trustee must be registered to vote at the time the oath/form is filed. Discussion was held and required documentation was provided.
- C. Trustee Resolution Calling for an Election – Ms. Stovall shared that beyond filing, the first major item for 2021 is the Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> deadline for trustees to call an election. Discussion was held.
- Amy Gibbons moved to accept the Trustee Resolution Calling for an Election as presented. Amanda Agyeman-Budu seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*
- D. Mid-year Budget Report – Discussion was held and Ms. Stovall reviewed the documentation provided.
- E. Superintendent Evaluation - close for Executive Session 8:09 p.m.
- Amanda Agyeman-Budu moved to close regular session and move to executive session. Amy Gibbons seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*
- F. Superintendent Contract Renewal – Regular Session reopened at 9:23 p.m.
- Amanda Agyeman-Budu moved to renew the Superintendent's contract as is. Amy Gibbons seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

## **Agenda Items for the Next Regular Meeting – February 11<sup>th</sup>**

- A. Enrollment/ANB Update
- B. Audit review and presentation to trustees
- C. Pre-school Status
- D. Legislative Update
- E. Covid / School Health Report

## **Adjournment**

The next Regular Meeting will be held Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the Canyon Creek School District Library.

*Amy Gibbons moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m. Amanda Agyeman-Budu seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

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Amy Sironi, Chair

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Seara Stovall, Business Manager/Clerk