

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

Call To Order

January 20, 2020

Chairman Joel Junso 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: Joel Junso, Chair, Amy Sironi, Vice-Chair, Amanda Agyeman-Budu, Trustee, Amy Gibbons, Trustee and Jason Ascheman, Trustee. Superintendent Brent Lipp, Business Manager/District Clerk Seara Stovall, and Dean of Students, Haley Morales were also present.

Additional guests present: Ali Helgeson, Katie Kading and Kevin Wood.

Consent Agenda

Amy S. moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Amanda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Administrative Report

A. Superintendent's Month in Review –

1. Parking Lot Concerns – Accident occurred last Friday, January 17th. Parking lot congestion was the cause and resulted in a ticket being issued. Vehicle collision was avoided but the mailbox was hit and taken out.

Mr. Lipp shared parking lot engineering and weight capacity to handle buses.

Historically, discussion took place to review options of improvement for the parking lot but it did not seem feasible at the time. In the next few years, may want to consider additional asphalt being added to cover any usage breakdown, cracking, etc.

Once option for consideration is a delay in the busing schedule to accommodate parking lot congestion. May be a valid solution. The biggest issue is traffic getting backed up on the turn back onto the Frontage road. Another option may be the possibility of utilizing the church parking lot. Mr. Lipp will be spending more time evaluating and considering options to alleviate congestion.

Joel noted that the bordering land may be an option. Perhaps the land owner may donate a parcel of land to assist with our concerns or purchase option for additional acreage.

Mr. Lipp noted a committee may need to be developed to address the Parking Lot concerns. Also asked for the Board to present any/all ideas on a solution to the Parking

Lot congestion.

Jason inquired if it would be possible to have an officer on-site during school drop-off and pick-up times. There was an officer here today, January 20th, to monitor travel during pick-up.

2. Staff Retention Report – Packet document includes information from 2011 – 2019 on Certified Staff turn-over reasons. Thirty-two total in the last nine years. District 2 does pull teachers due to a \$10-12k increase in pay per salary matrix. Nine have moved due to family changes – marriages, kids, relocation back home to smaller communities. Two have accelerated their careers and went into Administrative positions, promoted into other districts. Three have retired. Four decided to have families and stay at home. Seven teachers resigned; 4 from last summer.
Mr. Lipp has always promoted teachers to continue their professional career. Promotion to attain a Master's degree has caused retention issues as most progress out of the District. Monetary increase of approximately \$20k when changing Districts with their Master's degree. Currently nineteen total Certified Teachers on staff.
3. Kindergarten Class Update – Observing successes from classroom changes. Children are learning and behaviors are declining. Continuing to monitor behavioral issues and revising and continuing to make changes to attain all students show improvement.
4. Sports – Thirty-two girls currently signed up for Volleyball. Boys' basketball tournament starts Thursday. Currently seeded third.
5. Kitchen Help – Need someone to fill two hours per day. Awaiting a response from an interested parent.
6. Lunch Numbers – Set a record this month; hit two hundred children eating lunch.
7. Principal Conference – Haley will be attending the conference in Fairmont later this month. Very good learning opportunity.
8. Special Education Case Load – Growing and we are going to have to do something that is not currently within the budget. Three more students are being tested that will most likely qualify for additional services.
9. SW-PBS – Positive Behavior Support System (REACH cards). Administrative interactions and training with Staff on behavior scenarios. Staff reviewed and worked as a team for resolutions. Staff then shared their resolutions. Very good interaction and reflected varying point of views and solutions. Administrators shared their solutions for the scenarios when the students were sent to the office. Resulted in open communications between teaching staff and administrative staff.
A Tim Lewis presentation was covered during the recent PIR day. Staff was surveyed on the Canyon Creek School positive behavior support systems, how they are implemented and if they are sustainable. Survey data has not been compiled but will be and shared back with teachers.
10. Internet Services – Fiber installation completed, up and running successfully. 7-8 times faster.
11. 2020-2021 Calendar – Wants to survey community and staff. School District 2 added a Spring break.
12. Community Task Force – This morning, Mr. Ross observed someone trying to break into

his pickup at 3:30 a.m. Four individuals were observed in vehicle. Incident was reported with the Sheriff's office. Community Task Force group is trying to get a Community Watch started. Mr. Lipp asked that community members share any concerns and issues to bring awareness to all.

B. Dean of Student's Report –

1. SWIS – Eleven days since Christmas break with nineteen referrals. Defiance/Insubordination/Non-compliance is leading the behavioral issues. There has been a couple of in-school suspensions. Classrooms and bus locations are still the main issue locations. Thursday is still the highest day with 12:45 being the highest time frame for behavioral issues.
The data was shared with Staff and follow-up questions were asked of Administration. Younger kids are showing more of the physical aggression. Mrs. Morales will evaluate the data and give feedback. Shared concerns why the referrals are not decreasing.
2. Give H.O.P.E. (Cole's Pantry) – Currently three families with eleven total children are being served. The full implementation of the program will start the first week of February. Currently still organizing and analyzing what is needed. We've received great support to date with donations and volunteer inquiries. Cole's younger brother is starting a Wellness arm of Cole's Pantry. There will be donations of jump ropes and other various playground equipment from an upcoming assembly.
3. Principal Conference – Leaving on Sunday, January 26th. Will listen to a speaker who is an educator who focuses on relationships of staff, students and families. The conference has time built in for networking and presentations on relationships within the school.
4. Pre-school update – Visited the existing Laurel Co-op and their current workings. Very positive and happy environment. Kids and families both benefit from the time the students are participating in working sessions at the Co-op. Meeting the needs of the students, explanations of what and why they were doing specific activities and sharing improvements and progresses. There is a desire to have Administration involved, as is the intention with the Co-op that is currently in the works.

Public Comment

*Order of meeting revised per audience participation agenda item for discussion. Joel moved the Public Comment section between Administrative Reports and New Business

Kevin Wood – Agenda item wished to be addressed – “Comments from last meeting”

Joel read the Public Comment language prior to Mr. Wood speaking.

Mr. Wood introduced himself and thanked the board for letting him speak. He inquired if there was a speed limit attached to our flashing lights. There is, it is 15 mph and Brent would like to get additional signs for progressive slow down.

Mr. Wood inquired if there was follow-up on Wendy Bekkadahl's comments in the written document

given to the Board members in the October meeting. Jason wanted to share comments and have further discussion on the issues from the summer meetings and Amy G. noted that if there were questions, to meet with Brent one-on-one to get clarification prior to bringing individual inquiries to the rest of the Board of Trustees.

The board as a whole had decided in the November meeting that it was not beneficial to continue discussions. Kevin asked if Brent could share why those 4 teachers were released from duty as he feels that would bring some closure and understanding to the circumstances. There was board comment back that it is illegal to share that information due to privacy rights of those individuals and not something that can be shared to the public. Kevin thanked Brent and the Board for their efforts to make improvements and communicate with the public.

New Business

- A. Budget Amendment Resolution – Discussion was held.
Amanda moved to accept the Budget Amendment Resolution as presented. Amy S. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. Hiring of Extracurricular Coach – Discussion was held.
Amy S. moved to hire Krystal Mearling – 5th/6th Girls Volleyball Coach as presented. Jason seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- C. Board Approval of Special Education Pre-school – Discussion was held. Currently working on drafting Multi-district agreement and Pre-school Co-operative agreement. First is an agreement between the four participating schools. The second agreement is required to specifically put money into fund and be able to transfer to the Pre-school Co-operative. Tomorrow there will be discussion on funding for the use of the facility and our Dean of Students as the Program Manager. Discussion on tuition funds and equal contribution will take place. The goal is to have both agreements finalized for the February meeting. There is a priority to get staff hired. The plan is to utilize the CCSD Master Agreement. Liability would be assumed by the Co-op (all four districts); Mr. Lipp will follow-up and get detailed response.
Amanda asked for information on breakdown/percentage of job duties with Co-op Program Manager and Dean of Student’s positions. Transportation will require individual contracts for each student. Attendance numbers are evolving and ever-fluctuating. Administrative involvement in the program is desired and currently viewed as an area of weakness with the current Co-op. Mr. Lipp will have feedback following the Co-op meeting scheduled for 01/21/2020.
- D. Roof Contract – Discussion was held. Anticipating start of the roof replacement work June 1st. The third phase of roof replacement will have to have an updated quote for pricing. The current contract does not include repair/replacement of wet/damaged wood decking. Anticipating three to four weeks to complete the section, weather permitting.
Once this summer section is completed, we may need to consider a reevaluation for the third section. May need to go out for bid process.
Jason moved to accept the Roof Contract as presented. Amy S. seconded the motion. The motion

passed unanimously.

- E. Addendum to MOA – INDEPTH Alternative to Suspension – Discussion was held. Currently not an issue with current students. There were previous issues with students who are no longer attending the school. This is an alternative response to in-school suspension. Punishment versus Education for someone who is caught vaping while in school.

If the Board is interested, Mr. Lipp has asked that they add it as an agenda item to the next Board meeting.

- F. K-12 Consultants – Student Enrollment Update – Discussion was held. Updates to forecast for student enrollment growth was presented. New subdivision had some set-backs but there is new engineering in place and building lots are due to be sold this summer. Consultant thinks we need to be formalizing a plan for meeting the future needs. Suggestion to get the information out to the community was shared. Proposal for the Consultant coming in and gathering data on what is wanted, desired and needed to meet the needs of the students. From that data, a plan is compiled for meeting anticipated growth needs. Projected costs of approximately \$9k to evaluate the facts and needs and formulate a plan to meet those needs. Next step would be formulating a community committee to drive the growth project. Consultant states that the timing is right, right now, to meet the planning goals for successful district growth.

Joel noted that we know the growth is coming. We aren't in the dark about that. What are our options to progress? Mr. Lipp recommends going thru the process to discuss the scope of the project with the Consultant. The Community Task Force is a great access point to the community and opens up communications.

The Board needs to decide if we want to pay for the process. This topic will be added to the February board meeting for further discussion.

- G. Audit Summary – Discussion was held.
- H. Bi-weekly Billing Cycle – Discussion was held.
Amanda moved to accept the Bi-weekly Billing Cycle as presented. Amy S. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- I. Superintendent Contract (following Executive Session) –
Amanda moved to accept the Superintendent's contract as proposed. Ami S. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Items for the Next Regular Meeting

- A. Election – Declaration of Intent and Oath of Candidacy for Trustee Candidates
- B. Updated K-12 Consultants, LLC proposal – bring in John for discussion
- C. Addendum to MOA – INDEPTH Alternative to Suspension - Action item
- D. Superintendent Vacation Request
- E. Enrollment/ANB Update
- F. Pre-school Update/Approval

Adjournment

The next Regular Meeting will be held Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in the Canyon Creek School District Library.

Amanda moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 p.m. Amy S. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Joel Junso, Chairman

Seara Stovall, Business Manager/Clerk