



West Ada

SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES March 14, 2017

Date, Place & Time The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, West Ada School District, convened at 6:00p.m. on Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at the District Service Center, 1303 E. Central Drive, Meridian, Idaho.

Trustees in Attendance Trustees: Chairman Phil Neuhoff, Ed Klopfenstein
Mike Vuittonet, Rene Ozuna, and Steve Smylie

Staff in Attendance Dr. Mary Ann Ranells, Cheri Newbold, Eric Exline, Joe Yochum, Debbie Arstein, Don Nesbitt, Lori Gash, Cindy Sisson, Angie Neal, Michelle Sanders, Joe Kelly, Dave Moser

Guests Mary Ollie, Sue Darden, Shana Hawkins, R. Lundgreen, Matthew Taylor, Julian Arroye, Jacob Lash, Benjamin Reynolds, Emily Kodesh, Nick Simpson, Conner Brunt, Jacob Harpt, Makah Souza, Jordan Farley, Eric Dahl, Jessy Herrna, Scot Sinclair, Kerry Cottrell, Ali Bullock, Robert Nasty, Carinne Hoppe, Mari Thomas, Brice Hones, Maurice Jones, Mark Enger

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE Chairman Phil Neuhoff

Amended Agenda **Trustee Ozuna** made a motion to remove item #9, Recommendation to approve ICOM expanded temporary access and easement agreement due to items in the ISU, ICOM lease that needs to be resolved and information was not available prior to the posting of the board agenda. **Vice Chairman Vuittonet** seconded and the vote was unanimous to remove item from consent.

Trustee Smylie made a motion to remove item #10, Recommendation to approve farm lease agreements because he had some questions about the item. **Trustee Klopfenstein** seconded and the vote was unanimous to remove item from consent and place item as discussion item #8 and action item #2.

SPOTLIGHT

CTE coordinator, Angie Neal introduced the SkillsUSA program. This is one of the CTE program's offered at Renaissance High School. Ms. Neal introduced Mark Enger, the construction

instructor for the program. Mr. Enger reported on the program and the success the student's performance in the classroom and in competitions. Mr. Enger had the students introduce themselves and the program they represent. The first group was the community service team. Vice Chairman Vuittonet asked the roll community service team serves. Student Nick Simpson described how they are renovating West Ada portables buildings. Student's presentation covered promotional work and construction work including Habitat for Humanity project. Three students who are competing in American Spirit, explained how their competition involves demonstrating various skills. Trustees questioned students on the career path they might take because of the CTE program. One student reported this has changed his mind on the career path. He loves working with his hands and seeing results of his hard work.

Consent Agenda

Vice Chairman Vuittonet made a motion, **Trustee Smylie** seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve the amended consent agenda. Approved items are as follows:

Payment of bills dated February 1-28, 2017

P-Card Payments dated January 1-31, 2017

Monthly Budget Reports

Minutes of:

- a. February 28, 2017 regular board meeting
- b. March 6, 2017 special board meeting

Associated Student Body Reports

Employment Recommendations

Recommendation to approve Superintendent's Contract

Summary of Leave Request

Recommendation to approve ICOM expanded temporary access and easement agreement

Recommendation to approve farm leases agreements

Non-resident student enrollment request for the 2016-2017 school year

Non-resident student enrollment request for the 2017-2018

school year

Recommendation to approve early graduation

Discussion

Recommendation to approve student expulsions

Revised Policy Code 806.20, Record Retention Policy

Joe Yochum, Assistant Superintendent, presented no changes to the Policy since the first reading. Trustee Klopfenstein requested a definition of personal property. Mr. Yochum indicated he would include this in the final reading.

Revised Policy Code 802.54, Major Repairs/Plant Facility Fund

Joe Yochum, Assistant Superintendent, revised this policy to reflect current code. Vice Chairman Vuittonet asked to clarify if the limit of \$5,000 is only for remodels. Mr. Yochum explained if a remodel costs less than \$5,000, they you can't use plant facility levy revenue, and instead use other revenue. Trustees Smylie asked what funds are used for small maintenance repair. Mr. Yochum stated these projects are out of the district's general funds. Trustee Klopfenstein asked if we are aligning our policy with the language of our levy election. Mr. Yochum stated this is correct.

Revised Policy Code 803.20, Disposition or Sale of Surplus Property

Joe Yochum, Assistant Superintendent, explained the revision to this policy is to break out procedurally what needs to occur. Vice Chairman Vuittonet asked clarification on personal property and real property. He asked if appraisal is done on personal property. Mr. Yochum stated West Ada has received appraisals on the sale of busses and portable buildings, which are classified as personal property. Personal property items that are disposed of usually have a value less than 5,000. Administration brings disposal of such items to the Board for approval. Mr. Yochum indicated he would provide a definition of what is personal and what is real property in the revision and return this policy for a second reading.

Revised Policy Code 603.20, High School Credits & Graduation

Joe Kelly, Assessment Director, and Cindy Sisson, Curriculum Director, presented the changes to Policy 603.20. One of the changes contained the requirement that students pass the state's civics test. This change, to add the civics test, is now a State Board rule. The State of Idaho no longer requires proficiency in ISAT to

Discussion Cont.

graduate. Therefore the policy reflects this deletion. The final change is the EOC at the end of Biology and Chemistry students must take. Mr. Kelly stated this graduation requirement was decided by the State instead of the science ISAT. Mr. Kelly stated changes to this policy reflects the changes the State has made. Trustee Smylie asked if students had an opportunity to take an alternative test to the civics test. Mr. Kelly indicated that West Ada has control over the alternative option. This policy will return for a second reading.

Revised Policy Code 603.21, High School Diploma and Graduation Ceremony

Dave Moser, Regional Director, and Cindy Sisson, Curriculum Director, presented the change to Policy 603.21 that would allow flexibility to participate in high school graduation ceremonies. This change would allow part time students who have met all the graduation requirements to participate in the ceremony as determined by Superintendent or designee. Trustee Ozuna asked about students graduating a semester early. Mr. Moser indicated every situation will be handled on an individual basis. Chairman Neuhoff stated that West Ada should always make decision based on what is best for kids.

Social Studies Textbook Adoption

Lori Gash, Social Studies Coordinator, reported the materials were selected by a group of social studies teachers and parents. Materials were available for all teachers to review at each of the schools and available for parent comments. Ms. Gash stated this is the first social studies curriculum adoption in nearly two decades. Ms. Gash explained that each student will have a book, but there are also online material for teachers and students to use. This will give students who do not have access to a computer a physical book. Ms. Gash negotiated the price of the books, the length of the online and received online at no cost. Chairman Neuhoff asked about the long-term durability of the online resources. Ms. Gash stated most of the platforms being used are new platforms that should have durability. She also stated we can add one-year extension to the online contract. Trustee Klopfenstein asked about the high cost of advanced courses. Ms. Gash indicated the cost of these text book materials will be ongoing expense with more students enrolled in advanced classes.

Concurrent Credit update

Cindy Sisson, Curriculum Director, and Michelle Sanders, Advanced Opportunity, Coordinator presented the update for concurrent credit courses as requested by the Trustees. Dr.

Discussion Cont.

Sanders explained the process for gathering input was made up of teacher from each school, counselors, district staff, and Chairman Neuhoff. Dr. Sanders updated Trustees on concurrent credit numbers and reported the increase from 18,083 last year to 33,318 this year, and an increase of more than 15,000 college credits earned. Dr. Sanders stated these are preliminary numbers. Trustee Klopfenstein asked about the challenges this increase has created. Dr. Sanders reported the universities have been easy to work with, but advised students to advocate for themselves when transferring credits to the universities. Trustee Ozuna asked if any of these students are middle school students. Dr. Sanders indicated most are high school students trying to get ahead by taking summer courses such as senior project and online courses.

Action

Recommendation to approve farm leases agreements

Trustee Smylie asked about the rates for farm lease property. Joe Yochum, Assistant Superintendent, indicated the amount is generally continuations of the previous agreement. Trustee Smylie suggested in the future we do more looking into what the prevailing rates are, as well as information about the specific properties when we renegotiate. This distinction is the reason why he requested that it be considered separately from the consent agenda. The District should always try to maximize the amount of lease dollars the district receives. Mr. Yochum agreed with Trustee Smylie.

Approve or deny Social Studies Textbook Adoption

Trustee Smylie made a motion, Trustee Klopfenstein seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve the Social Studies Textbook Adoption.

Approve or deny farm leases agreements

Vice Chairman Vuittonet made a motion, Trustee Ozuna seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve farm lease agreements.

**Board Reports/
Assignments**

Trustee Klopfenstein reported on a situation where a bus driver quick response kept students safe as they were getting off the bus. He witnessed a driver not stopping when the students were unloading. He has been trying to find the driver of the bus to thank him.

Trustee Ozuna had no report this week.

Vice Chairman Vuittonet reported that there are still tables available for the April 6 Gala and encouraged Trustees to attend.

Chairman Neuhoff acknowledged the performance of West Ada's student athletes and academic performance in the past several months. He recognized the excellent athletes both dance and cheer squads are in our District.

Trustee Smylie reported on the academic performance many of the athletes have in our District. Rocky Mountain and Eagle High received recognition for academic success.

**Superintendent's
Report**

Dr. Ranells thanked the Board for all the dedication and hard work. She expressed her appreciation for the great questions and concerns each Trustees asks of our staff. Dr. Ranells reported on her presentation to the City Club last week. She congratulated Chairman Neuhoff on his one year anniversary on the Board and thanked the board for her contract.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairman Vuittonet made a motion, **Trustee Smylie** seconded and the vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 7:34p.m.

Chairman

Clerk