



West Ada

SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES May 23, 2017

Date, Place & Time The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, West Ada School District, convened at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 23, 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, Debbie Arstein, Joe Yochum, Don Nesbitt, Dave Roberts, Ramona Lee, Eric Exline, Geoff Stands, Mandy White, Michelle Sanders

Guests Laura Henning, Sue Darden, Rob Lundgreen, Mary Ollie, Wanda Bouchard, Kirstin Pekovich, Misty Mum, Heidi Warren, Tanna Koyle, Eric McDonald,

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE Chairman Phil Neuhoff

Amended Agenda **Trustee Smylie** made a motion to add Renaissance High School bell schedule to the consent agenda because this document was not available prior to the meeting and is a time sensitive matter. **Vice Chairman Vuittonet** seconded and the vote was unanimous to add item to consent.

Vice Chairman Vuittonet made a motion to remove item #8, Recommendation to approve the bid for remodeling the parking lot and driveway at Lewis & Clark Middle School to Capital Paving Company, Inc. in the amount of \$392,924.45 to discussion and action section of the agenda. **Trustee Ozuna** seconded and the vote was unanimous to remove item #8 from the consent agenda.

Recommendation Geoff Stands, Regional Director, recommendation for the NEW Principal at Joplin Elementary School. Mr. Stands wanted to recognize the staff at Joplin Elementary School in the interview process. He then introduced Dr. Brandon Gallagher. Dr. Gallagher is currently the elementary principal in Hawaii. He was unable to attend the meeting tonight but had Mr. Stands read a letter to the Board from Dr. Gallagher. Trustee Smylie asked if Dr. Gallagher interviewed in person.

Recommendation Cont.

Mr. Stands indicated he had interviewed for a position in the past in person but this interview was done via Google.

Dr. Mandy White, Regional Director, recommendation for the NEW Principal at Pepper Ridge Elementary School. Dr. White wanted to recognize the staff at Pepper Ridge Elementary School in the interview process. Dr. White introduced Matt Mura to be considered for the Principal position. Mr. Mura is currently the assistant principal at Lewis and Clark Middle School. Mr. Mura addressed the Board. He stated he was honored to have the opportunity to work with such a fine staff at Pepper Ridge Elementary.

Consent Agenda

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

Minutes of May 9, 2017 regular board meeting

Employment Recommendations

Leave requests

Recommendation to approve the NEW Joplin Elementary School Principal

Recommendation to approve the NEW Pepper Ridge Elementary School Principal

Recommendation to approve the agreement for School District use of Hillsdale Park

Recommendation to approve the access and parking easement for Hillsdale Park

Recommendation to approve the bid for remodeling the parking lot and driveway at Lewis & Clark Middle School to Capital Paving Company, Inc. in the amount of \$392,924.45

Recommendation to approve request to take a group of students from Meridian Middle School to the Horsethief Reservoir YMCA camp on September 23 -25, 2017

Recommendation to approve Desert Sage Elementary to participate in a research study; "As the Wheel Turns"

Recommendation to approve Minuteman, Inc. for sole source procurement for keying systems

Consent Cont.

Disposal of surplus curriculum materials

Disposal of surplus property

Recommendation to approve Siena Elementary Irrigation Water agreement

Recommendation to approve student expulsions

Recommendation to approve Renaissance High School bell schedule

Discussion

Leadership Premiums for 2017-2018 school year

Dr. Michelle Sanders reported on the Leadership Premium program. A committee reviewed data and surveyed administrators to see what changes are needed. The changes were reviewed by the Instructional Team and the Superintendent. The changes will be for the 2017-2018 school year. The new positions include special education Enrich Leads; a Nurse Tech Lead; PE/Health Lead Teacher; and a Social Studies Lead Teacher. Trustee Smylie asked what the percentage of staff receiving leadership premiums. Dr. Sanders stated around 47 percent of our teachers receive a leadership premium. Trustee Ozuna asked how teachers apply for a leadership position. Dr. Sanders stated the positions are on Applitrack, and teachers apply. The building principals do the hiring. In most cases this position is a two year rotation.

Petition to authorize Peace Valley Charter School

Laura Henning represented Peace Valley Charter School in presenting the overview of the proposed charter. Ms. Henning noted some changes to the petition's budget. She explained that the school is an art and nature-based program, which does not utilize technology. The school will utilize portable classrooms, as much of the instruction is done outside. The school is based on the Waldorf philosophy. Ms. Henning indicated an interest of about 350 students. Ms. Henning had experienced the program while working abroad. The educational program has been in use for about 100 years. The program uses art and nature to teach the other subject areas, like math, science, etc. The organizer's plan is to open two schools, one in West Ada and one in the Boise District and one high school. She asked that if the Board does not want to approve the petition, the organizers would like the Board to refer the petition to the State Charter Commission. She indicated that creating duplicate schools would be more easily achieved under the State Charter Commission. Chairman Neuhoff asked where the school would be located. Ms. Henning indicated that the organizers are looking in the Eagle Area, with some focus on the area of West Ada nearer to the Boise School District. Trustee Smylie asked whether the charter would follow standardized testing. Ms. Henning indicated the school would follow the state's testing requirements and some additional assessments designed by the school. Trustee Smylie indicated that under the Waldorf private school model, these schools don't follow state requirements. As a district-sponsored school, the charter would

Discussion Cont.

need to follow district requirements. He asked about the school's philosophy to not use technology. Ms. Henning indicated that private Waldorf schools are very expensive, and the organizers chose the route to become a charter school to make the school affordable to more families. Vice Chairman Vuittonet asked for clarification regarding what the charter is requesting. Ms. Henning said the organizers could consider being a West Ada chartered school but preferred to be referred to the commission. Ms. Henning indicated that a referral means the State Charter Commission will review the petition and decide whether or not to approve the petition. Vice Chairman Vuittonet asked where the petitioners would place the charter high school. Ms. Henning indicated in a location near the line between the Boise and West Ada School Districts. Trustee Klopfenstein asked about how students would access the school. Ms. Henning indicated that the attendance area is not the entire West Ada School District, and the school will provide transportation starting in year two.

Revised Policy 601.30, Class Size & Load

Don Nesbitt, Assistant Superintendent, presented Policy 601.30, Class Size and Load. This policy comes to the Board on an annual basis for updates. The updates to the policy separates the elementary and secondary class loads. Elective classes such as choir and band exceed the class load in most schools. The policy clarifies that the class load recommendations are generated by the State Board of Education, and the estimated class loads are with the exclusion of Pupil Services. Chairman Neuhoff asked what the district qualifies for from the state. Mr. Nesbitt indicated that the state doesn't count pupil services in the calculation of average class sizes. Trustee Smylie asked if class loads have been reduced and what are we doing to make this happen. Mr. Nesbitt indicated the hiring of more staff this year to get closer to the state allocation. This year's budget includes the hiring of 10 additional teachers under the current funding formula. Dr. Ranells explained the state's calculation of class loads divides the number of students by total number of certificated staff. The certificated staff include nurses, counselors, instructional coaches and other supporting certificated staff. Dr. Ranells explained how the master schedule does not always result in perfect balance due to the single classes that are offered to students. Mr. Nesbitt stated the policy on class loads are guidelines. Trustees questioned the master scheduling process and guidelines. Mr. Nesbitt explained the class loads are reviewed and balanced in August as enrollment numbers come in. Some class section have more and some sections have less than the policy states. The scheduler has to look at the overall load of each teacher not just the section and the type of class offered example would be choir, band and PE. Chief Human Resource Officer, Dave Roberts explained that the separation of the levels was done to reflect the varying class loads, by subject, in middle and high schools. Trustee Ozuna indicated that she understands the need to separate the levels and indicated a desire to continue to reduce class sizes. Trustees and Administration all agreed the desire to reduce

Discussion Cont.

class size is a priority. Mr. Nesbitt will bring Policy 601.30 back to the board for a second reading.

Recommendation to approve the bid for remodeling the parking lot and driveway at Lewis & Clark Middle School to Capital Paving Company, Inc. in the amount of \$392,924.45

Chairman Vuittonet indicated he had concerns about a single bid for the project. He asked if the bids were open to out of state contractors. Mr. Yochum, Assistant Superintendent, indicated he posted the bids as required by statute. The increased construction projects in the valley had construction projects scheduled out for the summer. Vice Chairman Vuittonet asked if the project was time sensitive. Mr. Yochum stated if we re-bid the project this would potentially push the parking lot out another year. Mr. Yochum stated the design of the parking lot now has busses and cars sharing drop off points. The improvement of the driveway this would allow another exit from the school. Chairman Neuhoff asked if bidding the project earlier would have increased the number of bids submitted. Mr. Yochum stated yes it would have but, the approval of the plant levy in March needed to happen before projects could be put out for bid.

Action

Approve or deny Leadership Premiums for 2017-2018 school year
Vice Chairman Vuittonet made a motion, Trustee Smylie seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve Leadership Premiums for 2017-2018 school year.

Approve or deny Petition to authorize Peace Valley Charter School
Trustee Smylie made a motion to refer Peace Valley Charter School application to the State Charter Commission. Vice Chairman Vuittonet seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

Approve or deny the bid for remodeling the parking lot and driveway at Lewis & Clark Middle School to Capital Paving Company, Inc. in the amount of \$392,924.45

Vice Chairman Vuittonet made a motion, Trustee Klopfenstein seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve the bid for remodeling the parking lot and driveway at Lewis & Clark Middle School to Capital Paving Company, Inc. in the amount of \$392,924.45

Executive Session

Vice Chairman Vuittonet made a motion to move into executive session *per Idaho Code 74-206(1)(b) To consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student*; Trustee Ozuna seconded. Chairman Neuhoff took a roll call of the board at 7:47p.m. to move into executive session. Trustee Smylie I, Chairman Neuhoff I, Trustee Vuittonet I, Trustee Ozuna I, and Trustee Klopfenstein I.

The board entered executive session at 7:54p.m.

The board recessed from executive session at and continued in regular session at 8:13 p.m.

Action

Approve or deny recommendation to remove Employee A (6/14/16) from probationary period and to renew teaching contract for the 2017-2018 school year without probation

Trustee Klopfenstein made a motion to approve recommendation from Administration to remove Employee A from probationary period and to renew teaching contract for the 2017-2018 school year without probation. **Trustee Smylie** seconded and the vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairman Vuittonet made a motion, **Trustee Klopfenstein** seconded and the vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 8:15p.m.

Chairman

Clerk