

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

April 15, 2010

Antimony Elementary School

Board members present: Board President Ken Platt, Vice President Ted Chidester, Gladys LeFevre, Gregg Christensen, and Brian Bremner.

Acting Superintendent Janice Hatch and Business Administrator Lark Reynolds were also present.

BOARD MEETING

Welcome

After an introduction of those present, Board President Ken Platt indicated that he was open to a motion to move into an executive session. Ted Chidester proposed a motion to move into an executive session for strategic planning. Gladys LeFevre seconded the motion. A roll call vote was then called for. Ken Platt, Gladys LeFevre, Gregg Christensen, and Ted Chidester voted to move into an executive session. Brian Bremner was not present at the beginning of the meeting, but arrived after the beginning of the executive session. The executive session was held in a classroom of Antimony Elementary.

Following the Executive Session Gladys LeFevre proposed a motion to come out of executive session. Gregg Christensen seconded the motion. President Platt called for a roll call vote. Gladys LeFevre, Ted Chidester, Gregg Christensen, Ken Platt, and Brian Bremner all voted aye.

Call Meeting to Order

Board President Ken Platt called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Gladys LeFevre led the pledge of allegiance.

Agenda Changes

Due to the distance some people traveled, the board decided to move the following items to be discussed first. This was done to accommodate those who may have to travel home late at night.

- A. Miss Jaelyn Gillett, requesting donation to attend Governor's Honor Academy. Jaelyn presented to the board her desires to attend the Governor's Honor Academy at SUU this year. She has been asking for donations from businesses in the community, and now attends the board seeking additional aide.

After some discussion, Brian Bremner proposed a motion to authorize Principals to spend up to \$150 per student from their Student Activities Accounts for academic requests from students such as the above request. As part of his motion, he also authorized Janice to develop guidelines for using funds that were part of Utah Consolidated Application for such student requests. The motion was seconded by Gladys LeFevre. A vote was then called for. Ken Platt, Ted Chidester, Gladys LeFevre, Gregg Christensen, and Brian Bremner all voted to approve the motion.

B. Boulder Parent Group

Scott Brodie commented on some of the concerns of Boulder parents for their school. He asked if changes will be made. He was told that there will be some changes, not just in Boulder, but, in the entire district. Scott commented on how important Roy has been to their school. Janice told them that she has received many letters from Boulder residents and has made notes on every one of them. She explained that M & O, transportation and taxes, are all based on the number of students in the school. Gladys mentioned that none of the schools in Garfield County stays within the money generated from the small schools and WPUs.

C. Transportation – Risk Management

Bruce Fullmer, from Garfield County, asked the School District's permission to use their buses for the Bryce Canyon half-Marathon. He asked that this agreement be ongoing until the county can find a group who will allow them to use buses. Janice Hatch then told the board about the changes in Risk Management and the Districts potential liability with inter-local agreements. The County said they would be willing to contract with the district and work out the insurance concerns.

After a brief discussion Brian Bremner proposed a motion to authorize Garfield County and the District to enter into an inter-local agreement, once the insurance concerns are worked out, between the two entities. That the District will be held harmless, not only in practical costs but, fuel, bus drivers, cleaning, etc. and also the liability costs. This motion was seconded by Gregg Christensen. A vote was then called for. Ken Platt, Ted Chidester, Gladys LeFevre, Gregg Christensen, and Brian Bremner all voted to approve the motion.

Open Forum to Discuss Improving Education of Students.

No comments were made.

1. Consent Agenda Items

A. Approve February 18, 2010 Board Minutes.

B. Approve March 2010 Minutes.

C. Approve March 2010 Financial Reports

D. Approve April 2010 Hiring Recommendations

i. Retirees

1. Vicki Ahlstrom – Special Education Director/Testing.
2. Joe Fischer – PHS/PMS Custodian
3. Gay R. Shakespeare – BVE Paraprofessional
4. Karleta Riggs – Panguitch Area Food Service Manager

ii. New Employees

1. Amy Marshall – Panguitch Area Substitute Teacher. She will be paid at \$65.00 a day like other substitute teachers.
2. Shirley Chidester – Volunteer board minute transcriber. She will not receive any compensation for this work.

Gregg Christensen proposed a motion to accept the March 2010 Financial Report and the Retirees/New Hires listed above. No minutes were prepared, and therefore they were not voted upon. The motion was seconded by Gladys LeFevre. A vote was then called for. Ken Platt, Ted Chidester, Gladys LeFevre, Gregg Christensen, and Brian Bremner all voted to approve the motion.

2. Public Comments

The following people expressed their appreciation that the school board has said they will not be closing the Boulder school. They like the four-day week and feel if the school is closed it will kill the community. They each expressed their support of Roy and what he has done.

- A. Brynn Brodie.
- B. Kevin Gardner.
- C. Mat Thorn.
- D. Dennis Bertucci
- E. Caroline Gardner
- F. Julie Ketchum

Ken told the group that the board does appreciate their concerns and they do care about the Boulder students, that those eleven students are just as important as any eleven students in the district.

3. School Board Reports

Gladys expressed concern about the deteriorated cement at the Antimony school. She asked if Lark would check to see about getting it repaired. Janice said the maintenance people will check to see what needs to be done.

Ken reported on his attendance at the Sterling Scholar competition at Dixie State College. He said even though only a few were named winners, he felt that those who earned the right to be there were all winners. Riley Savage from Panguitch High School was the only one from our district who placed. She was named as a runner-up.

Gregg reported on his meeting, regarding the Escalante History Center, about the water connection. The figure being discussed for a connection fee is around \$1,000 and a monthly charge for a drip system to water trees and shrubs. This item will be put on next month's agenda.

Brian Bremner said he had been contacted by a staff member asking if the board could look into the possibilities of equalizing salaries of secretaries across the district. Perhaps next year this could be included in the budget process.

4. Superintendent's Report

- A. Janice received some articles regarding the Escalante school trip to the Anne Frank display. They were on TV. It sounded as they had a real fun time.
- B. Update letter from the commission regarding the request from Mr. Desai.
- C. Bret Taylor got the grant request into the federal government for the AURA. Hopefully, we will get that grant.
- D. Gerald is writing a technology grant with three other districts for updating our long distance communication system. The grant is very limited. Gerald contacted the readers of the grant. They said if we get it we would be able to use it within the district.
- E. She complemented the parents of the Sterling Scholar students. They have done a great job encouraging their students to do well. She also congratulated Gary Bennett and Phoebe Wiseman on the quality of the student's portfolios.
- F. Tammi Bennett reported that Panguitch took 36 FCCLA students to the state competition. They had eight winners from 21 categories; they won in four of the Categories. Those students will go to the nationals in Chicago in July. They also won 17 silver medals. Bryce Valley had 12 winners. They were complemented, by the state people, on their county wide project of collecting books and distributing them to the clinics, health department and hospital.
- G. Janice has been working with principal Rember on the curriculum and have put in for federal grant.

Discussion and Action Items

- H. Early Retirement Program Incentive Window Applications & Early Retirement Program Policy Phase-Out**

Ken commented on how 4 employees have applied for retirement. Three of these qualified for the early incentive window. Two also qualify for Garfield County School District Early Retirement Program Policy.

Gregg Christensen then proposed a motion to extend the early retirement window until May 14, 2010. The motion was seconded by Brian Bremner. A vote was then called for. Ken Platt, Ted Chidester, Gladys LeFevre, Gregg Christensen, and Brian Bremner all voted to approve the motion.

Gregg Christensen proposed a motion to accept the retirement applications of Vicki Ahlstrom, Joe Fischer, Karleta Riggs, and Gay Shakespeare for the amount for which they qualify. The motion was seconded by Ted Chidester. A vote was then called for. Ken Platt, Ted Chidester, Gladys LeFevre, Gregg Christensen, and Brian Bremner all voted to approve the motion.

The Early Retirement Program Policy Phase-out was then discussed. Debbie Pollock suggested that the board hold off until possibly August to make any decisions on this subject. Gladys said she would like to make some decisions now. After the discussion, Gregg Christensen proposed a motion to table the discussion of the Early Retirement Program Policy Phase-out until the July 2010 School Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Brian Bremner. A vote was then called for. Ken Platt, Ted Chidester, Gregg Christensen, and Brian Bremner all voted to approve the motion. Gladys LeFevre voted present. The motion passed 4-0-1.

I. Furlough Days

Gregg Christensen proposed a motion that the District does NOT apply for furlough days this year. The motion was then seconded by Gladys LeFevre. After some discussion a vote was then called for. Ken Platt, Ted Chidester, Gladys LeFevre, Gregg Christensen, and Brian Bremner all voted to approve the motion.

J. 2010-2011 School Calendar

Gregg proposed some changes to the school calendar, that the teachers come to school on August 24, 2010 and the students come in on August 25, 2010. Because the calendar shows 181 student contact days, that they take a day off on March 18, 2011. He suggested they go to school on January 3, 2011 and take off a whole day on the 22nd, which is a minimum day. The Board then directed the Superintendent to make the appropriate changes and bring the calendar back on next month agenda.

K. Budget/ Reduction in Force

Brian proposed a motion to direct the superintendent to contact employees, who will be affected by the proposed cuts, to inform them, in a letter that their employment is changing. This motion was seconded by Gregg Christensen. A vote was then called for. Ken Platt, Ted Chidester, Gladys LeFevre, Gregg Christensen, and Brian Bremner all voted to approve the motion.

Gladys LeFevre then proposed a motion to eliminate the Head Teacher Stipends, beginning next year, and give each school affected (Antimony, Boulder, Escalante Elementary, and Panguitch Middle Schools) a \$1,500 amount to help with the additional paperwork. Brian Bremner seconded the motion. After some public comments on the matter, Gladys then withdrew her motion, and the motion died. Brian Bremner made the motion, seconded by Gregg Christensen, to table this item. The motion passed with all in favor.

5. Board Business

- A. Gregg Christensen made the motion for the school board to meet on May 20, 2010 at Bryce Valley High School; an executive session is tentatively scheduled to begin at 4:00 p.m. with the regular board meeting beginning at 5:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Gladys LeFevre. The motion passed with all in favor.

6. Public Comments

Debbie Pollock then commended her English Students for their recent accomplishments. Panguitch High School was the only 1-A school to participate in the SUU Creative Writing contest. They won more awards than any other school, including the larger schools.

7. Adjournment

Gladys proposed a motion to move into an executive session to discuss collective bargaining. As part of this motion she said that the Board Meeting would be adjourned right at 9:00 pm, and the Board would not make any motions after the executive session. The motion was seconded by Brian Bremner. A vote was then called for. Ken Platt, Ted Chidester, Gladys LeFevre, and Brian Bremner all voted to approve the motion. Gregg Christensen voted nay. The motion passed 4-0-1

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION DURING PUBLIC MEETINGS

In compliance with the American's with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and service) during this meeting should notify Annie Eldredge at 676-8821 at least three days prior to the meeting.