

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

August 13, 2009
Boulder Elementary School

Board members present: Board President Ken Platt, Gladys LeFevre, Gregg Christensen, and Brian Bremner. Ted Chidester was able to tele-conference from home in order to be present for the meeting.

Various community members were present. Acting Superintendent Janice Hatch and Business Administrator Lark Reynolds were present.

BOARD MEETING

Welcome

Board President Ken Platt called the meeting to open. He called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Gladys LeFevre led the pledge of Allegiance.

Gladys LeFevre then proposed a motion to move into executive session to discuss imminent litigation.

The motion was seconded by Brain.

Roll call vote. All "Yes."

It passed unanimously.

Return from Executive session.

Open Forum to Discuss Improving Education of Students.

1. Debbie Pollock – Discussed the National Writing Day on October 20th. Garfield's website was accepted, so we'll have a local writing gallery. We hope that people will write essays and submit them online.
2. Roy Suggett – Discussed his situation in Boulder and his "preps" (additional tasks that require time). He then showed a video of his school that was made last year. He said he couldn't do it alone and needed more aides, as he lost two of his aides this year. He needed them in order to help him prepare the necessary lessons to help the quality teaching of the students as he is very busy. The District advertised for two aide positions. After interviewing for the positions, Roy was told the District would not be able to fund additional aides. He asked the District to reconsider the decision and pled with the Board to rehire the positions.
3. Acting Superintendent Janice Hatch then discussed why the decision was made not to hire two additional aides. Previously these aides were paid out of grant funds that Janice wrote for. These funds were cut this year, and there are no funds

to pay for the aides in Boulder. She then talked about the financial condition of the district.

4. Ken and Janice then asked for any proposals on what could be done to help the Boulder situation.
5. Gladys LeFevre then proposed some ideas to help the Boulder situation. It was a brainstorming session. Some ideas included using School Trust Land funds, community support funds, having a secretary help prep, and community volunteers were a few suggestions that were discussed.
6. Public Comments were accepted at this time; as many people wanted voice their opinions on the situation at Boulder Elementary. Many Boulder residents asked for the re-instatement of two aides. There were various comments from those in attendance.

Agenda Changes

1. The only proposed change was answering the questions from a Moody's investor, which was not addressed due to time constraints.

1. Consent Agenda Items

- A. Approve July 2009 Minutes with changes
- B. Approve July 2009 Financial Reports
- C. Approve August 2009 Hiring Recommendations
 - i. Dean Harrison – EHS Sp. Ed Teacher - \$32,876, 1000-131
 - ii. Tasha Barnes – PES 5th grade teacher - \$32,876, 1000-131
 - iii. BVHS Assistant Volleyball coaches (Shared Stipend totaling \$1,045)
 1. Kami Brinkerhoff, 950
 2. Cailee Syrett
 - iv. Jonel Dudley-Gleave – Antimony Food Service Substitute, \$9.54, 3100-100
 - v. Reduction in Force – Thomas McCafferty – EHS Custodial Assistant.
 - vi. Kim Stewart – Was not listed in the board package. Because she was in attendance she was asked to discuss the situation at Bryce Valley Elementary. She asked to be moved to a full-time teaching position for the Kindergarten, or to remain as a half –time teacher with additional aide help. 29,093 – 40,730, 1000-100

The consent agenda items were voted on as a group, with the exception of the Bryce Valley Elementary position, which was voted upon later.

Gregg Christensen proposed a motion to accept the consent agenda.
The motion was seconded by Gladys LeFevre.
The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

2. Public Comments

- A. There were many public comments on the situation in Boulder, but they were addressed earlier in the meeting after Roy Suggett talked about the situation at Boulder Elementary.

3. School Board Member Reports

- A. Brian had nothing to report.
- B. Gregg talked about the “saga” at the Escalante High School Gym. He suggested we have an appraisal if they are going to sell the building.
- C. Ted did not have anything to report
- D. Gladys did not have anything to report
- E. Ken read a thank you note from Bryce Valley High School FCCLA. Ken asked that we have board member specific items added to the agenda. Ken suggested that the items be placed under the Board Member Reports.

4. Program and Building Reports

- A. There were no program reports for the month of August 2009.

5. Superintendent’s Report

- A. Janice addressed the Boulder Elementary four day work week. She presented the letter that was going to be given to the state Board of Education, as well as the USOE.
- B. Next Janice presented the Board with the reports showing the Escalante Well costs prepared by Marilyn Twitchell. (attached)

6. Discussion and Action Items

- A. Adopt updated 2009-2010 School Calendar with no House Bill 100 Hours

Gregg Christensen noted that the calendar did not include the science fair on November 2, 2009.

Gladys LeFevre proposed a motion to accept the calendar as presented, with a notation of the November 2nd science fair.
The motion was seconded by Gregg Christensen.

The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

B. Capital Projects

Janice presented the Board with a project list prepared by our Maintenance Director Bret Taylor. Layne LeFevre asked about a six inch stem wall to hold the pea gravel out of the grass and parking lots. The Bryce Valley High School rain gutter problem was discussed by various attendees of the board meeting. Gregg Christensen discussed having air conditioning at the district office. Roy Suggett discussed in the capital projects that needed to be completed in at Boulder Elementary (stucco, countertops, etc.). Brian Bremner stopped at each school on his way to the board meeting. He concluded that they were all in need of minor repairs, except for the Bryce Valley Elementary School parking lot on the east side is beyond repair and needs to be redone.

Brian Bremner, then proposed a motion to; a) authorize Bret Taylor to go out and get bids to spot patch and crack seal all the parking lots except when a the one noted above, b) authorized him to go out and get bids on the roofs at Bryce Valley High School and Panguitch Elementary, c) authorize Bret Taylor to replace the maintenance vehicle and spend up to \$10,000.

Ken Platt seconded the motion.

The vote passed unanimously.

C. Inter-Local Agreement with Escalante City

The agreement with Escalante City was discussed. The understanding of the Board was that the school district was only responsible for providing the land and the water, and that the city would be responsible for the remaining expenses. Their interpretation of the contract was that it is city and those responsible for using the Little League field would be responsible for maintaining the field and the other expenses. The \$10,000 of expenses that were discussed was a bill received for putting in sprinklers. Nobody in attendance was certain at the time of the board meeting whether these expenses pertained to the little league field (inter-local agreement with Escalante City) or the track field which would be the districts responsibility.

D. Insurance

Health insurance for district employees was then discussed. Janice pointed out that the Board needed to vote upon this issue due to time constraints with the health insurance provider. Open enrollment will start next month; therefore a decision must be made due to the timing issues. Ken Platt then asked if GEA and GSEA would

support the district on the decision to move to the silver health insurance plan. He was told that they would support it if the Board agreed to their proposal. GEA then presented their insurance proposal. They proposed that they would be willing to

move to the silver plan if the District would be willing to reimburse the individuals for their respective health-insurance deductibles. Moving to the silver coverage would result in a savings of \$224,553 to the district. GEA's proposal would result in the District reimbursing employees for \$51,400. The net savings from the change in health insurance coverage and the reimbursement for deductibles would be \$173,153. GEA's second proposal would be to furlough 3 days from the calendar as long as the teachers were able to attend a meeting that they would be receive a stipend from Special Ed funds. The two proposals were then discussed by the Board. Brian Bremner noted that he was concerned about the proposals due to the fact that he was concerned with the figures in the budget. Ken and Ted then discussed how they agreed with the GEA on this issue.

After a lengthy discussion on the topic Gladys LeFevre proposed a motion to accept the change in health insurance to the silver plan with GEA's proposal to reimburse employees for the health insurance deductible.

The motion was seconded by Ted Chidester.

Brian Bremner and Gregg Christensen proposed a substitute motion to wait until next March 2010, to approve the health insurance deductible reimbursement. This would give the District more time to straighten out the financial concerns and see if this reimbursement would be financially feasible. However, this motion was not voted upon, as the other motion listed above was proposed first and voted upon first.

Gladys LeFevre, Ted Chidester, and Ken Platt voted to approve the motion. Brian Bremner and Gregg Christensen voted nay.

E. Professional Development Cuts

Professional Development money was cut from the state allotment this year. Janice wanted to discuss that this funding will no longer be available. Therefore the teachers will not be paid, any additional income this year for professional development.

F. USOE Board Action for Local Flexibility on 2009-2010 calendar

During this discussion more talk of cutting three days from the calendar was discussed. However, no motions were proposed, and so the talk ceased.

G. Student Transportation – Legality of 12 passenger vans

The legality of 12 passenger vans was discussed briefly. It just cannot be done according to Utah State Code.

H. Audit – GCSD Sept. 2-3, 2009 / In depth review

The auditors from Gilbert & Stewart, P.C., are coming the first week in September. Board members voiced concerns about what has happened in prior years. A plan to sit down and talk to the auditors was discussed.

I. Program Reports

This item was discussed previously. Ken reiterated that these reports would be due three times a year, and once a month from the district.

J. Acting Superintendent Stipend

Gregg Christensen proposed a motion to pay, the acting superintendent, a stipend of \$1,000 a month while she is in that position, retroactive to last month. Ted Chidester seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Brian Bremner asked a question of the Board; he wanted them to find out where we can find the money to put back into the classroom.

K. Medical Leave: Marilyn Twitchell

Brian Bremner proposed a motion that we allow Marilyn Twitchell to be placed on a flexible medical leave with pay for an average of 10 hours per week until December 31, 2009.

The motion was seconded by Gregg Christensen.

The motion was passed unanimously.

L. Business Administrators Contract

This item was addressed previously in an executive session.

M. BVE Kindergarten to Full Day/Increase Sixth Grade Para hours

This part of the agenda was discussed earlier when Kim Stewart was asked to discuss the situation at Bryce Valley Elementary.

Gregg Christensen proposed a motion to fund a full time teacher at the Bryce Valley Elementary Kindergarten Class.

The motion was second by Brian Bremner. Brian Bremner, Ted Chidester, Gregg Christensen, and Ken Platt voted to pass the motion. Gladys LeFevre abstained from voting.

The motion passed.

Gladys LeFevre then proposed a motion to hold off on making a decision on Layne LeFevre's proposal for a sixth grade para-position. After discussion among board members, it was decided that this item would be addressed in future meetings.

N. GEA Proposals

i. Insurance / Insurance Options
(Discussed Previously)

ii. Steps and Lanes
(Freezing steps and lanes was discussed in the opening period. The GEA voiced their opinion that this would be a bad move for the District, citing that the District receives funds for teachers experience and education.)

iii. Reduction of School Calendar
(Was discussed earlier)

iv. Golf
Gladys LeFevre proposed a motion that golf be funded out of the individual schools budget, as well as the grant that Betty Ann Rember may get. The motion was seconded by Brian Bremner. Brian Bremner, Ted Chidester Gladys LeFevre and Ken Platt voted to pass the motion. Gregg Christensen voted nay.
The motion passed.

O. Student Handbook (Not on the Agenda)

Gladys LeFevre posed a motion to accept the student handbook.
The motion was seconded by Gregg Christensen.
The vote passed unanimously.

7. Board Business

A. Set September School Board Meeting at Panguitch Middle School.
September 17, 2009 at 4:00 PM.

B. USBA Leadership Academy

i. Brian Bremner proposed a motion that the Board authorize Gregg Christensen to attend the USBA Leadership Academy in September. The motion was seconded by Gladys LeFevre.
The motion passed unanimously.

C. Non-Agenda Item

i. Brian Bremner verified a matter to be included in the minutes that not one single cent was budgeted to pay for severance pay, insurance pay,

or any other expense for Justin Baugh after he resigned from his position. That was the understanding of all board members expressed in the FY 2010 Budget by them individually.

8. Public Comments

Roy Suggett noted, he wanted to make it clear that he would start the school year with only two staff members to assist him. He was told that that was correct.

9. Adjournment

Gregg Christensen would propose a motion to adjourn.
The meeting was then adjourned.

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.