

NEVADA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2020

BOARD ROOM AT 1035 15TH STREET

PRESENT: BOARD MEMBERS: Tori Carsrud, Joe Anderson, Marty Chitty, Leanne Harter **ABSENT:** Tom Maier
STAFF: Steve Gray, Kody Asmus, Chris deNeui, Kevin Ericson, Dustin Smith, Brian Schaeffer.
COMMUNITY MEMBERS: Madison Davis, Kim Stephens

1. Call to Order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda The Board noted the addition of item 5.2 under “Information” for the Elementary Chess Club and additional personnel for the consent agenda. Motion by Chitty, second by Anderson to approve the agenda as amended. Motion Carried 4-0.

3. Public Comment Kim Stephens voiced alleged problems with racism in the Schools.

4.1 High School Update: Kody Asmus & Dustin Smith Mr. Asmus said the goals of the High School are to look at the whole child, give students “voice and choice”, and have student-centered pathways, such as those with Des Moines Area Community College and with a new program IJAG, Iowa Jobs for America’s Graduates (see Board minutes of December 2, 2019 for the program). Mr. Asmus noted that Nevada High was “Commendable” on the State 2019 Report Card – he said he and the staff will take this data and make progress with students. The current High School progress includes information that ACT scores continue to rise, there is a decrease in classroom referrals and a decrease in “major” referrals, and an increase in college credits earned.

Mr. Smith noted extra-curricular activities including student ambassadors (duties are hospitality, technology with running live feed at athletic events, and the videoboards), newer clubs: eSports, Ethics Bowl for 11 students sponsored by Mr. Kleeman (pilot year this year; hope to expand to other schools), and First Tech Challenge (which may reach students who may not be typically involved in activities). Mr. Smith also noted recent work with Premier Athlete Training for strength training to have consistent and communicated summer schedules.

A High School building goal was discussed to implement use of Executive Function skills for the students. Mrs. Wessels has led the professional development on this on Monday mornings to help teachers take these skills to be implemented in instruction. Class meetings were held at the first of year to focus on the implementation of Executive Functions. Mr. Asmus reviewed the desired functions of the skills. Senior class student Madison Davis reviewed the Executive Skills she was using which included a calendar to be organized between school, activities, and her work schedule at Fareway. She said Executive Function skills were introduced to her in Algebra II class. She said use of the skills has her feeling less stress and more organized by prioritizing. She said she wants to be “super involved” as a senior.

Mr. Asmus noted that the High School is using a business internship program to help students with their interests in careers. The goal of this program was to have the students learn by doing the work then give themselves a time for self-reflection. Madison said she experienced math teaching with Mr. Mittman at the High School and helped him with his paperwork and planning. Mr. Asmus also noted the Alternate School at the High School which uses on-line program Edmentum and Plato. This program is self-paced for the students with communicated ending dates. Each student is to communicate weekly the program

NEVADA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF FEBRUARY 17, 2020 (CONTINUED)

instructors. The program has 40 students now, up from in the past. Mr. Asmus said that there have been great success stories for students who may not receive a traditional diploma. Dr. Gray said the High School is also working on apprenticeships and internships for the career education program. The Board will be receive a package presentation on these later this spring.

4.2 Central Elementary Spring Chess Club Opportunity Mrs. deNeui said she had been approached by the son of the founder of Chess Utopia about his interest in bringing a chess club to the Elementary School. The club will meet Monday mornings during staff development time. The cost is \$104.95 for ten weeks but scholarships will available for the program.

5.1 2020-21 School Calendar Dr. Gray presented the proposed 2020-21 school calendar. The start date would be Monday, August 24, 2020, while the scheduled last day June 2, 2021. Motion by Chitty to approve the proposed 2020-21 school calendar, second by Harter. Anderson asked about the number of hours as compared to other schools. Motion Carried 4-0.

6. Consent Agenda Motion by Chitty, second by Anderson to approve the consent agenda items:

- Board Minutes of the meeting of February 3
- Bills
- Financial Reports for January
- Appointments: James Carsrud – Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach; Caitlyn Shipley – CRC Associate, Johnathan Stone – Elementary Associate
- Resignations: Jordan Bentley – Middle School Football Coach
- FMLA: Nicole Feilmeier, Lisa Ott
- Fundraisers: National Honor Society Spaghetti Supper, High School PE Cardio for Kids Donations
- HS Course Guide
- Purchase: Twelve-Passenger Van
- Early Graduate Application Upon Completion of Required Coursework: Christina Wright – end of term 2

Motion Carried 4-0.

7.1 Board Member Comments Harter commended teams at speech contest as all participants received I's. Anderson commended the varsity wrestling team on big steps forward this year as three wrestlers went to district competition, two won matches and one went to State.

7.2 Board Calendar was reviewed. The next regular Board meeting is Monday, March 2, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

8. Adjournment at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Board President

Board Secretary