

**NEVADA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2020  
BOARD ROOM AT 1035 15TH STREET**

**PRESENT:** BOARD MEMBERS: Tori Carsrud, Joe Anderson, Marty Chitty, Leanne Harter, Tom Maier (see **Call to Order** below)  
STAFF: Steve Gray, Kody Asmus, Chris deNeui, Justin Gross, Lisa Hartman, Dustin Smith, Tony Sneiderman, Travis Temple, Joe Wakeman, Brian Schaeffer.  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS: Ben Humpal-Pash

1. **Call to Order** at 6:30 p.m. All participants attended the meeting via Internet Stream as allowed by Board Policy 210.6.
2. **Approval of Agenda** The Board noted changes to three contracts for personnel in the consent agenda. Motion by Harter, second by Anderson to approve the agenda as amended. Motion Carried 5-0.

**3. Public Comment - none**

**4.1 COVID-19 Closure Update** Dr. Gray indicated that since the last Board meeting, the District has been working to add structure to Voluntary Educational Enrichment Opportunities at the PK-8 levels. At the 9-12 level, efforts have been made to identify and mitigate equity issues in preparation for a return to required on-line education to potentially begin May 1. Professional development is being provided to 9-12 faculty regarding one consistent online platform - Canvas. Learning templates have also been created in Canvas for teachers to begin moving their courses onto that on-line platform. Dr. Gray also noted that the State Department of Education has placed COVID-19 guidance on their website.

The District has been providing meals: parents come at designated times to the High School circle and are given meals for their children. An update on this shows that demand has increased: on March 23, 4,010 meals were distributed; on April 20, this increased to 6,190 meals. Dr. Gray gave a heartfelt thanks to Food Service, and other staff across the District, for doing the food distribution. For the Cubbies's Cupboard food pantry, demand has increased in April ten times. The average number of families served in January and February was 95. This has increased to 1,000 in April. Plans for the senior students will be communicated this week as graduation, prom and other activities honoring seniors have been postponed due to COVID-19. Senior spotlights are being prepared for social media; yard signs have been ordered for seniors via donations from Marc/Amber Olsen, Allen Kockler, Steve Gray, Kody Asmus, and Dustin Smith; and vinyl banners are being created for each senior - Larry Sloan is leading the fundraising for the banners. Carsrud asked if there were enough volunteers with employees doing the food service distribution. Dr. Gray said the sign-up has been via a Google sheet which has been useful. He said Food Service intends to continue distributing meals into the summer.

**5.1 Department of Education - Continuous Learning Plan** Dr. Gray said the District is working hard for the May 1 start for the Continuous Learning Plan. He asked the Board to approve the District going from Voluntary Learning Options at the grades PK-12 level to Voluntary Learning Options for grades PK-8 and Required Continuous Learning for grades 9-12. He said this Board action would help students to the finish line in regard to earning the necessary graduation credits. Motion by Anderson, second by Maier to approve the change in learning plans. Motion Carried 5-0.

**5.2 E-Sports Proposal** Mr. Smith presented an e-sports proposal to the Board. He said that this is the formal proposal from Activities and Technology to start an e-sports program for students in the District.

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MINUTES OF MEETING OF APRIL 20, 2020 (CONTINUED)

He said he, Mr. Sneiderman, and Mr. Wakeman attended an e-sports clinic at Grand View University which provided information on the program. He said students must be eligible with grades and actions to be included in the program. Carsrud asked if people who were e-sports coaches would be required to have their coaching, mandatory reporter and suicide training up-to-date. Mr. Smith said that yes, the mandatory reporter and suicide training would need to be up-to-date and no coaching authorization would be required. He said he would encourage anyone who would apply for the e-sports coaching position to get the coaching authorization. Mr. Smith said that there are four different games on e-sports so there may be fall and spring coaches. Mr. Wakeman said that there are sponsorship opportunities available for the program. Motion by Chitty, second by Maier to approve the District offering e-sports beginning in the 2020-21 school year. Motion Carried 5-0.

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

- Board Minutes of the meetings of March 20 and April 6
- Bills
- Financial Reports
- Appointments: Victoria Wells – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Teacher
- Resignations: Justin Gross – Associate Superintendent of School Improvement (On June 30), Hesston Johnson – MS PE Teacher, Larry Stufflebeam – HS Special Ed Teacher and Wrestling Coach
- Transfer: Kody Asmus – Associate Superintendent of School Improvement
- Title Change: Joe Wakeman – Director of Technology & Communications
- 2020-21 Employment Contracts: with adjustment for Jeff Salz and removal of Sarah Gilchrist and Rachael Grimes
- Corrected Contracts from April 6: Kris Agranbright, Kelsey Callihan, Cathryn Carney, Seth Meyne, Allyson Simpson, Bennett Thompson.
- Second Reading of Board Policy 505.7

Motion Carried 5-0.

**7.1 Board Member Comments** Chitty thanked the Olson’s and Larry Sloan for acknowledging senior students. He also congratulated Justin Gross on his move to the superintendent’s job at Winterset. Student Board member Ben noted that students are now wanting school to be in session.

The Board asked questions about COVID-19 plans. Dr. Gray indicated that school start date would probably not change for 2020-21, even though the Governor said this will be allowed. He said there are questions out there about social distancing which would require guidance from the Department of Education.

Mrs. deNeui reviewed information requested from the last Board meeting on Full-Day Early Kindergarten Programming. Dr. Gray said this would be added to the next Board agenda.

**7.2 Board Calendar** was reviewed. The next regular Board meeting is Monday, May 4, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

**8. Adjournment** at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Board President

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Board Secretary