

**NEVADA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2021

HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY AT 1001 15TH STREET

PRESENT: BOARD MEMBERS: Tori Carsrud, Joe Anderson, Marty Chitty, Leanne Harter. Board Member Tom Maier participated in the meeting via Zoom due to illness.

STAFF: Steve Gray, Kody Asmus, Chris Burling, Chris deNeui, Joe Wakeman, Brian Schaeffer.

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

2. Approval of Agenda Motion by Chitty, second by Harter to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion Carried 5-0

3. Public Comment - none

4.1 Preparation for Preliminary Budget Dr. Gray referred to materials he had distributed regarding the Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL) and the SAVE. Specifically, he referred to the two funding sources being used for the purchase of Gates Hall. He said the purchase would not be feasible with a loan on the PPEL. He said a bond issue on the SAVE for Gates would be possible. Board consensus was to pursue the SAVE bond and start the process with Piper Sandler as placement agent.

Dr. Gray requested information from the Board on the 2021-22 school year Associates' pay from discussion started at the annual Board retreat. Dr. Gray reviewed a proposed pay schedule and Associates' pay from area school districts. Chitty said he would support funding paid to those with longevity; he noted that there has been few Board agendas where there hasn't been an Associate resigning. Anderson said he would support \$5 per hour raise for Associates. The Board had further discussion on Associates' pay. Dr. Gray thanked Board for input and he said he would bring back a proposal at a future meeting.

5.1 Reading Recovery Kits Dr. Asmus said he was suggesting purchase of Reading Recovery kits using ESSER funding to help students who have had learning loss during COVID-19. He said that winter reading data from last year vs. winter data this year shows the loss. Mrs. deNeui that the Elementary had been working with Jennifer Burns who is formerly a teacher and with the Area Education Association. She said that Mrs. Burns has helped with the Reading Recovery program by using guided reading kits. These kits lay out everything and provide consistency to level the playing field. Mrs. deNeui said in the Elementary Reading Room, materials have to be shared. The proposed purchase would allow teachers to have their own set of books. Dr. Asmus and Mrs. deNeui explained in detail how the books to be purchased would be used, again emphasizing the learning loss that has occurred with COVID. Motion by Chitty, second by Anderson to approve the purchase of the Reading Recovery Kits. Motion Carried 5-0

5.2 NCRC Handbook 2021-22 Mrs. Burling reviewed Nevada Community Resource Center (NCRC) Handbooks for the 2021-22 school year. She said there would be a \$5 increase in base rate for services. Summer services will start on June 14 and end August 18. This summer, NCRC field trips will be handled differently, as the usual bus trips are not safe so there will be more virtual visits. Motion by Anderson, second by Harter to approve the NCRC handbooks for 2021-22. Motion Carried 5-0

5.3 Pre-Levy Resolution: General Obligation Bonds Not to Exceed \$9,140,000, Series 2021 Motion

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MINUTES OF MEETING OF FEBRUARY 15, 2021 (CONTINUED)

by Chitty, second by Maier to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Not to Exceed \$9,140,000 General Obligation School Bonds, Series 2021, and Levying a Tax for the Payment Thereof. Motion Carried 5-0

5.4 Policy Reviews – Second Reading Motion by Chitty, second by Anderson to approve policies 503.7 “Middle School Academic Eligibility” and 503.8 “High School Academic Eligibility” on the second readings. Motion Carried 5-0

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

- Board Minutes of the meeting of February 1 & 9
- Bills
- Appointments: Tiffany Fouts – Middle School Associate, Erin Gibson – Elementary Associate, Areianna Williams – Middle School Associate
- Appointments for Coaches: John Bass (Head Softball), James Carsrud (Assistant Baseball), Shawn Crain (Assistant Girls’ Track), Justin Evans (Assistant Girls’ Soccer), Grace Francis (Middle School Softball), James Mills (Assistant Boys’ Track), Matt Myers (Assistant Boys’ Soccer), Mark Rhodes (Assistant Girls’ Soccer); Mike Reuter (Assistant Baseball) Todd Sampson (Head Boys’ Soccer),
- Resignations: Jennifer Bleacher – Elementary Teacher, Brittnee Chevalier – Middle School Associate, Cassie Taniguchi – Elementary Associate

Motion Carried 5-0.

7.1 Board Member Comments Anderson asked if there had been feedback on the three snow days where virtual classes had been held. Dr. Gray said it was going well with administration. He said the discussion was now occurring in the Legislature about snow days being virtual in the future. Anderson said he was happy that staff was receiving the COVID vaccinations and asked if there was any insight into school district priorities. Dr. Gray said the distribution now was to one Ames District building and another rural District in the County.

7.2 Board Calendar was reviewed. The next regular Board meeting is Monday, March 1, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

8. Adjournment at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Board President

Board Secretary