

**Regular Board Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
via Zoom Meeting  
9/28/2020**

Staff in Attendance: Director Adams, Director Black, Director Correll, Director Key, Director Waller, Tim Payne, Cathy Wulf, Debbie Cook, Bryan Johnson, Frank Cardwell, Pam Cleveringa, Sharon Scellick, Aaron Cummings, Charlotte Throgmorton, Sarah Vasquez, Travis Eloff, Janae Stover, Jamie Andrus

Visitors: Dan Martell, Cathy Simon, Randy Bracht, Josh Julian, Brent & Deidra Weber, Ashley Julian, Laura, Casey Devine, Dale, Jody Davis, Havila Roberts, Holly

**1. Call to Order**

Director Waller called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**2. Flag Salute**

Director Waller asked all present to stand for the flag salute.

**3. Changes or Additions to the Agenda**

There were no changes or additions to the agenda.

**4. Action Items**

**a. Consent Agenda**

Director Key made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Director Correll seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**i. Approve Minutes from August 24, 2020**

**ii. Approve Minutes from September 17, 2020**

**iii. Hires**

1. Roman Daniels Brown, Special Education Assessment Specialist

**iv. Superintendent Accepted Resignations/Retirements**

1. Don Johnstad, EHS Para effective 10/27/2020, accepted 9/21/2020
2. Kelly Raap, Payroll Assistant effective 10/3/2020, accepted 9/21/2020

**v. Donations**

1. Tiger Boosters, \$1,300 signage for the new soccer dugouts.
2. Columbia Basin Youth Baseball, \$50,000 (\$25,000 donated in September 2020 and \$25,000 donated in January 2021) for the sole purpose and express purpose of improving the baseball and softball facilities at Ephrata High School. Funds will help with the "C" baseball field dugouts, backstop and grass infield. Softball field materials/equipment and added netting to help protect spectators from foul balls.

**vi. Payroll & Accounts Payable**

**b. Resolution 2020-2021-5 Suspension of Policy**

Director Correll made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-2021-5 Suspension of Policy. Director Adams seconded the motion. This would designate Superintendent Payne to act as a liaison for the District to ensure the health and safety of students, staff and the community. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**c. Approve Establishing Jerry Simon Memorial Scholarship**

Cathy Simon and Dan Martell were present to seek approval from the Board to establish the Jerry Simon Memorial Scholarship. This fund will be established as an expendable trust account within the District and held through the Grant County Treasurer. It is expected that the funds will be used in total no later than July 30, 2030. At that time, the fund will be terminated along with the agreement. An annual amount will be determined for scholarship purposes in the spring each year to be awarded by June 30th. The District Board of Directors will guide the amount of available annual funds. The scholarship will be awarded to any current graduate or one within the previous 3 years to pursue post-secondary education in the Vocational Agriculture field. Director Adams made a motion to approve establishing the Jerry Simon Memorial Scholarship. Director Correll seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**d. Approve Interlocal Agreement Between ESD and NW Washington ESD 101**

Director Key made a motion to approve the Interlocal agreement between Ephrata School District and NW Washington ESD 101. Director Black seconded the motion. This agreement would allow ESD to purchase goods and services through contracts executed and administered by NW Washington ESD 101. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**e. Approve Temporary Out of Endorsement Assignment for Roman Daniels-Brown**

Travis Eloff, Special Education Director, is seeking board approval to place Roman Daniels-Brown as an Assessment Specialist for the 2020/21 school year. At the end of the 2019/20 school year the two school psychologists that we had on staff both resigned and after posting the positions we were unable to hire a certified school psychologist. Roman is currently in a program to receive his endorsement in this area, but will not be complete it until the end of the next school year. He will be working with a licensed psychologist and Travis during this time period. Director Black made a motion to approve the out of endorsement assignment for Roman Daniels Brown. Director Adams seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**f. Approve Fall Conference Schedule Change**

Sharon Scellick, Federal Programs/Teaching and Learning Director, would like approval from the Board to move the fall conference schedule from November 3-6 to November 2-5. The days would still be half days. Director Correll made a motion to approve the schedule change for the fall conferences. Director Key seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**g. Approve AP Computer Programming Grant from OSPI - \$10,000**

Sarah Vasquez, CTE Director, would like approval to apply for the AP Computer Programming Grant for \$10,000. This is the third year we have offered Intro to Computer Science at EHS. Jeff Allsopp (CTE & Science endorsed) has been the teacher. This year will be the first year we are offering AP Computer Programming through TEALS at EHS through the math department. The purpose of this grant is to purchase or upgrade technology and curriculum opportunities for professional development for classroom teachers so that they will have the requisite knowledge and skills to teach AP computer science. Director Black made a motion to approve applying for the AP Computer Programming Grant. Director Key seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**h. Approve HS STEM Laptop Cart - \$44,999.55**

This will be paid for by the OSPI Computer Science Grant (\$10,000), Microsoft Donations in the 2019-20 school year (\$14,000) and from the CTE budget (\$20,000). This laptop cart will be used by STEM Robotics (Ramirez) and AP Computer Science (Cummings) in the Math Department at Ephrata High School. Michele Ramirez and Tyler Cummings both recently completed their CTE certification. Classes will be equivalent to Math and CTE. Robotics can count as CTE and either Math or Science. It is anticipated that Computer Programming will be articulated with Big Bend Community College for college credit. A motion to approve the HS STEM Laptop Cart for \$44,999.55 purchase was made by Director Adams. Director Correll seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**i. Approve District Hotspots**

The Ephrata School District purchased 130 hotspots for approximately 5% of the student population. Based on 3 quotes, the decision was made to use T-Mobile. Families are required to sign the hotspot checkout agreement to receive 1 hotspot per household. The first paragraph of the agreement reads: If you have contacted internet service providers, but are still unable to secure reliable internet connectivity due to financial hardship, a temporary living situation, or a lack of service availability in your area, you may be eligible to borrow a hotspot from Ephrata School District. Hotspots are intended to be a temporary solution and families are encouraged to seek a long-term internet solution for their household. Only one hotspot will be checked out per household. Director Black made a motion to ratify the action already taken on purchasing the hotspots for the District. Director Correll seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**j. Approve ECEAP Purchases**

Charlotte Throgmorton, ECEAP Director, presented the items to be purchased with the ECEAP Cares Funds that was approved at the August meeting. The total for the grant was \$111,000. Chromebooks \$34,525 Chromebook Cases \$2,250 T-Mobile Hot Spots \$240 x 80 = \$19,200 Lake Shore Learning activities to send home \$40,000 Teaching Strategies Distance Learning Solutions \$3,382 Safeway cards to purchase food or fuel only (cards will be for various amounts) = \$11,000 Director Correll made a motion to approve the ECEAP purchases. Director Adams seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**5. Hearing of Individuals/Groups**

**a. Public Comment**

1. Deidra and Brent Weber - Praise for the teachers of the District. She knows how hard this has been on everyone so far this year. Her concern is for the younger kids who require structured learning to thrive. Why is Ephrata unable to go back to the buildings if surrounding Districts have done so? Superintendent Payne advised everyone that planning has begun on a hybrid model with the expectation that we will be able to open up the schools to a hybrid model soon.
2. Jodi Davis - Has a junior in high school that is doing Running Start only because it is online. She also feels that the mental health of students is suffering due to the schools being remote only at this time.
3. Havila Roberts - 100% agrees that teachers are working hard for students. She expressed that the mental health of the students is more important at this time as they are missing out on a lot of things during this shutdown.

b. **Correspondence**

There were no correspondences.

c. **Budget Report**

d. **Discuss Naming New Gym at EMS - Jerry K Simon Memorial Gym**

The naming of a school or gym is a board action and has to be approved by the Board. Director Correll feels that this would be a very fitting honor to memorialize Jerry Simon. Jerry gave his heart and soul to the District for over 20 years. The entire Board agrees that this should move forward. It will be brought to the Board for an official approval at a later date.

6. **Adjournment**

Director Waller adjourned the meeting at 7:22 pm.

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Director Waller, Board President

Timothy A Payne, Secretary to the Board