PLUMMER-WORLEY JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 44

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

The regular July 13, 2020, meeting of the Plummer-Worley Joint School District No. 44 Board of Trustees was called to order by Vice Chairman Marlow Thompson at 6:00 p.m. Board members present were Tami Gauthier, Jan Mitchell, Marlow Thompson and Sara Allen. Absent was Paul Daman, Ryan Ortivez, and Ida Gustin.

Also present was Superintendent Russ Mitchell, Karyn Stockdale, Marcia Hoffman, Tim Florin, Stacey Sonder, and Bob Curley.

Consent Agenda
Jan Mitchell moved to approve the Consent Agenda (Exhibit "A") as presented. No monthly bills were presented for approval. Marcia Hoffman explained the scholarship accounts. Sara Allen seconded. All members voted yes.

Communications
No communications were received.

Recognition of Guests
No guests were present to be recognized.

Superintendent's Report
Russ Mitchell addressed the board relative to the COVID Response and planning for the upcoming school year. The board was provided with the Idaho Back to School Framework (Exhibit "B") and a copy of the 2020 Fall Reopening draft for the district (Exhibit "C"). The intent is to reopen schools on September 8, 2020, as planned, with all students attending full-time and schools implementing reasonable procedures in accordance with health guidance. This is a moving target. It will likely move dramatically between now and September 8, and in which direction we don't know. Many schools are looking at a three tier system, green, yellow, red, etc. The framework is not exhaustive, nor static. Mr. Mitchell believes the school is vital to our community and is critical at this time. It is desirable to return to something somewhat normal for our community. Superintendents across the state have looked at the requirements and have committed to do the best they can. The district is investigating temperature monitoring devices to have the ability to scan/screen students up front and catch anyone with an elevated temperature. This will also be utilized at any athletic events. Most districts aren't taking temperatures. The cafeteria will be a challenge and we are reviewing suggestions. We will do all we can to spread the students out and will try to contain the food as much as possible. We will do our very best but it will be difficult to be in strict compliance will all recommendations.

The intent is to offer a high-quality, educational experience five days a week, whether in-person, online or via instructional packets. We are blessed to have very small class sizes and the fact that the district made a

commitment some time ago to one-on-one devices for students. Additional devices are being purchased to maintain the one-to-one and will help with third grade on up. We need to get away from clusters and working in pods and will need to swap out tables for desks. Music will be a challenge because you are encouraged not to sing. Mr. Mitchell emphasized the social/emotional side of this pandemic. Adults are hit as hard as the students and it is difficult for everyone. We need to make meaningful contact with kids regardless of whether we are in school or at home. He expects the biggest consternation will be when we have a confirmed case on campus. At that point, communication will be a challenge in informing parents, contact tracing, and compliance with FERPA and HIPPA. Mr. Mitchell believes this is still a good place for the kids to be. The procedures at that time will be dependent upon the specific circumstances.

Tami Gauthier asked if the state will protect the district financially if we have a substantial loss in enrollment or attendance. Discussion was held on the impact on average daily attendance and the potential loss of learning.

Mr. Mitchell reviewed the levels and recommendations for various situations. He plans to meet with staff, community, etc. to look at various options for a hybrid model if necessary. The Tribe has applied for a technology grant which must be related to STEM. The application includes a request for a purchase of 200 technology units to be used at the district for students to take home. They also want to make some training available for online educational videos which could make our online presence more engaging. The tribe is also committed to purchasing Schoology for the district. The DOE survey reflected frustration with the multitude of platforms used during the spring. Schoology would put everyone on one platform which would help parents, students, and staff alike. Training will be provided at the beginning of the school year.

Mr. Mitchell is open to keeping one building open if another is hit hard. This would be on a case by case basis.

Social distancing on school buses will be difficult. Classroom distancing will be easier but still not completely compliant at all times. Students should face the same direction rather than facing each other. A quarantine area will be set up in a specified location to be determined. We are looking at changing schedules in-house, staggering groups, making groups smaller, etc.

Extra-curricular will follow the guidance of the IHSAA. They will likely follow the lead of neighboring school districts. WIAA has already delayed fall sports and may cancel them altogether. IHSAA is leaning toward no state tournaments for fall sports. Our district will follow the guidance of IHSAA. Temperatures will be taken prior to anyone, including participants, entering the building.

We need to start looking at the elementary using the technology in the same manner as the secondary, perhaps down to the 3rd grade.

We need to come up with a lot of protocols on confirmed cases. We have to be good at communicating with email, web presence, school messenger, Facebook, etc. Protocols will need to be defined and refined.

Transportation is a huge factor in providing safe routes to school, sometimes communication with families and knowing the families, providing packets/food to families.

The framework will undergo further scrutiny and development for additional review by the Board on August 10.

The last page of the presentation summarizes the plan and philosophy at this time:

- Recognize the responsibility of the Board is to provide uniform and thorough instruction to all students which progresses them through the education continuum while ensuring the health and safety of the staff and students.
- Support students returning to their schools five day per week on September 8, provided the Level of Community Spread and Panhandle Health data supports the opening.
- Masks or cloth facial coverings will be encouraged, but not required.
- Social distancing where possible and reasonable.
- Handwashing integrated throughout the day
- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout each building.
- Body temperatures will be used as a screening method prior to the start of the school day.
- Facilities, equipment, and other high traffic touch areas will be regularly cleaned.

Mr. Mitchell asked the board if they agree with the statements on the last page. He believes this is the core of what he is asking the board to support. Marlow Thompson stated he believes needs a motion. Jan Mitchell moved the board recognize the diligence and preparation that has gone into this document and the board adopt this in principle. Tami Gauthier seconded. All members voted yes.

Board Business

- **Board Memberships** – Clerk Karyn Stockdale recommended continuing memberships in the Idaho School Boards Association ($1,864.00), National Association of Federally Impacted Schools ($1,820.30), Small Rural Schools Association ($450.00), Idaho School District Council ($50.00), ISBA Policy Review Service (495.00), and the Idaho Education Employment website ($70.00). Tami Gauthier moved to continue the memberships as stated. Sara Allen seconded. All members voted yes.
- **2020-21 Impact Aid Representative** – Sara Allen moved to appoint Superintendent Russ Mitchell as the 2020-21 Impact Aid Representative. Jan Mitchell seconded. Mr. Thompson recommends the superintendent attend at least one Impact Aid Conference. All members voted yes.
- **Surplus Property** – The board reviewed the list of technology property (Exhibit "D") recommended for surplus. The property is outdated or damaged and has no value to the district. Tami Gauthier moved to declare the property of less than $500 value and authorize it to be disposed of in the most cost-effective and expedient manner by district staff. Jan Mitchell seconded. All members voted yes.
- **Board Strategic Planning** – Discussion was held regarding a special meeting to review the board strategic plan. Marlow Thompson asked the superintendent to provide a recommendation of an idea strategic plan at the next meeting.

Items for Future Agenda

School Opening Protocols/COVID	Bus Agreement with St. Maries	Handbooks
Strategic Planning	Bus Routes	

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

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Marlow Thompson, Vice-Chairman Karyn Stockdale, District Clerk

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