PLUMMER-WORLEY JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 44

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

The regular December 14, 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 Ryan Ortivez, Tami Gauthier, Ida Gustin, Jan Mitchell, Sara Allen, and Marlow Thompson. Absent was Paul Daman.

Also present was Superintendent Russ Mitchell, Karyn Stockdale, Marcia Hoffman, Jennifer Hall, Dani Boyd, Stacey Sonder, Jennifer Gates, Shaina Nomee, and Bob Curley.

Consent Agenda
Tami Gauthier moved to approve the Consent Agenda (Exhibit "A") as presented. 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 (Exhibit "B")

- Superintendent Mitchell provided information to the Board of Trustees on the **COVID** response in the district. Today there were numerous staff out with no subs available. Partway through the day we learned of a positive case who had been in the building last Friday. Just from a staffing perspective it's been day to day or hour by hour. It takes a fairly significant amount of time to conduct the contact tracing in order to limit the exposure to students and staff moving forward. He still has incredible confidence, but we are really right on the edge and it's tiring, especially for the principals. It has been a challenge.
- The CDC changed their guidelines (Exhibit "C"). The district has numerous times brought an employee back under CDC "essential personnel" guidance. It is very difficult to communicate with parents about what is required for students because every situation is so different. He believes our community does as well as any in adapting to changing guidelines. The most difficult thing is communicating to staff that we are keeping them as safe as we can with the ever-changing guidelines. To the best of his knowledge, every case involving a staff member has been contracted outside the school.
- Athletics has been a struggle for many families because they were allowed to attend in small numbers during fall sports and are now prohibited from attending basketball games at all. Idaho

guidelines state non-participants are considered "spectators" and cannot be in the facility. In the beginning all superintendents agreed that all ten spectators would be the JV or Varsity team when not playing. A couple of schools have since changed and are allowing ten fans from their community. Some schools are putting teams in the mezzanines and allowing limited fans. Our league is holding firm to the commitment made by superintendents in the beginning. The athletic administration is planning for a special senior night experience later in the season. Discussion was held on parents keeping stats. Statisticians, bookkeepers, and videographers are considered essential personnel. Those people have been assigned for the entire year per recommendation by the coaching staff. Volunteer coaches can attend home games but not road games.

- Success Center is operating but is limited to 20 students. There is a small waiting list, at least until boys & girls club opens. The window for the grant submission is in January. Capacity builder Judi Sharrett is working with the Success Director on the application.
- Food service is another challenge. Due to COVID, demands on food production plants have caused them to shut down. Some of the products we have historically ordered are no longer available. Since the beginning of the year, only one order has been completely filled. All others have been shorted. When availability goes down, price goes up.
- Another challenge is a $100 fee being assessed for staff who want to be tested for COVID if they aren't a registered patient at Marimn.
- Everyone is tired - parents, kids, staff, but we will keep forging on. Even if we were in a position where we have to go red, we would need to hold on for a day or two to allow our community to make arrangements.
- The State Department of Education audited the Child Nutrition Program and had zero findings.
- A media person who had been at the game in St. Maries last week emailed our district and said, as usual, our kids were the classier bunch at the game. This person stated our athletes are the most respectful, likeable bunch of kids he's been privileged to watch.
- A letter was received in March from the IHSAA Sportsmanship Committee. Lakeside received the State Sportsmanship Award for the 2020 State High School Girls Basketball Tournament. (Exhibit "D").
- The In-Faith Community Foundation donated $10,000 to Lakeside High School for the Wilson Scholarship program.
- The St. Maries Gazette requested information relative to the impact of COVID on student attendance. In comparison to last year, our attendance has actually increased over the first four months of school.
- The Native American Parent Advisory meeting was postponed last week due to a COVID incident but will be held this Thursday at Noon.
- Discussion was held on the need for a supplemental levy to continue funding for a variety of needs. Mr. Mitchell reviewed what was funded with the previous levy. This included school safety enhancements (door buzzer system). He is proposing to continue looking at school safety and replacing the security camera system. There have been several failures due to the age of the server. While it is still operational, it is at risk for failure continually and he believes the infrastructure needs

to be replaced. Success Center was also included in the previous levy for one year with the second year going to maintenance. We ended up having to fund Success for two years. If we get the grant, we can use the money for maintenance. Athletics has been funded at the rate of $120,000 each year. We have also paid for smaller class sizes, art, elementary PE, and electives including CTE courses and he recommends keeping it the same. We will propose $35,000 less on the safety issues but need a new heat pump system at the middle school building. One is still operating without too much maintenance, another is costing money regularly, and another is failing regularly. He recommends replacing those and will provide a more solid estimate at the next meeting. Two classrooms haven't had the ceilings dropped and cost more to heat. Part of the tribal donation is being used to provide maintenance on the bricks. He recommends keeping the dollar amount the same and not look at increasing the amount at all. Discussion was held on passing a resolution, but Mr. Mitchell wants to provide more information to the board at the next meeting prior to adoption.

Math Curriculum

Dani Boyd addressed the board with a recommendation to adopt a math curriculum (Exhibit "E"). She reviewed the procedure the committee took and recommended the Envision Math 2.0 for adoption. It aligns with the same curriculum at the middle level. Funding is available through the SWIP funds. Discussion was held. Sara Allen moved to approve adoption of Envision Math 2.0 for the elementary. Jan Mitchell seconded. All members voted yes.

Board Business

- **Graduation Requirements/Pathways** – Mrs. Hall and Mr. Mitchell addressed the board regarding planning for the transition to Pathways at the secondary level (Exhibit "F"). Graduation rates are dropping across the nation in general. Rather than dragging kids across the finish line, we want to engage them in their future and meet the needs of the community. The board heard a presentation on the various pathways and how those can be expanded to engage community resources and provide career experiences for students in alignment with their interests. A number of certifications are available and many of our students have already earned industry certification in various Microsoft products. The steering committee has been established and the administrative team will continue to work on this and report to the board monthly.
- **Board Strategic Planning**:
    - The board was provided with a copy of the parent survey results (Exhibit "G"). Conferences were held virtually, which resulted in far less surveys being completed. Discussion was held on the responses.
    - District data (Exhibit "H") was presented by Elementary Principal Dani Boyd and Secondary Principal Jennifer Hall.
        - Mrs. Boyd presented data for the elementary level using fall benchmarks as a starting point. She is hearing reports from teachers about progress. Classroom management is solid and shows the work put in over the past few years. Attendance has been very good at the elementary, however there are a few students who struggle in this area.
        - Mrs. Hall reported attendance is improved at the secondary over last year. Discipline is down. Academic achievement is down but second trimester launched new strategies for online teaching. She believes the pods are beneficial to our student population, even though it is challenging with online teaching.

- Discussion was held on the ISBA Convention which was presented virtually this year. Marlow was able to attend three days and reported on some of what he gleaned from the conference.
- Mr. Mitchell announced Cory Johnson as Employee of the Trimester who received multiple nominations from his peers.
- The board reviewed revisions required by the U.S. Department of Education to the Native American Policies and Procedures (Exhibit "I"). This will be provided to the parent committee for review this week.
- Tami Gauthier moved to declare an area of need in Early Childhood Special Education and find that the candidate possesses distinct content knowledge and skills in the area in which they have been assigned and to approve the alternative authorization as recommended. Sara Allen seconded. All members voted yes.

Items for Future Agenda

Supplemental Levy	Impact Aid Public Hearing	Policy Review
COVID Update	Career Pathways	

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

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Marlow Thompson, Vice-Chairman Karyn Stockdale, District Clerk

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