PLUMMER-WORLEY JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 44

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

The regular December 10, 2021, meeting of the Plummer-Worley Joint School District No. 44 Board of Trustees was called to order by Chairman Paul Daman at 4:30 p.m. Board members present were Ryan Ortivez, Ida Gustin, Tami Gauthier, Paul Daman, Jan Mitchell, Sara Allen, and Marlow Thompson.

Also present was Superintendent Russ Mitchell, Karyn Stockdale, Jennifer Hall, Dani Boyd, Stacey Sonder, Michelle Grossglauser, and Norma Campbell.

Consent Agenda

Discussion was held on the staff shortage. Marlow Thompson moved to approve the Consent Agenda (Exhibit "A") as presented. Ida Gustin seconded. All members voted yes.

Communications

No communications were received.

Recognition of Guests

No guests were present.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Mitchell provided information to the Board of Trustees on the status of **COVID-19** within the district.

COVID has created a shortage of employees, including vacancies in maintenance and transportation. COVID-related absences have declined. We have no staff members ailing at this time and only one family of children affected at this time. The basketball officials' association has a shortage and is not going to supply referees for middle school basketball, and there are limitations at the high school level which have already resulted in a schedule change.

Food service is still having supply chain issues. Staff continue to prepare home-cooked meals rather than prepared foods, resulting in a better product. The regional directors met to begin putting a bid together and are still trying to entice suppliers to bid on a contract for next year. URM has previously stated they will not supply schools next year while another vendor may but wants to supply everything which leaves concern about price hikes with no competition. Gold Star, based in California, may be interested but would only deliver once per month, leaving districts with a storage problem.

The state and federal programs which provided financial support during COVID now have begun audit and enhanced reporting requirements.

The **winter program** at the elementary will be held in person next Thursday, December 16. Principal Dani Boyd reported on the protocols being put into place to lessen the number of people in the gym at one time.

The program will be performed in two different shifts. Discussion was held on crowd management. Families will be asked to stay for the entirety of the shift to avoid disruption to the students who are performing.

The first **Employee of the Trimester** is Jaclynn Watson, counselor at Lakeside Jr/Sr High School. Jaclynn was nominated by three different co-workers.

The teaching positions for the **Learning Loss (ESSER-III) funds** are posted and we hope to be able to start the positions after winter break. We have utilized all the state substitute funds. A requirement for the ESSER-III funds is that all students be assessed between December 1 and 10. That was accomplished this week.

Mr. Mitchell introduced Jack Knudtsen and Lance Funke from McKinstry who was selected as the Energy Savings Performance Contractor for the district. He provided a sample contract and a sample budget and reviewed details with the board (Exhibit "B"), as well as explaining the process of performance contracting versus a design-build project, and options for the scope of the project. McKinstry will soon begin an investment grade audit, which is the first phase of work on the HVAC system in the district. Mr. Knudtsen and Mr. Funke addressed the board relative to their experience working in schools and how they design and estimate their projects for the best benefit of the district. It is very common currently to utilize **ESSER funds** for this type of project. The performance contracting minimizes the financial risk to the district because there is a guarantee of cost savings and no change orders. It also includes a validation phase for an entire year after the project is complete. Mr. Mitchell reported that McKinstry has walked through the elementary school to look at the system which we've had numerous problems with and have made some observations about design and function of the HVAC system in that building. Stacey Sonder addressed the board relative to the discussions he has already had with McKinstry and the assistance they have provided. They confirmed the system is not rated for this area. Further, the system above the common area in the cafeteria has never worked because it wasn't installed properly. The heat in that area comes from the kitchen. Mr. Mitchell believes we may finally be able to pinpoint the problems so they can be resolved. Sara Allen moved to approve the contract contingent upon approval of ESSER fund expenditures by the State Department of Education. Ryan Ortivez seconded. All members voted yes.

Discussion was held on the need for a **supplemental levy** and the timing of an election. The next available election date is March 8, 2022. Last spring, when it was learned the district would receive federal funds through ESSER-I and ESSER-II, trustees voted to forego asking patrons to approve the supplemental levy for one year. Additionally, the past two years, the district was eligible for an emergency levy due to increased student enrollment, but the board declined to certify those which would have resulted in additional taxes for the patrons. Mr. Mitchell reported the bond for the elementary school will be paid off early. He expects that to be during the 2023-24 school year.

Previously, the district has included funding for all-day kindergarten in the levy. It is being reported the superintendent's association, the State Department of Education, the State Board of Education and the Governor, and the Idaho School Boards Association will prioritize funding for all-day kindergarten, although it was on the agenda last legislative session and did not pass. This creates a conundrum in asking voters to provide the funding through a levy when the legislature is having discussions at the same time.

Each year the district asks the tribe for certain items, and they have always been very gracious. We also don't want to ask the tribe for something which might be funded in other ways. Mr. Mitchell is working on the application for the Coeur d'Alene Tribal Education Donation which is due at the end of December. They visited a Spokane Valley High School and looked at the CTE programs, including the vocational/natural resources curriculums. The application will emphasize Pathways and the need to expand in those areas.

Mr. Mitchell provided the board with proposed items for the supplemental levy (Exhibit "C"). He is recommending a levy in the amount of $1,255,000 over two years - $25,000 less than what was approved in 2019. Mr. Mitchell reviewed the previous request and the current recommendation.

2019 Levy Request		**2022 Levy Request**	
School Safety – 6 Doors	$60,000.00	Security & Safety (Camera Maintenance and Upgrades/Door Replacements	$60,000.00
Success Center	$180,000.00	Maintenance (MS Roof Updates/Lighting Replacements in Student Areas/External Stairway & Platform Repairs	$155,000.00
Athletics	$240,000.00	Athletics	$240,000.00
Staffing (Small Class Sizes, Kindergarten, Counselors, Art, PE at LES	$800,000.00	Staffing (Small Class Sizes, Pathways Staffing, Counselors, Art, PE at LES)	$800,000.00
Total	**$1,280,000.00**	**Total**	**$1,255,000.00**
Total Per Year	**$640,000.00**	**Total Per Year**	**$627,500.00**

While Mr. Mitchell would like to find a way around asking for a supplemental levy, we no longer have the flexibility in the funds that we had last year. A resolution will be prepared for approval at the January meeting.

Board Business

Strategic Plan:

- Sara Allen, Michelle Grossglauser, and Karyn Stockdale attended the ISBA Convention in Boise last month. Sara Allen and Michelle Grossglauser attended a session on passing bonds which was very positive and informative. Michelle Grossglauser learned a lot at the convention. There were a lot of caring people there and she was impressed and excited. She feels very honored to become part of this board. She has been coming and is pleased to be able to serve as an unbiased party. She believes the board is amazing and sees the great respect for one another. The connections the board members have are well rooted and deep and they have personal vested interests in the schools, community, and children. It is very refreshing to hear the care for each other is so sincere. She sees the team effort.

- **Parent Survey Results** – The board reviewed the parent survey results (Exhibit "D"). Mr. Mitchell provided comparisons to previous survey results. Discussion was held on increasing the amount of people competing the surveys.
- **Walk Throughs** – Mr. Mitchell invited the board to schedule walk-throughs.
- **Policy Review** – The board reviewed the Native Parent Policy (Exhibit "E").
- **Surplus Property -** The board reviewed a list of surplus equipment (Exhibit "F"). Jan Mitchell moved to declare the property has an estimated value of less than five hundred dollars ($500) and instruct the administration to dispose of said property in the most cost-effective and expedient manner by an employee of the district empowered for that purpose by the board. Ida Gustin seconded. All members voted yes.
- **District Defined Measures –** The board reviewed the district defined measures and heard from the building principals (Exhibit "G") which will be used in the student achievement portion of evaluations. Mr. Mitchell advised the evaluation process will undergo committee work to enhance and improve the evaluation process. Tami Gauthier moved to approve the measures as presented. Sara Allen seconded. All members voted yes.

Personnel – Marlow Thompson moved to go into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(a) and (b) to discuss personnel. Ida Gustin seconded. Roll call vote: Ryan Ortivez voted yes; Tami Gauthier voted yes; Ida Gustin voted yes; Paul Daman voted yes; Jan Mitchell voted yes; Sara Allen voted yes; and Marlow Thompson voted yes.

> BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Plummer-Worley Joint School District No. 44 recess from public session pursuant to Section 74-206 (a) and (b), Idaho Code, for the purpose of discussing personnel, upon advice of legal counsel that it is appropriate to do so. (6:45 p.m.)
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> BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that following the executive session the Board of Trustees reconvene into public session for the purpose of conducting further business or for the adjournment of the meeting. (7:11 p.m.)

Jan Mitchell moved to reluctantly accept the resignation of Marcia Hoffman. Ida Gustin seconded. All members voted yes.

Items for Future Agendas

Negotiations	Pathways Presentation	Athletic Code
COVID Update	Facilities Planning	Coaches Handbooks
Policy Review	ASB Report	Impact Aid Hearing
	Annual Business	Supplemental Levy

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

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Paul Daman, Chairman Karyn Stockdale, District Clerk