PLUMMER-WORLEY JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 44

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

The special May 24, 2022, meeting of the Plummer-Worley Joint School District No. 44 Board of Trustees was called to order by Vice Chairman Marlow Thompson at 6:02 p.m. Board members present were Michelle Grossglauser, Tami Gauthier, Jan Mitchell, and Marlow Thompson. Absent was Ida Gustin and Paul Daman.

Also present was Superintendent Russ Mitchell, Karyn Stockdale, Sara Allen, Marcia Hoffman, Jennifer Hall, Dani Boyd, Sherry Tedesco, Tami Dohrman, Chris Smith, Jennifer Gates, and Diana Wick.

Supplemental Levy

Mr. Mitchell provided detailed results of the May 17, 2022, levy election:

Poll Location	Yes	No	Total	Difference	Approval Rate
Plummer	212	199	411	**13**	**52%**
Tensed	68	122	190	**-54**	**36%**
Worley	212	241	453	**-29**	**47%**
Emida	5	17	22	**-12**	**23%**
Totals	**497**	**579**	**1076**	**-82**	**46%**

Mr. Mitchell reviewed the reasons for the levy request (Exhibit "A") and stated he will be recommending the board run the levy again. He presented a plan to get by but does not believe it is sustainable.

Levy Amount - $627,500 per year

- $30,000 – Safety and Security
    - Camera Surveillance Server - $25,000
    - Exterior Door Replacement - $5,000

The server for the camera surveillance server died on May 16. We were able to "borrow" a server from Ednetics that will carry us over a few months, but which holds a license which will expire. Mr. Mitchell is getting an estimate for replacement and expects it will be higher because of increased pricing. We also need to increase cameras to cover "blind" areas in the district.

Exterior door replacement is necessary due to doors that stick on the building when they shouldn't and do not stick when they should. These door replacements are very expensive because the doors are built right into the brick walls.

- Maintenance - $77,500 per year
    - Roof repair
    - LED lighting replacement as per the ten-year maintenance plan in student occupied areas, football field, boardroom, and ag building maintenance/repair

- Athletics & Athletic Transportation - $120,000
    - Funding for 22 coaches
    - Transportation for Athletics (Buses and Drivers)

- Staffing - $400,000 per year
    - Small class sizes, Pathways, Counselors, Art, LES PE

Short Term Plan:

- Camera Server – Could apply for purchase through ESSER 2 funds but it will bite into other funds which were to be utilized for other purposes.
- Camera Maintenance and Replacement - will not be pursued at this time.
- Exterior doors – will not pursue at this time.
- LJHS Roof Repair – will not be pursued at this time.
- Stairways – will not pursue at this time.
- LED Lighting Conversion – will not be pursued at this time.
- Athletics – We will begin high school football and volleyball on schedule. If the August levy fails, it will be scaled back to Varsity only and some athletes may be cut from participation in the program. There will be no JV or middle school sports without the levy.
- Athletic Transportation – travel will be for league contests only with no non-league travel. The white bus will be utilized for all contests will small teams.
- Class Sizes – The elementary school will take advantage of the natural attrition. Those who have resigned or retired will not be replaced. Specialists will participate in academic support groups to fill some of the gaps. Combination classes will be resumed where advisable. Secondary is more difficult to make cuts due to required subject level endorsements for teachers. Waiting to fill positions becomes extremely detrimental as time goes on. The teacher shortage is at an all-time high and the longer we wait to fill them, the more difficult it will be to find any teachers. Even if we pass the levy in August, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to find teachers to fill the positions. Some SWIP and learning loss funds may be used to address the shortfalls. If learning loss funds (ESSER) are approved by the government for use, federal requirements must be addressed and reporting requirements are oppressive. Pathways staffing, counselors, art, and PE at the elementary will remain but these staff will be required to assist with academic groups outside their area of expertise.

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We will cut travel for staff, administration, and school board.

Non-Levy Impacted Staffing Concerns

- Title I Funds – Anticipated $40,000 Reduction. Will eliminate Title I paraprofessional at the elementary level. (This position has been vacant most of this year due to the inability to fill it).
- Title VI Funds – Anticipated $10,000 Reduction. Will reduce the number of Title VI paraprofessionals from two to one to oversee the entire district.

Mr. Mitchell stated he believes we are heading in the right direction given our current position. However, this plan is unsustainable in the long term. He recommended an additional attempt to pass the levy as proposed on August 30. A resolution must be passed, and ballot language submitted to the counties, by July 11. Due to recently passed legislation, the language must be far more descriptive and address both years of the proposed levy. Many questions remain about how much detail is required. If a levy is passed in August, it will be applied to the 2022-23 school year. If it were to fail in August and then pass in November, that levy would not apply until the 2023-24 school year. Tami Gauthier moved to run the levy on August 30, 2022. Jan Mitchell seconded. Michelle Grossglauser has questions about why the electors voted no. Mr. Mitchell commented that he believes the no voters were predominantly those who just did not want taxes to go up. Karyn Stockdale, Sara Allen, and Tami Gauthier commented they worked the polls and saw a substantial number of people who were not known to them. Michelle Grossglauser stated she has been talking to people in her area of the district and has a few who are committed to tour the district to see for themselves. She found it very humbling to know that there is no financial abuse in our district. She volunteered to visit with the homeschool families in the Tensed area. Mr. Mitchell is concerned that the no voters have no connection to *our* community. Michelle Grossglauser believes that the district values equate to what she did as a homeschool parent. She is encouraging others to get involved and see what is actually happening in the district. Marlow Thompson thanked Mrs. Grossglauser for her commitment and her attitude.

Marlow Thompson allowed Chris Smith to speak. Mrs. Smith stated Idaho is not fully funding education and when the state has extra money in a department instead of disbursing it where it needs to go, they just use it for bonuses. Mr. Thompson said an example is that Idahoans recently got tax rebates from the state due to a surplus.

Marlow Thompson believes a vote of this magnitude should come to the floor before the entire board. Discussion was held. Tami Gauthier believes the two board members absent would be in support of running the levy again. Mr. Thompson asked for a vote on the question. Jan Mitchell and Tami Gauthier voted yes. Michelle Grossglauser voted no. Marlow Thompson voted no. Motion failed due to a tie vote. Michelle Grossglauser wanted more discussion at the next meeting.

Tami Gauthier asked if we still have homeschooled students playing sports. Mrs. Hall advised there are currently some homeschooled students participating in extra-curricular activities at Lakeside.

Certificated Contracts

Mr. Mitchell advised there is a great deal of angst among staff, and he would like to put their minds at ease. He recommended the board issues contracts immediately, with a few exceptions as to those who will not yet receive them at this time such as employees in probationary status or those where satisfactory progress has not been made toward endorsements and certificates. Contracts would be issued based upon this year's career ladder placement pending negotiations. Mr. Mitchell also recommended requiring certificated staff to return their signed contract within ten (10) calendar days or said contract be deemed declined and the position officially opened. Tami Gauthier moved to issue contracts to certificated staff with the exceptions stated, pending negotiations, and require signed contracts to be returned within ten calendar days or said contract be deemed declined and the position officially opened. Jan Mitchell seconded. Marlow Thompson called for any discussion on questions. No questions or discussion were presented. All members voted yes.

Negotiations

Jan Mitchell moved to go into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(1)(b) to discuss labor negotiations pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(1)(j). Tami Gauthier seconded. Roll call vote: Michelle Grossglauser voted yes; Tami Gauthier voted yes; Jan Mitchell 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(1)(j), Idaho Code, for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations, upon advice of legal counsel that it is appropriate to do so. (7:15 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. (7:50 p.m.)

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

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Marlow Thompson, Vice Chairman Karyn Stockdale, District Clerk

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