

NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1J
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
September 15, 2015
District Administration Building
6:30 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at the District Administration Office was called to order at 6:33 pm by Mark Bahr, President.

ROLL CALL

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

PREDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

FALCON AWARD

Mr. Wilson asked that the Falcon Award be postponed until next month because the recipient is unable to attend the board meeting tonight due to attending their child's ball game.

JIM MURRAY – BEST GRANT ARCHITECT PRESENTATION

Jim and Eric from CHSQA were on NCSD campuses today taking pictures and re-evaluating project specifics. They walked all buildings and visited with each principal. They are hoping to be able to improve the quality of existing cameras within all of the buildings and to bring to the district office the capability to see all cameras within the district; this may or may not be a possibility. The EMT building was not on the original proposal, but CHSQA will accommodate to make this a secure building within the district. CSHQA will go back to the drawing board and update the security plans for the district for approval. They expressed that there was consistency among the schools and that is good in terms of planning and equivalent upgrades. Jim and Eric (architect and engineer) would like to begin work in January with most of the work being done in the summer of 2016 to avoid interruptions in instruction. There are some things within the buildings that can be re-used to save money, for example the existing cameras and systematic wiring. The overall idea is to save money but have a quality security system when all is complete. Part of the final project will be to teach and re-train staff on entering and exiting buildings within the confines of the system. The final goal is to make the buildings within the district secure for kids. Jim will return to our area in 2-3 weeks and will stay in communication.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA/CHANGES TO CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Joseph Baroz to approve the consent agenda following moving item (b) approval of bills to action item(e), seconded by Steve Sorensen. **(attachments #1 - #7)**

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.
The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

A motion was made by Mark Bahr to approve the agenda following adding policy DIA (Online Schools and Online Programs Permissible Documentation) to action item (f) for the first reading, seconded by Chuck Finnegan

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.
The motion passed.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Matt Bush signed up to speak to the board concerning bus routes. He expressed that he would like the bus route to remain as it has in the past by going down a private lane to pick up his children. The route was changed last week to have children in the direct area go to a drop off/pick up site. He expressed concerns in the distance to the drop off site and expressed concerns of safety of the children at that site. Mr. Wilson spoke to the reasoning of the bus drop off/pick up site. Mr. Wilson was directed by the board to consult with State Patrolman George Dingfelder to see if the stop at this site is safe. The board expressed their desire to have consistency across the board for all students/parents in the district, but wanted to be assured that there are no safety concerns with this bus drop off/pick up site.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/ACTIVITIES

Achievement Reports:

Principal reports are attached; please refer to those reports. **(attachment #8)**

BOCES Report:

Mark Bahr reported that he will attend the BOCES meeting on Wednesday, September 16th and report next month.

NCEA Report:

Bonnie Keller reported that she has been meeting with Mr. Wilson concerning the 'G' section of policies and has learned that updating policy is a deep process. Bonnie went to a CEA meeting and learned of a co-pilot program that would be helpful to teachers. Staff can go on-line and get information for classroom teaching helps and she found that teachers can take on-line classes for credit at a cost of \$55 per credit hour.

DAC

Mr. Wilson read a letter from Natalie Taylor, DAC President, concerning an opening for a parent member on the District Accountability Committee. Mindy Russell submitted a letter to the board expressing her desire to serve on the DAC. The board gives consent for Mindy Russell to serve as a parent member for our DAC. Curt expressed his gratitude that our district has an active District Accountability Committee and that they are busy trying to help the district and its students.

(Attachment #9)**Administration Report:**

Mr. Wilson reminded the board that we need to remember our focus and vision of why we are here and that is to see that teaching and learning are the focus. He reiterated that time on task with a teacher is vital in assuring learning happens for each student.

Our sound system isn't working as it should and Curt Wilson will be making a phone call to the individual that installed this system. The district has elicited too much money on a sound system for it not to be working properly.

Current enrollment for the 15-16 school year is 983 students. Last year's enrollment was 969 students. This is the first time in many years that CHS has had 300 plus students enrolled. We are gaining students and are very pleased. We hope our enrollment remains as is for the October count.

Mr. Wilson is pleased with our BEST Grant selection; they speak to specifics. They are trying to save the district money without skimping on the outcome of the security systems installed in our district. Curt called Dustin Guerin, with CDE, about the future of BEST Grants. He learned they will be capped out in the very near future. There were no BEST Grants awarded this past cycle to building new schools. In reality only 50 million dollars will be available for the next grant cycle. It does not look promising in securing BEST funds for building a new school. Curt updated the board on our surveys to build a new high school and results do not appear to be much different than what was previously shared with the board, and noted that a substantial decrease in the affirmative will occur when individuals see the impact on their taxes.

NCSd retained the same accreditation rating this year due to the current CDE situation.

Curt and Bonnie Keller have been going over the G policies and hope to have the G section ready for presentation and approval by the board at the next meeting in October. Curt would like to take on the

Finance section next and would like to have them ready as a group for approval. Mr. Wilson appreciates and thanks the board for their trust and support in updating our district board policy.

The school financial picture at the state level hasn't changed. With the negative factor, tabor, etc., it is indeed a bleak picture in terms of school funding in the future.

Superintendents in the Valley will be signing a letter expressing their concern with high school using week nights to schedule athletic and activity events rather than using Friday and Saturday. High School events during the week day deter the learning process of students who are not in class to learn from their teachers. Events not only take the participant away from school, but also siblings, staff, coaches, and supporters of the events leaving to support their student/sibling. Superintendents would like to structure differently in scheduling events and put education first where it should be.

The board will receive a complete audit report in our October board meeting. Protocol in finances and district process was shared with the board by Mr. Wilson. Curt expressed that we stopped the bleeding, but we need to do something to build our reserves, address capitol improvements, and needs to develop a 5-10 year plan. Curt asked the board for direction on this subject, and the consensus of the board is that we need to educate people as to school building needs. It was suggested that the board have a subsequent work session to start making decisions and coming up with a 5-10 year plan.

The North Property purchase still has not come up for sale by the property owner.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Spring Break Scheduling

NCS D is the only district in the valley that has a different spring break schedule this year March 28th - April 1st. Do we want to align our spring break with ASU and other schools? Curt would like to get staff input before making the decision. The board will support the administration's final decision.

Insurance

Per board request Mr. Wilson consulted with our school attorneys concerning health insurance in our district. A letter was read by Curt from Caplan and Earnest addressing the issues with NCS D insurance in terms of legality and equity in light of the ACA. As it is, the district is not in compliance with the ACA in terms of stipends for some employees. The main tenant of the ACA states that insurance offered must be fair and equitable to all employees (per opinion of school attorneys). The board wants to have a policy in place before next spring so when changes are made, which is now law, we have policy as to employee benefits. The board would like more discussion on this subject.

High School Survey Results

This was previously discussed in the administration report.

ACTION ITEMS

Repeal NCSD Board Policies GBD[BHC], GCAA[GCBDA], GCAB-E, GCBC-E, GCBC-E-1, GCBC-E-3, GCBD-R, GCL-E, GCOA-E-1, GCOA-E-2, GCOC-E-1, GCOC-E-2, GCOC-E-3, GCRD[GCZAB], GDBA-E, GDCB[GDBDC] for the first reading

A motion was made by Steve Sorensen to approve the repeal of policies, GBD[BHC], GCAA[GCBDA], GCAB-E, DCBE-E, GCBD-E-1, GCBE-E-3, GCBD-R, GCL-E, GCOA-E-2, GCOC-E-1, GCOC-eE-2, GCOC-E-3, GCRD[GCZAB], GDBA-E, GDCB[GDBDC] for the first reading, seconded by Joseph Baroz.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

Resolution to cancel the November 3, 2015 election for School Board Directors for the North Conejos School District RE-1J (Attachment #10)

A motion was made by Natalie Rogers to approve the resolution to cancel the November 3, 2015 election for School Board Directors for the North Conejos School District RE-1J, seconded by Joseph Baroz

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

Present and discuss board policies ADC: Tobacco Free Schools, BAA: Evaluation of School Board/Board Self-Evaluation, BB: School Board Legal Status, BBA: School Board Powers and Responsibilities, BBBA: Board Member Qualifications, BBBB: Board Member Oath of Office, BBBC/BBBD: Board Member Resignation/Removal From Office, BBBE: Unexpired Term Fulfillment/Vacancies, BBBG: Board Elections, BBBG-E: School Board Elections (boundaries of director districts), BCA-E-1: Code of Ethics for School Board Members, BCB: School Board Member Conflict of Interest for the third and final reading

A motion was made by Joseph Baroz to approve policies, ADC, BAA, BB, BBA, BBBA, BBBB, BBBC/BBBD, BBBE, BBBG, BBBG-E, BCA E-1, BCB for the third and final reading, seconded by Steve Sorensen.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

Present and discuss board policies IKA: Grading/Assessment Systems and IKA-R: Grading/Assessment Systems (exemption procedure and information to parents/guardians) to approve revision of policy for the second reading

A motion was made by Joseph Baroz to approve revision of policy IKA and IKA-R to approve revision of policy for the second reading, seconded by Robert Chavez

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

Approval of Bills

A motion was made by Joseph Baroz to approve bills for the month of August, seconded by Chuck Finnegan

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

Present and discuss board policy DIA: Online Schools and Online Programs (Permissible Documentation) for the first reading

A motion was made by Steve Sorensen to approve policy DIA: Online Schools and Online Programs (Permissible Documentation) for the first reading, seconded by Joseph Baroz

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Joseph Baroz to go into executive session per (CRS section 24-6-402 Sub 4R), to discuss privileged information and personnel issues, Curt Wilson was asked to attend, seconded by Steve Sorensen

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Natalie Rogers, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

The board met for 9 minutes on topic one, 18 minutes on topic two, 4 minutes on topic three, and 3 minutes on topic four.

Meeting adjourned at 9:21 pm

Next Board meeting October 20, 2015 at 6:30 pm