

**NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1J
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

March 15, 2016

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; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

PREDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA/CHANGES TO CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Steve Sorensen to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Chuck Finnegan. **(attachments #1 - #4)**

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

A motion was made by Joseph Baroz to approve the agenda with no additions, seconded by Steve Sorensen.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Kimberly Cortez addressed the board concerning school safety. Jorge Cortez addressed the board concerning school safety. Both individuals encompassed remarks around the complete safety plan now in consideration and development in the district.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/ACTIVITIES

Achievement Reports: (Attachment #5)

See attached reports from building administrators.

Mr. Wilson announced to those in attendance that Denny Fringer was nominated and interviewed for Colorado National Elementary Principal of the Year and was among the top 3 in the running for the award. Mr. Ricky Salazar was nominated for Colorado Rookie Administrator of the Year. The North Conejos School District Teacher of the year is Mrs. Celeste Salazar from Manassa Elementary. She will represent NCSd for the SLV Teacher of the Year Award at a banquet in April.

BOCES Report:

Mark Bahr reported that he will attend the BOCES meeting tomorrow night. There will be a board collaborative meeting tomorrow at 5:30 p.m. with a representative from CDE presenting.

NCEA Report:

Brian Riccatone thanked the board for the two days off for state basketball and he appreciated the early notice to staff and also thanked the school board for listening to staff input when considering policies, communication of such through the superintendent. Brian stressed the importance of attracting and retaining good teachers to the NCSd. Josh Cantu told board members that CEA would like information on cost to the district to administer standardized tests, and he will receive that information from Mr. Curt Wilson, Superintendent. They feel money could be better used toward kids in the classroom versus money spent on testing and CEA would like to gather data to present to the state on behalf of kids.

Administration Report:

Curt Wilson reminded the board that we have the absolute best kids and our students represent the district and their own families and community well. The 2015-16 has been a great year with FALCON kids, and specifically mentioned how many times he has witnessed students doing right when no one is looking. Many positive comments have come to him from community members and others from his various contacts in the state of CO, as to the conduct of our kids we have when representing the school in wrestling, basketball, band, and all public activities.

ASU is working with school districts to recruit teachers as early as high school and create situations that interest more students to discover the opportunities of being a teacher. ASU is incentivizing programs, including the Boettcher program, PEBC, and going into high schools to recruit seniors into the teaching field, giving them an opportunity to take courses for college credit in terms of teacher prep courses.

Mr. Wilson addressed the JBC outlook and the governor's budget with the governor's recommendations and shared the current funding model. NCSD will need to wait until the legislative session concludes to decipher the per pupil funding we will receive and then be able to construct a budget from that time. The negative factor is hurting all school districts funding. There are promises for rural relief from the commissioner of education.

There will be a meeting held at 11:00a.m. on March 29th with CSHQA and our BEST security upgrade. All board members are invited to attend the walk through as Mr. Wilson will be present to meet all potential bidders for the project. The security upgrade is expected to begin the first Tuesday after graduation, and a copy of the specific construction and changes are available at the central office.

Mr. Wilson discussed the need to develop, in conjunction with CEA, a common sense policy on black out days with staff. Some staff leave regularly every year on days before or after a school break which leaves classes with substitute teachers and creates an institutional burden to hold a legitimate day of instruction. NCSD will need to create policy to alleviate this concern and prevent issues in the future while respecting the fact that staff can and does get ill at unintended times.

No Child Left Behind is being replaced with ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act). As the specific parameters develop, NCSD will need to align its actions, and the hope is in that development, CDE is wise and constructs an effective replacement with the new freedom that ESSA provides states as federal oversight has greatly been reduced.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Staff Security Personnel Information

NCSD will continue to listen to all sides of proposals and consider all opinions of our community and yet keep students at the forefront of our thinking. There will be staff training on April 22 which will include Threat assessment training, a revamp of our emergency protocol via Rodney King, and an update on the "tests" that Mr. Wilson will devise to keep staff and students awareness of dangers present today. We want to prevent violent acts through a variety of methods rather than rely solely on one tactic. Mr. Wilson is working on our crisis safety plan with and has been meeting with the IOG to address truancy and mental health issues, a factor in detecting possible catalysts of school violence. We are working on putting together a safety resource committee, specifically a threat assessment team and will illicit help from Captain George Dingfelder and Major Lawrence Martin, who will be present and speak on April 22. Mr. Wilson held a community round table for any and all community members and parents concerning staff security personnel information. Thirty-seven people were in attendance and there was good discussion and great feedback garnered. NCSD values highly what the community feels on the best ways to protect our most valued commodity, our students. The district will continue with state patrol checks and needs to be alert, speak up, and continue with our plans to keep students and staff in the district safe.

Social Media Policies

Our attorney addressed this issue at CASE and spoke to current issues in CO where poor choices have led to staff releases and reprimands. Staff cannot have a non-professional relationship with students

and are generally held to a much higher standard than all other professions. If a staff member contacts a student via text, the directive is that the teacher must also contact the parent with the same message. We need to address and update our policy on staff social media, which will appear next meeting.

Concurrent Enrollment

NCSD is working with TSJC and ASU on concurrent enrollment options for students. San Luis Valley schools would like to have a professor teach students via video versus transporting students to ASU or TSJC, as not all students can afford the travel, costs, and others issues that arise.

PARCC Training

Assessments for NCSD will be April 11 – April 29. All staff and proctors will be trained before assessments begin. There will be two proctors per testing session in classrooms as well as trained observers roaming to be transparent and ensure our community knows our integrity and honesty are mandated and the way NCSD will continue to operate.

Student Opt Out

The board passed an opt out policy and this policy states we are supposed to inform the public with opt out information but not encourage them to withdraw their children from taking the state tests. How are we to do this? It seems that the federal and state governments clash some in this area.

ACTION ITEMS

NCSD 2016 – 2017 Calendar

The calendar committee had good representation from each building and there was a great effort on the part of the committee to come up with a wise 2016-2017 calendar for NCSD. The recommendations are very similar to last year's calendar with the major change being the moving of spring break to the third week in March. The DAC also approved the recommended calendar. Each representative was to take the recommended calendar back to their buildings for review.

A motion was made by Joseph Baroz to approve the North Conejos School District 2016-2017 calendar, seconded by Chuck Finnegan.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

Present board policy GCBP for the second reading

A motion was made by Chuck Finnegan to approve policy GCBP for the second reading, seconded by Steve Sorensen.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

Present and Discus board policies GBGI, GBGG, GBGE, GBEA, GBEC, GBED, GBI, GBJ, GBJA, GC, GBK-R, GBK-E, GCGB, GCFA, GCE/GCF, GCCAE, GCCAD, GDQB, GCCAB for the third reading.

A motion was made by Steve Sorensen to approve the policies GBGI, GBGG, GBGE, GBEA, GBEC, GBED, GBI, GBJ, GBJA, GC, GBK-R, GBK-E, GCGB, GCFA, GCE/GCF, GCCAE, GCCAD, GDQB, GCCAB for the third reading, seconded by Joseph Baroz.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

Repeal Policy GDAA-R for the second reading.

A motion was made by Joseph Baroz to repeal policy GDAA-R for the third reading, seconded by Steve Sorensen.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

Present and Discuss Revision or Adoption of Board Policies mandated by Colorado Law or Highly Recommended AC, AC-R, AC-E-1, AD, ADC, ADD, ADF, AED, BCB, BE, BEAA, DIA, DJE, ECA/ECAB, EEAEAA, EEAEAA-R, EEAEG, EEAEB, EFEA, EGAEA, GBA, GBAA, GBEB, GCE/GCF, GBEB, GBEC, GBEE, GBGB, GCKAA, GCO, GCQA, IHAM-R, IHBK, IHBK-R, IKA, IKA-R, ILBC, ILBC-R, IMDB, JB, JBB, JF, JFABD, JFBA, JFBA-R, JFBB, JFBB-R, JH, JHB, JIC, JICA, JICDA, JICEA, JICEA-R, JICF, JICH, JICI, JIH, JK, JK-R, JK-2, JKA, JKA-R, JKBA, JKD/JKE, JKD/JKE-R, JKG, JLCDA, JLDAC-E, JLJ, JRA/JRC, JRA/JRC-R, JRA/JRC-E-1, JRCA, JS, KB, KBA, KBA-E, KDB, KDE, KFA, KI, LBD, LBD-R for the second reading.

A motion was made by Chuck Finnegan to revise or adopt Board Policies mandated by Colorado Law or Highly Recommended AC, AC-R, AC-E-1, AD, ADC, ADD, ADF, AED, BCB, BE, BEAA, DIA, DJE, ECA/ECAB, EEAEAA, EEAEAA-R, EEAEG, EEAEB, EFEA, EGAEA, GBA, GBAA, GBEB, GCE/GCF, GBEB, GBEC, GBEE, GBGB, GCKAA, GCO, GCQA, IHAM-R, IHBK, IHBK-R, IKA, IKA-R, ILBC, ILBC-R, IMDB, JB, JBB, JF, JFABD, JFBA, JFBA-R, JFBB, JFBB-R, JH, JHB, JIC, JICA, JICDA, JICEA, JICEA-R, JICF, JICH, JICI, JIH, JK, JK-R, JK-2, JKA, JKA-R, JKBA, JKD/JKE, JKD/JKE-R, JKG, JLCDA, JLDAC-E, JLJ, JRA/JRC, JRA/JRC-R, JRA/JRC-E-1, JRCA, JS, KB, KBA, KBA-E, KDB, KDE, KFA, KI, LBD, LBD-R for the second reading, seconded by Garth Crowther.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

Repeal Policies GBAA-R, JBB-R, IHA, GCOA, IHAMB-R, IHAMC-R for the second reading.

A motion was made by Joseph Baroz to repeal policies, GBAA-R, JBB-R, IHA, GCOA, IHAMB-R, IHAMC-R for the second reading, seconded by Chuck Finnegan.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

Approve North Conejos School District Graduation Guidelines

A motion was made by Joseph Baroz to approve NCSD graduation guidelines as presented, seconded by Steve Sorensen.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Chuck Finnegan to go into executive session (CRS section 24-6-402 4 Sub 4R) with Mr. Wilson and others as needed, to discuss privileged information and personnel issues, seconded by Garth Crowther.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, aye; Robert Chavez, absent; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

1 minute on topic one and 23 minutes on topic two.

Next regular board meeting is April 19, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.