

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

July 19, 2022

District Administration Building

6:30 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting scheduled for 6:30 pm at the District Administration Office was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chuck Finnegan, President.

ROLL CALL

Nathan Coombs, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Harman Hostetter, aye; Steven Johnson, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

PREDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA/CHANGES TO CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Nathan Coombs to approve the consent agenda with the deletion of item b, approval of bills, seconded by Steven Johnson.

Nathan Coombs, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Harman Hostetter, aye; Steven Johnson, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

A motion was made by Mary Jane Valdez to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Nathan Coombs

Nathan Coombs, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Harman Hostetter, aye; Steven Johnson, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

There were no citizens to address the board

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/ACTIVITIES

Administration Report

Mr. Darren Edgar reported that NCSd needs to hire a new CMS principal upon the resignation of Mr. Tyler Huffaker. Mr. Edgar has had some experience in hiring school principals in his career and feels that he has quite few resources/documents that will be useful in facilitating this process. There are currently three applicants for the CMS principal position. Applications will close next Monday and he will keep the board updated.

NCSd is close to closing the OCR complaint from the state. The District has submitted a letter to BOCES to see what needs to be done to close the OCR complaint. After reviewing the available classrooms with Mrs. Montague, we have determined the classroom will be located in the middle school, however, one severe needs student from CHS who is on a very limited schedule will be serviced in the high school. BOCES has been in to see the classroom and is working on ordering furniture. Mr. Edgar will continue to pursue an agreement with BOCES and other participating school districts.

Mr. Edgar will be sending a letter to staff this week with information on beginning the new school year.

Mr. Edgar shared his top 10 priorities with the board: (1) build relationships with Board of Education, Administration, Staff, Students, and Parents (listen, observe, and learn) (2) Capital Construction: Gym floors and completion of school project and confirm warranties. (3) Ensure communication to Board of Education, Administration, and Staff (4) Review, observe, and support 2022-2023 staffing/hiring of personnel (5) Review and observe district and schools' policies and practices (6) Review 2022-23 preliminary budget including school finance/funding sources (7) Review systems and departments including, but not limited to communication, safety and security, innovation/technology, transportation, facilities, and food services (roles and responsibilities associated). (8) Review district office staff, administration, and department head job descriptions (9) Review accreditation: school and district performance ratings (10) Review of student academic and extracurricular programs

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Vacancies/Hiring of Personnel Status

Mr. Edgar told the board that there are currently quite a few openings at NCSD. We are looking to fill all positions and he will present some of those names later tonight. Mrs. Mindy Russell has been recommended for the LJE Librarian. This is a classified position. Mrs. Montague has interviews scheduled with two applicants next Tuesday for the high school math position and made offers to two individuals for the CHS Language teacher positions. Mr. Edgar reported that Mr. Denny Fringer is working on a solution to fill the ME special education teacher position should a teacher not be hired by the time we start school. With the resignation of Ms. Nancy Price, the school district is advertising for an instructor at the North Conejos Alternative Program. We are currently advertising for a paraprofessional at CMS. Mr. Mike Creel wants to cut back to part-time, therefore, we are currently advertising for a transportation director/certified mechanic position. Mr. Edgar wants to hire a certified mechanic as option A. We have one applicant so far.

Facilities Update: Progress and Remedies

Mr. Edgar has a meeting scheduled on Wednesday with Bradbury Stamm, their adjuster, professional floor consultants and our owner representative to discuss a path forward concerning the gym floors with an actionable timeline. Last week in the OAC meeting, Mr. Edgar made it very clear that we have three weeks until high school volleyball season and that a plan to accommodate this using the existing floors (while ensuring the safety of our student athletes) is the number one priority. He has also requested a plan forward on addressing the replacement of the floors with a timeline in place. Mr. Edgar feels confident that he will have additional information to share with the board after the meeting.

Demolition continues on the old high school and this morning he noticed its progress all the way back to the stage which was completely exposed.

Abatement to his understanding is finally complete. The cost for the additional abatement of the old high school was projected to be around \$525,00. The good news is the final cost for the additional abatement services is \$426,000. Bradbury Stamm agreed to extend their contract for an additional 40 days due to the additional abatement. Andy Fiamengo, our owner rep, informed Mr. Edgar that Bradbury Stamm charged no additional cost for the first 30 days, but is asking to be paid for General Conditions for the 10 additional days at a rate of \$2,600 a day for a total of \$26,000. There is also an additional charge for the last small abatement completed that is around \$11,000. With this being said the total for the two additional removals of asbestos and the general conditions payout to the general contractor will total around \$463,000.

Miscellaneous items concerning the school project include the recent adoption of a punch-list/warranty log shared by Mr. Ruybal and the project foreman David Blain. The intent to address items on paper that are either not completed or are not working correctly. Work on the sidewalk and curve around the parking lot continues. It has been discovered that the Falcon Logo on the marquee and high school is not the same as the Falcon Logo in the gymnasium. It is not noticeable at a first glance, but unfortunately the Falcon on the marquee and outside the high school has red eyes and a red beak, which is not

featured on the logo in the gymnasium. There is an OAC meeting tomorrow and Mr. Edgar will address this with the general contractor.

Mr. Edgar will contact CDOT to see about using the South entrance to the CHS/CMS site later on. Mr. Curt Wilson had been working with CDOT on this second entrance for some time.

The board was informed that the security on the new CHS building needs a monitoring system that works with our network. Mr. Brad Huffaker and Mr. Brandon Gylling will be working on this. The camera coverage from the high school is pretty good, but we need to see how far the cameras reach in the parking lot, fields, etc. We may need more cameras as we move forward. The monitoring system at the high school needs to be looked at and tweaked. There are a few faucets in the new high school that have already broken. We will get a quote from Bradbury Stamm on more durable faucets. There will be a meeting tomorrow at 10 a.m. on the floor resolution.

Family & Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI) Local Government Participation Information

Mr. Edgar does not have a lot of information to share with the board concerning this subject that is beyond some of the information that Mr. Wilson has already shared. He shared specific dates/deadlines for participating and not participating in the program, including information relating to those dates where employee participation (survey) is mandatory. Please see the attached FAMLI handout for more detailed information. Mr. Edgar recommends option B declining all participation (opting out). We need to inform all employees of the program before a decision is made by the board. The program allows employers and employees to opt-out of the PFMLI program, however those who do not notify the State of Colorado their desire to not participate by January 1, 2023 will automatically be enrolled in the program.

ACTION ITEMS

NCSd Staff Resignations

A motion was made by Mary Jane Valdez to approve NCSd staff resignations of Ilene Laugen, ME Resource teacher; Nancy Price, NCAP teacher; and Tyler Huffaker, CMS Principal, seconded by Harman Hostetter.

Nathan Coombs, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Harman Hostetter, aye; Steven Johnson, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed.

2022-2023 New Staff Hires

A motion was made by Steven Johnson to approve the hiring of Mindy Russell, LJE Librarian; Nikolai Pawloski, CHS English teacher; and Monica DeLaTorre, CHS English teacher; seconded by Garth Crowther.

Nathan Coombs, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Harman Hostetter, aye; Steven Johnson, aye; Mary Jane Valdez, aye.

The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

The next regular board of education meeting will be Tuesday August 16, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.