

NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1J
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
September 19, 2023
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 (electronic attendance); Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Harman Hostetter, absent; Steven Johnson, absent; 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 Garth Crowther to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Mary Jane Valdez.

Nathan Coombs, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Harman Hostetter, absent; Steven Johnson, absent; 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 Garth Crowther.

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

The motion passed

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

There were no citizens signed up to address the board.

NCS D SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Mr. Darren Edger recognized Aaron and Shelly Polzin for their support of North Conejos School District and Centauri High School athletics. The Polzin's are a benefit to all students in the District. Shelly takes great pictures of student athletes and Aaron volunteers as a trainer for CHS and the District. They put in many hours volunteering their time to the students of NCS D.

Mrs. Katie Montague recognized three Centauri High School students for their excellent scores on the PSAT test. Tayden Montoya and Riley Valdez were recognized by the National Hispanic Association for their scores. Caleb Anderson was recognized by the Rural School Alliance for his outstanding score on the PSAT. Caleb scored a 1370 which is an exceptional score.

*Harman Hostetter in at 6:44 pm

ACHIEVEMENT/ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTS

Principals Report

Please see attached Principals reports.

BOCES Report

BOCES will meet tomorrow night, September 20th. Chuck Finnegan recommended whoever becomes the NCS D BOCES representative meet with Mr. Edger before each BOCES meeting. Darren said he feels that there have been some good changes in SLV BOCES sharing the director with the South Central BOCES. Darren sees good changes in BOCES testing children earlier.

NCEA

Misty Espinoza will be meeting with Marion Montoya in the near future. She is sharing NCEA information with NCS D staff outside of school hours.

Administration Report

Darren Edgar asked that the board refer to the attached Superintendent report for complete details. Mr. Edgar reported to the board concerning the recent bus accident. Sadly, Mr. Torres the driver of the car, passed away the following day after the incident. This accident showed the District what we did right and what we can do better should this happen again.

We are two weeks away from October count day. Last year 991 students were counted compared to 964 students thus far. Mr. Edgar reminded the board that funding is based on a 5 year average and F FTE's. The estimated FTE for this year is 1006 students. We are seeing smaller class sizes in our primary grades. Smaller class sizes along with a few other factors may affect our count in the coming years and we need to keep this in mind when looking at our District budget in the future.

Mr. Edgar gave kudos to staff and administration for working so diligently on educating kids on anti-drug information this year.

Darren reported to the board that there will be three (3) scheduled ski trips this year for NCSD students. Parents at La Jara Elementary initiated the possibility of bringing back ski days to NCSD.

District Administrators, IT, and district office staff heard a presentation from ALMA. ALMA is a student information system. Currently we use Infinite Campus. We haven't made any recommendations yet, but need to make some decisions soon since it would take a great amount of time should we change student information systems.

North Conejos School District, through the Conejos County Sheriff Office, has been privileged to have a part-time Safety Resource Office in our school buildings. Rodney Noga has been present in all schools in our district and is becoming a familiar face to students and staff. We thank the Conejos County Sheriff's Office for funding our part-time resource officer.

There will be an Emergency Response meeting this Thursday, September 21st, to update our emergency plan.

Mr. Edgar gave the board a construction update. We will need to haul in some gravel and may need to put in a drain to help prevent ponding by the new high school. Robins Construction is working on the sidewalk by the District Office and back to the CTE buildings. They are also working on the project at Manassa Elementary. Mr. Edgar will bring a needs assessment to the Board next month to discuss further building needs in the District.

CASB Winter Conference is coming up the first part of December. Darren asked the board to check their schedules and let the District Office know who will be attending. We do not want to miss out on getting rooms for the conference so we need to register and reserve fairly soon.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2023-2024 School & District Performance Frameworks

The board received the performance frameworks in the board packet. Mr. Edgar reported that NCSD schools are still on a performance plan. The results from the framework help to drive instruction for staff and students. We can learn a lot from these assessments.

2023 CASB Annual Convention

This was discussed in the Administration report.

CASB Available Professional Development for Board of Education

Mr. Edgar asked board members if they would like a work session to have some Board training. The board responded that they are interested in some training. Darren will look into dates and contact CASB once the Board is reorganized. Board members thought it would be helpful to have some acronyms so they know what the terms mean when they are discussed.

Policy KHC and KHC-R Distribution/Posting of Non-Curricular Materials

Mr. Edgar reported to the board that we don't currently have these policies, but he would like to add the policies to be fair to all and not be discriminatory when approached by those wanting to display non-curricular materials. The policies help to control what is put up in District buildings. Darren recommends the first reading next month with a few wording changes from CASB recommendations.

ACTION ITEMS

1st Reading policies JKA, JK, LBD, LBD-R, JKD/JKE, JKD/JKE-R, AC, GBAA, JBB, IC/ICA, GBGG, IHBIB, BC, BC-R, CBF, GBEB and Repeal BDFC

A motion was made by Garth Crowther to approve the 1st reading of policies JKA, JK, LBD, LBD-R, JKD/JKE, JKD/JKE-R, AC, GBAA, JBB, IC/ICA, GBGG, IHBIB, BC, BC-R, CBF, GBEB and Repeal BDFC, seconded by Harman Hostetter.

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

The motion passed.

2nd Reading Policies GCBD, JJJ-1, JJJ-1R

A motion was made by Mary Jane Valdez to approve the 2nd reading policies GCBE, JJJ-1, JJJ-1R, seconded by Nathan Coombs.

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

The motion passed.

Hiring of Personnel

A motion was made by Garth Crowther to approve the hiring of Jeremy Quintana, District Transportation Mechanic, and Leann Huffaker, CMS Cook, seconded by Harman Hostetter.

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

The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

Meeting adjourned 7:45p.m.

The next regular board meeting will be on October 17, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the district administration building.