

Board of Education

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Board Work Session Minutes

September 1, 2020

Board Work Session Minutes

A - Doug Levinson B - Paul Pitton C - Trish Mahre D - Tom Parrish E - Amy Davis						Board of Education Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board Work Session: September 1, 2020 Adopted: October 20, 2020	
	A	B	C	D	E	AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION
Present	x	x	x	x	x	BOARD WORK SESSION	6:00 p.m.
Absent						<p>Mr. Parrish announced Mr. John Marshall, Colorado Mesa University (CMU) Vice President of Student Services and Mr. Jeff Kuhr, Mesa County Health Department Director, both were present to share information and answer questions regarding agenda item C, Federal Mineral Grant Application Resolution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mr. Marshall explained the grant would be used to purchase additional equipment needed to expand CMU's current COVID-19 monitoring, testing and screening programs. At this time, CMU has the capability to test wastewater and to perform saliva testing on students and staff. Mr. Marshall answered questions relating to the types of testing CMU can perform and the differences between those tests and other types of tests performed by other entities. Partnering with CMU would allow District 51 to test wastewater at many District 51 schools and administration buildings. It would also give District 51 students and staff access to CMU's rapid saliva test, with results in a couple hours. The Mesa County Federal Mineral Lease Grant requires matching funding. District 51 and CMU would need to contribute \$47,900 each, for a total grant of \$198,800. ➤ Mr. Kuhr announced the Mesa County Health Department now has the ability to offer testing at no cost to residence and no appointment is needed. The testing site is at the Mesa County Fair Grounds and turnaround time is about twenty-four hours. <p>1. In-person Learning / Online Learning Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Superintendent Sirko complimented the teachers for doing a wonderful job in getting classes going, and thanked the students for being cooperative in wearing masks. She reported enrollment at the D51 Online School is around 2,700 students. Florida Virtual, the program selected for the elementary program, is currently behind in filling orders so elementary students will not be receiving online assignments until after Labor Day. Superintendent Sirko requested Mr. Danny Medved, Mrs. Patti Virden and Mr. Paul Jebe share updated information. ➤ Mr. Brian Hill, Assistant Superintendent, expressed his appreciation to all teachers and other staff members for making the opening of schools a success. He reported the warehouse has plenty of supplies and schools are receiving regular deliveries of needed supplies. A cleaning spray, which does not leave a residue, was located and is available for use in the schools. He thanked community members for wearing masks and helping to keep COVID-19 numbers down. He noted the Online School is a large school with around 1,200 elementary students, 700 middle school students and 800 high school students. He reminded everyone the amount of time normally required to start up a school of this size is about a year to two years, and complemented everyone involved for getting things up and running in a very short time frame. ➤ Mr. Medved, Director of Professional Learning, has been assisting in getting the Online School up and running. The District looked at several different online school designs to develop structures around daily activities, to maximize the best use of time and technology to deliver quality online instruction. He reviewed what a typical day for an elementary and secondary teacher look like. Teachers 	

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						<p>will be monitoring student progress and making adjustments as needed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mrs. Virden, Executive Director of Student Services, reported approximately twenty percent of students with Individual Education Plans (IEPs) are attending the Online School. She thanked staff members from her department who have volunteered to change roles and help wherever needed. Her staff is in the process of connecting students needing increased services with access to core instruction and special education teachers. She noted there is online curriculum to support students with significant learning needs and students with behavioral needs. ➤ Mr. Jebe, Area Site Director, acknowledged the work done at the brick and mortar schools in helping with student registration for the Online School. A Multi-Tiered Support System (MTSS) is in place to monitor and work with students in the Online School who are not actively participating. Teachers will use Fridays to monitor student progress and identify students who are not participating. <p>2. Staffing Shifts Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ms. Nikki Jost, Human Resource Executive Director, expressed the challenges of trying to anticipate staffing needs in advance of the Online School. With so many students moving from in-person learning to the Online School, it has left some in-person classrooms with as little as thirteen students per teacher, whereas the Online School has some secondary teachers with more than 150 students. At this time, twenty-eight to thirty teachers need to transfer from their current position to the Online School and/or to other buildings needing additional staff. Administration will be meeting with principals, at schools where staff will need to shift, to determine the staff to be transferred to obtain equitable staffing across the District. <p>[Recess 7:25 p.m. Resume Meeting 7:38 p.m.]</p> <p>3. Remote Learning Preparations Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mrs. Jennifer Marsh, Curriculum/Learning Executive Director, Mrs. Patti Virden, Executive Director of Student Services and Mr. Dan Burke, Technology Services Executive Director, reviewed preparations should a school or classroom have to move to remote learning. Unless there is another county wide shut down, the District does not anticipate having to shift the entire district to remote learning. A systematic plan, outlining steps to transition a classroom or building to remote learning has been developed and shared with principals. The District is working to get student ratio of electronics to a one to one ratio and moving to a single sign in to access all systems. Mobile hot spot devices have been purchased to assist families with internet access and the District has contracted with a service to insure student privacy. Classroom teachers have been working with students to demonstrate how remote lessons would look and how to transition to remote learning, if needed. During remote learning, teachers would work from their assigned classroom with students working remotely from home. 	

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						4. Proposed Sun Shade Purchases <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mr. Phil Onofrio, Chief Operations Officer, announced the federal government has approved free lunches for all students through December 2020. ➤ Mr. Onofrio and Mr. Eddie Mort, Operations and Maintenance Coordinator, presented comparisons on permanent sunshades structures offered by two local companies and a list of schools requesting additional shade, schools which already have some type of shade coverings, and schools possibly needing additional shade coverings. The cost comparisons were for structures 20' x 20' and 20' x 40' with life expectancy of ten to twenty years. The estimated cost, including installation, varied from \$6,600 to \$25,000. The less expensive structures would require the coverings to be removed prior to winter and reinstalled in the spring. The structures would accommodate some outdoor class activities, shade during recess and additional seating for lunch periods. ➤ Discussion pursued regarding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using bond funding to purchase the structures. COVID-19 grant money cannot be used to purchase capital improvements. • Applying for a waiver to use COVID-19 money. • Receiving additional quotes from firms outside of the Grand Valley. • Obtaining estimates of additional cost such as hiring a firm to remove and reinstall fabric coverings, fencing and/or concrete pads. • Prioritizing a list of schools based on need and available shade. 	
						<u>BUSINESS MEETING</u>	
Present	x	x	x	x	x	A. Call to Order/Roll Call	8:37 p.m.
Absent							
Motion	x					B. Agenda Approval	Adopted
Second		x					
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							
Motion		x				C. Federal Mineral Grant Application Resolution [Resolution 20/21: 15]	Adopted
Second			x		x	➤ Funds for the grant would be paid from the COVID-19 grant.	
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							
Motion		x				D. Resolution to Approve Purchase of Sun Shade Structures [Resolution 20/21: 16]	Tabled
Second			x			➤ Resolution tabled to allow time to create a prioritized list of schools needing additional shade, generate cost estimates for additional items needed or requested and obtain additional quotes from other companies.	
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							
Motion		x				E. Adjournment 8:40 p.m.	Adjourn
Second	x						
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							
						Bridget Story, Secretary Board of Education	

**Grant Application for Grant from
Mesa County Federal Mineral Lease District for
Phase II COVID-19 Early Detection and
Rapid Test Deployment**

Board of Education Resolution: 20/21: 15

Adopted: September 1, 2020

WHEREAS, the Mesa County Valley School District 51 is a political subdivision of the State of Colorado, and therefore an eligible applicant for a grant awarded by the Mesa County Federal Mineral Lease District ("MCFMLD"); and

WHEREAS, Colorado Mesa University has developed a pilot project to deploy waste water monitoring stations across the CMU campus as an early detection mechanism for COVID-19 in certain campus buildings; and

WHEREAS, Colorado Mesa University has developed a partnership with Darwin Biosciences to roll out a LAMP Assay rapid saliva test to deploy alongside existing COVID-19 testing; and

WHEREAS, Colorado Mesa University has invited Mesa County Valley School District 51 to participate in both of these new programs to help the District detect and test for COVID-19 at the earliest possible time; and

WHEREAS, Colorado Mesa University has asked Mesa County Valley School District to partner with it on these projects and become a co-applicant to the Mesa County Federal Lease District seeking a grant of \$198,800.00 to purchase equipment and supplies to enhance detection and testing capabilities as part of an early detection and rapid test deployment at Colorado Mesa University and at Mesa County Valley School District 51; and

WHEREAS, if Colorado Mesa University and Mesa County Valley School District 51 are successful in the grant application and are awarded the grant, Colorado Mea University and Mesa County Valley School District 51 will purchase and own equipment and supplies which will be utilized, in part, by Mesa County Valley School District 51, to greatly enhance detection and testing capabilities.

WHEREAS, if the grant is awarded, there will be a remaining cost above the grant amount equal to \$85,200.00 to fully fund the projects, which will be split equally between Colorado Mesa University and Mesa County Valley School District 51.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Mesa County Valley School District 51 supports the grant application and acquisition of such equipment and supplies, and desires to authorize the expenditure of District funds to be used as part of the match amount needed for the grant application.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Mesa County Valley School District Board of Education that:

- The above recitals are hereby incorporated as findings by the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education.

- The Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education supports the grant application submitted by Colorado Mesa University and Mesa County Valley School District 51 to be used for the acquisition of detection and testing equipment and supplies.
- If the grant is awarded, the Board of Education authorizes the expenditure of funds necessary to meet its one half of the funds needed in order to meet the terms and obligations of the grant awarded (anticipated to be no more than \$42,600.00).
- The project sites are owned by Colorado Mesa University and Mesa County Valley School District 51 and will be owned by the two entities for the next 25 years.
- Colorado Mesa University and Mesa County Valley School District 51 will continue to maintain all purchased equipment in a high quality condition and appropriate funds for maintenance in their annual budget.
- If the grant is awarded, the Board of Education of Mesa County Valley School District 51 authorizes Superintendent Dr. Diana Sirko to sign the grant agreement with the Mesa County Federal Mineral Lease District.

The effective date of this Resolution is the date passed and approved below.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON: _____

APPROVED BY: _____

Thomas Parrish

President

Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education

**Resolution to Approve the Purchase
Of Sun Shade Structures**

Board of Education Resolution 20/21: 16

Tabled: September 1, 2020

WHEREAS, due to COVID-19 schools have a greater need to accommodate outside space for classroom instruction and activities; and

WHEREAS, many District schools do not have adequate shaded areas to accommodate outside classroom instruction and activities; and

WHEREAS, such shade areas could be utilized by students during recess and lunch periods; and

WHEREAS, the Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) grant does not allow grant funding to be used for capitalized equipment purchase which exceed \$5,000 for the product and installation; and

WHEREAS, the cost for the sun shade structures range from \$18,000 to \$20,000, and the cost of installation ranges from \$10,000 to \$15,000; and

WHEREAS, there is adequate funding remaining from the 2017 Bond from project savings and interest; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education hereby approves the purchase of sun shade structures using Bond funding.

I certify that the information contained herein is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education on September 1, 2020.

*Bridget Story
Secretary, Board of Education*