

Board of Education

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Board Work Session Minutes

February 4, 2020

Board Work Session Minutes

A - Doug Levinson B - Paul Pitton C - John Williams D - Tom Parrish E - Amy Davis						Board of Education Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board Work Session: February 4, 2020 Adopted: March 24, 2020	
	A	B	C	D	E		
						AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION
Present	x		x	x	x	<u>WORK SESSION</u> Board Member Mr. Tom Parrish read a recognition to proclaim February 4-7 as School Counselor Week. He expressed the gratitude to every school counselor for the dedication and hard work they provide to our students. School Counselors are an important part of the learning environment and are greatly appreciated. 1. Bussing Update, Ms. Darrah Barnes, Mr. Mark Heizer, and Mr. Dave Gerrard, Student Transportation of America. ➤ Ms. Barnes apologized that Mr. Shane Anderson, STA, was unable to attend the meeting. They shared factors/needs for decreasing the student walking zone boundaries such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More busses • Additional drivers • Additional office personnel • Space- both for personnel and parking • Monitors • Mechanics Ms. Barnes estimates that reducing the walking distances to 1.5 miles for elementary and 2.5 miles for secondary schools would add 50 more students per bus, thus adding an estimated 25 more routes, with a cost of 1.2 million dollars. Cost can be reduced with further study; however, these estimates do not include property, office space, and shop space. A decision by March 15 2020, is needed to prepare for the 2020/2021 school year. She reminded everyone of the Safe Stop app available for parents to download with GPS location services. 2. Outdoor Wilderness Lab (OWL) Update, Ms. Maria Deuel ➤ Ms. Maria Deuel, Coordinator of Innovative Program thanked The OWL Steering Committee: Mr. Greg Weckenbrock, OWL Lead Teacher, Mr. Mark Allen, Principal, Gateway School, Mr. Kirk Oldham, CPW, Area Wildlife Manager, and Mr. Jim Spehar, Community Member. OWL is 26 days away from opening, they will provide 19 three-day sessions from March 2, 2020, through May 20, 2020. There are 480 sixth grade students registered. The goal is to have students from each middle school represented. Forty-four students from Central High School trained to be staffed as counselors along with 51 nursing students from Colorado Mesa University. One teacher and one helper from each school is required, however OWL realizes that teachers are busy and try to take as much of the responsibility as possible. OWL is near capacity with thirty students per session. Fifty-seven beds and five tents are coming soon. As OWL expands, permanent facilities are needed. Permanent facilities would minimize costs and enable the program to offer more slots and serve more students.	6:00 p.m.

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						<p>Twenty five to thirty percent of sixth graders will attend this year; beyond that, it will take investment into facilities with community support, outside support, and title IV grants. District 51 has been a big support; OWL will need continued support from District 51 to move forward.</p> <p>Scholarships are available so students that cannot afford the \$80.00 fee will get to experience the outdoors and obtain the educational value over a book. Student's will journal their learning experience and then be evaluated through social and emotional growth.</p> <p>Future plans are to secure funding for permanent facility and land acquisition.</p> <p>[Recess 7:15 p.m. Resume Meeting 7:29 p.m.]</p> <p>3. Policy First Reading, JEB Entrance Age, Ms. Heather Baskin, Director Gifted and Talented, Mesa County Valley School District 51.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Early Access requires many resources. Schools are impacted by pulling staff out to build an Early Access testing team. Applications require a minimum of three hours each and up to ten hours to review, enter data, etc. twenty applications of these a year translates to sixty to two hundred hours of work every year. Early Access impacts a very small proportion of students. A small number of students are admitted, however, regardless of the number of applicants the workload is the same. Early Access does not help D51 address inequity issues. Students that are admitted are students that would be identified easily once they enter school system. Early Access has led to confusion and misunderstandings. Many parents see this as a test to get their student into kindergarten, when their student does not comply with the kindergarten entrance date. CDE statute outlines procedures for Early Access and Early Admittance (used when a district sets their entrance age different from the state's October 1 entrance date). District 51 made the decision to treat Early Access and Kindergarten entrance the same: therefore, questions have come up every year. Early Access timeline does not coincide with school of choice and kindergarten round up, which causes confusion. District 51 is losing 350 students to Charter Schools and other schools due to the July 15 entrance date. Teachers are reporting that many of those kids are ready to be in school. Dr. Sirko will get more data for the Board about changing the kindergarten entrance date. ➤ District 51 is out of compliance by offering Early Access. To be in compliance, DeBeque, Plateau Valley, and some District Charter Schools, would also have to offer Early Access. <p>4. Schedule Date for District 51 Board of Education Retreat was discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Date set for March 2, 2020, 4:00 PM, Harry Butler Board Room. <p>5. Questions Regarding Grandfathering of Students When Boundary Changes Occur</p>	

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						<p>➤ District 51 will allow grandfathering for fifth graders. Parents will be responsible for transportation. Grandfathering will differ from school of choice in that parents would not be required to fill out School Of Choice paperwork.</p> <p>Adjourn 8:42</p> <p style="text-align: right;"> <u>Connie Carleton, Assistant Secretary</u> Board of Education </p>	

Mesa County Valley School District 51

JEB

ENTRANCE AGE

Adopted: November 3, 1987

Revised: November 16, 2004

Revision Adoption: January 6, 2009

Revised: March 3, 2014

Revision First Reading: February 4, 2020

A child may enter kindergarten if five years old on or ~~before July 15~~ (a date to be determined, but no later than October 1) of the year of enrollment. Younger students ~~who do not meet the District's entrance age requirement for kindergarten~~ may be accepted if transferring from another public school kindergarten program and if the principal or designee determines that placement of the student in kindergarten is appropriate. ~~A child who is four years old on or before July 15 and has been identified as a highly advanced gifted student in accordance with applicable state law and the District 51 Early Access Program Plan may enroll in kindergarten, if the principal or designee determines the placement of the student in kindergarten is appropriate.~~

Students enrolling in the first grade may enter if they are six years old on or before ~~July 15~~ (a date to be determined, but no later than October 1) of the year of enrollment. ~~A student who is at least five years old on or before October 1 may be permitted to enroll in first grade if the student attended at least 120 days of kindergarten.~~ Younger students may be accepted if transferring from a first grade in another public school and if the principal or designee determines that placement of the student in first grade is appropriate. ~~A child who is five years old on or before July 15 and has been identified as a highly advanced gifted student in accordance with applicable state law and the District 51 Early Access Program Plan may enroll in first grade, if the principal or designee determines that placement of the student in first grade is appropriate.~~

A legal birth certificate or other acceptable records shall be required for enrollment age certification. The principal or designee will make exceptions to these entrance age requirements in accordance with state law pertaining to the education of military children.

~~Exceptions to this policy covered by provision for the education of students with disabilities may be granted.~~

Legal References:

C.R.S. 22-1-115 (school age)

C.R.S. 22-20-204 (program plan requirements regarding highly advanced gifted children)

C.R.S. 22-32-119 (kindergarten)

C.R.S. 22-54-103(10) (sets October 1 date for funding)

C.R.S. 22-54-103 (10.5) (defines pupil enrollment count day)

C.R.S. 24-60-3402 (Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children)

1 CCR 301-8, 2220-R-12.00 (highly advanced gifted children)

Cross Reference:

JEA, Compulsory Attendance Ages