

MINERAL COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
751 A. STREET  
Hawthorne, Nevada 89415  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES  
*Tuesday, January 4, 2022*

The Mineral County School District held a public meeting on Tuesday, January 4, 2022 beginning at 5:35 PM at the Mineral County School District.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Candice Birchum, Keith Neville, Juanita Diede, Tyler Viani, Kathy Castagnola

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**ADMINISTRATORS:** Andre Ponder, Superintendent; Jeff Wales, Principal, HJH/MCHS; Stephanie Keuhey, Principal HES; Lance West, Principal SES

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Erika Sanchez, Ann Kee, Drew Schaar, Pashion Carr, Janis Horn, Vicki Carr, Melanie Bert, Jaren Stanton, Tom Gallegos, Phillip Jaramillo

*Keith Neville read, "I would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on traditional lands of the Paiute People, and pay our respect to elders both past and present".*

**CALL TO ORDER: 5:35 PM**

1. Certification of Public Notice, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approval of a flexible agenda. (For Possible Action)
3. Person or Group Recognition – Ann Kee, Infinite Campus Coordinator is the Featured Employee of the month for January
4. Presentations - NONE

**CONSENT ITEMS: (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

1. Payroll Vouchers: 1078,1079
2. Warrants: 24301-24346
3. Personnel Report – No report  
*Tyler Viani made a motion to approve Payroll Vouchers 1078,1079; Warrants:24301-24346. Kathy Castagnola seconded the motion.  
Juanita Diede-Y; Keith Neville-Yes; Candice Birchum-Yes; Tyler Viani-Y; Kathy Castagnola-Y; 5-0-0*

**ACTION ITEMS: (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

1. **Recommendation:** Discussion and Possible Approval of the 2022 Board Meeting Calendar  
*Tyler Viani made a motion to approve the 2022 Board Meeting Calendar. Candice Birchum seconded the motion.  
Juanita Diede-Y; Keith Neville-Y; Candice Birchum-Yes; Tyler Viani; Kathy Castagnola-Y; 5-0-0*
2. **Recommendation:** Discussion and Possible Approval to Allow the Superintendent, Andre Ponder to apply for any and all Federal, State, and competitive grants that benefit Mineral County School District.  
*Tyler Viani made a motion to approve the Superintendent to apply for grants. Kathy Castagnola seconded the motion.  
Juanita Diede-Y; Keith Neville-Y; Candice Birchum-Y; Tyler Viani; Kathy Castagnola-Y; 5-0-0*
3. **Recommendation:** Discussion and Possible Approval to Nomination and Election of Officers  
**Supporting Information:**  
**a. Board President** – *Kathy Castagnola nominated Keith Neville for Board President. Candice Birchum seconded the motion.  
Juanita Diede-N; Keith Neville-Y; Candice Birchum-Y; Tyler Viani-N; Kathy Castagnola; 3-2-0  
Juanita Diede nominated Tyler Viani  
Tyler Viani nominated Tyler Viani*

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*Drew Schaar wanted to make a note that he wanted to make a comment about the President nomination but did not get a chance to talk. It was completely disregarded before we voted. The people online are not getting there voice through. It should be equity of voice. How has Keith been president of the board? Keith said 2 years. Jaren said due to the public comment we redo the vote.*

*Juanita Diede-N; Keith Neville-Y; Candice Birchum-Y; Tyler Viani-N; Kathy Castagnola; 3-2-0*

**b. Vice President** – *Tyler Viani made a motion to nominate Tyler Viani for Vice President. Juanita Diede seconded the motion*

*Juanita Diede-Y; Keith Neville-Y; Candice Birchum-Y; Tyler Viani-Y; Kathy Castagnola; 5-0-0*

**c. Clerk** – *Tyler Viani made a motion to nominate Juanita Diede for the clerk position. Keith Neville seconded the motion.*

*Juanita Diede-Y; Keith Neville-Y; Candice Birchum-Y; Tyler Viani-Y; Kathy Castagnola; 5-0-0*

4. **Recommendation:** Discussion and Possible Approval to Appoint Board Members to the following Committees

**Supporting Information:**

- a. Administrative Negotiations Team – *Tyler Viani and Keith Neville*
- b. Attendance Committee – *Kathryn Castagnola and Candice Birchum*
- c. Budget Committee – *Candice Birchum and Juanita Diede*
- d. Career and Technical Education (CTE) Committee – *Primary: Kathryn Castagnola, Alternate: Juanita Diede*
- e. Certified Negotiations Team – *Tyler Viani and Keith Neville*
- f. Classified Negotiations Team – *Keith Neville and Juanita Diede*
- g. Consolidated Agencies of Human Resources (CAHS) – *Kathryn Castagnola*
- h. Indian Policies and Procedures – *Candice and Juanita*
- i. Insurance Committee – *Juanita Diede*
- j. Legislative Committee – *Keith Neville*
- k. Mineral County Debt Management Committee – *Juanita Diede*
- l. Nevada Public Agency Insurance Pool – *Tyler Viani*
- m. Nevada Association of School Boards (NASB) Board of Directors – *Primary: Tyler Viani; Secondary: Keith Neville*
- n. Policy Committee – *Primary: Juanita Diede; Secondary: Tyler Viani*
- o. Park and Recreation Committee – *Primary: Tyler Viani; Secondary: Juanita Diede*
- p. Sexual Education Committee – *Kathryn Castagnola and Juanita Diede*
- q. Wellness Committee – *Juanita Diede and Candice Birchum*

*Tyler Viani made a motion to accept the appointees as reviewed. Juanita Diede seconded the motion. Amend to add Juanita Diede on the Parks and Rec Board.*

*Juanita Diede-Y; Keith Neville-Y; Candice Birchum-Y; Tyler Viani-Y; Kathy Castagnola; 5-0-0*

5. **Closed Session:** NRS 288.220 to Discussion labor unit contracts and negotiations

*Tyler Viani made a motion that we go into closed session. Candice Birchum seconded the motion. Retracted to stay in open session to do the reports before going into the closed session.*

6. **Open Session:** Discussion of labor unit contracts and negotiations.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS: (FOR DISCUSSION ONLY)**

1. Correspondence & Announcements - NONE
2. Board Member Reports – NO

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3. Superintendent Report – NO

Principals Report – *Stephanie Keuhey – MAPS testing next week. NAPE 4<sup>th</sup> grade testing next week also. HES had their first volleyball camp. 4 to 5 week camp. 60 students participated, 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Starting a robotics club and some other after school clubs. Come out of principal advisory committee meeting. COVID related, we have 2 staff members out right now. Several affected families right now that have students out. Plans in place if we were to get shut down again. We hope that they will be back on Monday.*

Lance West – *Glad to be back in school. MAPS testing next week. They are working on after school and morning tutoring. Getting ready for state testing for 3-6. Tutoring will be emphasized on the state testing. Everything is going well. The District Office has been very good at communicating. The community is in a good place right now. Board thank you for the support.*

Jeff Wales – *MAPS testing starts tomorrow at the high school. Gear Up person, Kristy Bekiares is in place now. Working on getting the library in place.*

4. Finance Report (Quarterly)
5. Grants Report (Quarterly)
6. Infinite Campus (Quarterly) Ann Kee reviewed her report
7. Information Technology (Quarterly)
8. Maintenance (Quarterly) *Candice Birchum had a question about a drain that is leaking. Tom said send in an email to get it repaired.*

*Tyler made a motion that we go into closed session. Kathy seconded the motion.*

*Juanita Diede-Y; Keith Neville-Y; Candice Birchum-Y; Tyler Viani-Y; Kathy Castagnola; 5-0-0*

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**ADJOURNMENT: 6:05PM**

Respectfully submitted:

  
Kathryn Castagnola, Clerk