

MINERAL COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
751 A. STREET  
Hawthorne, Nevada 89415  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES  
*Tuesday, August 9, 2022*

The Mineral County School District held a public meeting on Tuesday, August 9, 2022 beginning at 5:40 at Schurz Elementary School.

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Crystal Sasser, Kristen Reeves, Kathy Trujillo, Spring Blazewick, Claire Hayhurst, Will Gemelke, Janell Carlos, Tricia Schumann, Drew Schaar, Julia Viani, Jaren Stanton, Allen Gumm, Hope Blinco, Ann Kee, Phillip Jaramillo, Ann Alexander, Erika Sanchez, Kristy Bekiares

*Tyler Viani 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: PM**

1. Certification of Public Notice, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approval of a flexible agenda. (For Possible Action)  
*Tyler Viani made a motion to approve  
Candice Birchum seconded the motion.  
Keith Neville-Y; Kathy Castagnola-Y; Candice Birchum-Y; Juanita Diede-Y; Tyler Viani-Y. Motion passed 5-0-0*
3. Person or Group Recognition
4. Presentations

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

Items listed under the consent calendar will be voted on as a block. If a member of the public or a Board Member wishes to discuss an item in the consent calendar, that item will be removed from the Consent Items and placed with the Action Items for possible action.

1. Minutes: July 12, 2022
2. Payroll Vouchers: 1002,1003,1205,1206
3. Payroll Checks: 87548-87596
4. Warrants: 25177-25275
5. Personnel Report – Information Only  
*Tyler Viani made a motion to approve the minutes from Minutes: July 12, 2022; Payroll Vouchers: 1002,1003,1205,1206; Payroll Checks: 87548-87596; Warrants: 25177-25275  
and the personnel report. Candice Birchum seconded the motion.  
Keith Neville-Y; Kathy Castagnola-Y; Candice Birchum-Y; Juanita Diede-Y; Tyler Viani-Y. Motion passed 5-0-0*

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

1. **Recommendation:** Discussion and Possible Approval for Andre Ponder and Hope Blinco to attend a Conference and Education Career Fair on October 24-26, 2022 in Baltimore, Maryland  
*Public comment made by: Tricia Schumann, Julia Viani, Hope Blinco, and Juanita Diede.  
Tyler Viani made a motion to approve Andre Ponder and Hope Blinco to attend a Conference and Education Career Fair on October 24-26, 2022 in Baltimore, Maryland. Kathy Castagnola seconded the motion.  
Keith Neville-Y; Kathy Castagnola-Y; Candice Birchum-N; Juanita Diede-N; Tyler Viani-Y. Motion passed 3-2-0*
2. **Recommendation:** Discussion and Possible Approval for the Administrators to receive a Salary increase of 2.5% for the school year of 2021-2022 and 2% salary increase for the school year of 2022-2023 with retroactive pay for the 2021-2022 school year for those members still employed by the district.

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*After much discussion, this item was tabled for further discussion. Public comment was made by: Jaren Stanton, Kristen Reeves, Allen Gumm, Stephanie Keuhey, and Juanita Diede.*

*Juanita Diede made a motion to table the time. Tyler Viaini seconded the motion.*

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

3. **Recommendation:** Discussion and Possible Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between Mineral County School District and Mineral County Classified School Employee Association MCCSEA  
*Public comment was made by: Ann Kee.*  
*Tyler Viani made a motion to approve. Candice Birchum seconded the motion.*  
*Keith Neville-Y; Kathy Castagnola-Y; Candice Birchum-Y; Juanita Diede-Y; Tyler Viani-Y. Motion passed 5-0-0*
4. **Recommendation:** Discussion and Possible Approval of the FY 2022-2023 Coach's Handbook  
*This item was tabled due to incorrect information.*
5. **Recommendation:** Discussion and Possible Approval of the Mineral County School District Student and Parent Code of Conduct Handbook for FY 2022-2023  
*Kathy Castagnola made a motion to approve. Candice Birchum seconded the motion.*  
*Keith Neville-Y; Kathy Castagnola-Y; Candice Birchum-Y; Juanita Diede-Y. Tyler Viani-Y. Motion passed 5-0-0*
6. **Recommendation:** Discussion and Possible Approval of the 2022-2023 Mineral County School District Test Security Manual  
*Public comment made by: Tricia Schumann and Ann Kee*  
*Kathy Castagnola made a motion to approve. Candice Birchum seconded the motion.*  
*Keith Neville-Y; Kathy Castagnola-Y; Candice Birchum-Y; Juanita Diede-Y. Tyler Viani-Y. Motion passed 5-0-0*
7. **Recommendation:** Discussion and Possible Approval of the Grievance filed by the Mineral County Teachers' Association  
*Public comment made by: Jaren Stanton, Kristen Reeves, Alan Gumm, Tricia Schumann, Stephanie Keuhey, Drew Schaar.*  
*Juanita Diede made a motion to approve the grievance in the favor of the teachers effective As soon as possible.*  
*Tyler Viani seconded the motion.*  
*Keith Neville-Y; Kathy Castagnola-Y; Candice Birchum-Y; Juanita Diede-Y. Tyler Viani-Y. Motion passed 5-0-0*
8. **Recommendation:** Discussion and Possible Approval of Independent Contract for Tashina Williams, Master of Social Work.  
*This item was removed due to the contractor withdrawing from the position.*
9. **Recommendation:** Discussion and Possible Approval of Independent Contract for Julia Viani, Master of Social Work.  
*Candice Birchum made a motion to approve the Kathy Castagnola seconded the motion.*  
*Keith Neville-Y; Kathy Castagnola-Y; Candice Birchum-Y; Juanita Diede-Y; Tyler Viani-Abstain.*  
*Motion passed 4-0-1*
10. **Recommendation:** Discussion and Possible Approval of Independent Contract for Dr. Shannon Townsend, Psychology and Organizational Behavioral Science  
*Tyler Viani made a motion to approve. Candice Birchum seconded the motion.*  
*Kathy Castagnola-Y; Candice Birchum-Y; Juanita Diede-Y; Tyler Viani-Y. Motion passed 4-0-0*

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

1. Correspondence & Announcements - *NONE*
2. Board Member Reports – *School Board training in September in Vegas and November in Tahoe. New Board Member training in November.*
3. Superintendent Report – *NONE*
4. Principals Report – *Stephanie Keuhey, HES – 1 teacher at HES in appeal's process, 2-4 Special Ed. Paraprofessionals short. Lost two SSP's and the food bank. Put kids first and do the best with what we have.*

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*Drew Schaar – Thank you for the CTE training he and Breann were available to attend.  
Stephanie Keuhey read Policy AB to the board. Thank you!*

*Tyler Viani made a motion to move into closed session. Candice Birchum seconded the motion.  
Kathy Castagnola-Y; Candice Birchum-Y; Juanita Diede-Y; Tyler Viani-Y. Motion passed 4-0-0*

11. **Closed Session** – Pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 241.015(2)(b)(2) to receive information from legal counsel relative to general pending litigation.
12. **Open Session** – Discussion and possible action relative to pending litigation.

**ADJOURNMENT: 7:41 PM**

Respectfully submitted:

  
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Juanita Diede, Clerk