



**EAST OTERO SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1**  
301 RATON AVENUE  
LA JUNTA, COLORADO 81050

**BOARD WRAP-UP**

**Board of Education Meeting**  
**January 11, 2021**

1. **ROLL CALL via ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL** – Ayala, Backes, Bickel, Derbigny and Leyba.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **BOARD RECOGNITION**  
In honor of School Board Recognition Month, the Board of Education was acknowledged for their volunteered service and dedication to the school district. Superintendent Lovato thanked the Board for all of their efforts, especially this year.
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA – AGENDA APPROVED AS PRESENTED**  
**3. FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**A. Fund Balance attached 1-7-2021**
5. **CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED**
  - A. **Personnel Approval**
    - Will Tyler - New Hire as 6th Grade Math Teacher at the Intermediate School for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year
    - Joidawn Noe - New Hire as Primary School Secretary for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year
  - B. **Approve Resolution to Appoint Rick Lovato as Authorized Representative for Federal Programs**
  - C. **Approve Additional Extra Duty Assignments for the 2020-2021 School Year**
6. **FINANCIAL REPORT**  
Merinda Reisch, Business Manager, said the fund balance report shows more expenses than income this month. She explained this is due to using Covid relief funds. She stated the district hasn't received Title funds yet, but they should be received soon. Mrs. Reisch informed the Board that in the bond fund, there was principal and interest reported. She also shared some of January's bills were paid in December. Director Bickel asked if the district will be receiving any more Covid relief funds in 2021. Superintendent Lovato said he will address that topic in his report. **FINANCIAL REPORT APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
7. **MINUTES**  
Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on December 14, 2020. **APPROVED AS PRINTED**
8. **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**  
Superintendent Lovato updated the Board on the progress of the bus barn. He said the footers should be poured soon and after that the building should go up quickly. He informed the Board he received some tips from the public regarding the bus battery thefts after the videos were released. Superintendent Lovato shared he is working with the police department to identify the people.

The Unified Improvement Plans (UIP) for the Primary and Intermediate Schools are due and will be submitted to the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) on January 15, 2021. Superintendent Lovato thanked the principals for their work on the UIPs.

The Covid Relief Funds (CRF) can be confusing and there are three pots of money. Superintendent Lovato explained the district received the first round of CRF in the amount of \$1.06 million in March 2020. This money was earmarked for Covid related expenses only and the district bought supplies and PPE (personal protective equipment). Any funds not expended by December 31 had to be returned to the state, however, the state extended that deadline. All but \$15,000 was used. The second release of CRF are ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund) funds, which are federal funds similar to Title funds. The district will receive \$450,000 in the first round, with the application for those funds being due on December 31, 2020. Superintendent Lovato said these funds are similar and will be spent on Covid related items. The third round will be the ESSER II

## **BOARD WRAP UP – January 11, 2021**

### **Page | 2**

funds and the amount of those funds will roughly be four times the amount of the first round of ESSER funds, which would be roughly \$1.9 million dollars for the district. Superintendent Lovato said the application for these funds has not been opened yet.

Director Derbigny asked what else needs to be purchased for Covid. She inquired about PPE and things that might come up in the future. Superintendent Lovato explained it will be ongoing with any supplies needed and future purchases might include tents to accommodate outdoor learning if teachers choose that option, as well as purchasing items for extracurricular activities since student athletes will be required to wear masks while competing. Superintendent Lovato shared that some of the ESSER funds are available to help offset staff expenses and some of those funds could be used to pay staff for teaching a summer term, Friday school, after school tutoring or other options to help offset the learning loss for our students, as well as paying staff extra hours who would be required to work with small groups in the buildings in the event remote learning is enforced again.

Director Leyba asked if we could to use this funding for testing. Superintendent Lovato said we would be able to.

#### **9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. Approve Revised Policies GBGH, GCCAB and GDCB on Second/Final Reading. (Lovato) **APPROVED ON SECOND/FINAL READING AS PRESENTED**

#### **10. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Designate Official Posting Sites for Board Meeting Notices (Lovato) **DESIGNATED BOARDDOCS ON DISTRICT WEBSITE, CENTRAL OFFICE BULLETIN BOARD, EACH SCHOOL BUILDING, AND NOTIFICATION TO LOCAL NEWSPAPER AND RADIO STATION**

#### **11. BOARD COMMENTS**

- ✓ Director Derbigny asked about the student suspensions and if the suspension policies come from CASB. Superintendent Lovato said they do. He said in terms of suspensions, a suspension may be listed only as a day because the student isn't missing any school. He said typically, the suspension cycle at the Primary level would be 1-2 days, at the Intermediate 1-3 days and the Junior/Senior High School would be 1-3 or 5 days. He said each building has a guideline that they follow. Superintendent Lovato explained there are some policies the cover drug and alcohol related offenses and there is no choice in the suspension. Director Derbigny asked how many times a student is allowed to become violent. Superintendent Lovato said this is usually dealt with on the first offense. At the high school level after a third suspension, expulsion is recommended and at the elementary level after a fourth suspension, however, there are some offenses that are automatic expulsion such as drug distribution or having a firearm. Also if an offense is bad enough to be considered an assault which causes physical harm, that could be an expulsion as well, however these types of offenses happens once or twice a year.

#### **12. ADJOURNMENT – MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:58 p.m.**

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**DEE LEYBA**, *President*                      **KRISTIN BICKEL**, *Vice President*  
**KIDRON BACKES**, *Secretary/Treasurer*                      **ANGELA AYALA**, *Director*  
**DARLENE DERBIGNY**, *Director*