



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

BOARD WRAP-UP

Board of Education Meeting
November 16, 2021

1. **ROLL CALL** – Ayala, Backes, Derbigny and Leyba. Director Bickel was absent.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA – AGENDA APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
 3. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. **Personnel Approval**
 - **Remove Cassie Sanchez**
 - **D.C. DiPrince - New Hire as Junior High Boys Basketball Coach for the 2021-2022 season**
 - **Taylor (Chuck) Geisenger - New Hire as High School Boys Assistant Basketball coach for the 2021-2022 season**
 - C. **Additional Substitute Teachers added for approval**
 - E. **Approve Revised Policies - Policy GDQD added**
 8. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - B. **TRANE Proposal attached 11-16-21**
 - D. **Added Intrusion Alarm and Access Control Quote for the Bus Barn**
4. **SWEARING IN/ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**
 - A. Oath of Office – Board Members Elected by Acclamation (Dellinger) **JILL DELLINGER ADMINISTERED OATH OF OFFICE TO ANGELA AYALA, DARLENE DERBIGNY AND DEE LEYBA**
 - B. Organizational Meeting to select officers of the Board (Board of Education) **BOARD OFFICERS ARE AS FOLLOWS:**
 - President – Dee Leyba
 - Vice President – Angela Ayala
 - Secretary/Treasurer – Darlene DerbignyKristin Bickel will serve as the district's BOCES Representative, Kidron Backes will serve as CASB Legislative Representative/Voting Delegate.
5. **CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED**
 - A. **Personnel Approval**
 - Caroline Finkner - Resignation as a Paraprofessional at the Intermediate School effective October 12, 2021
 - Kaden Ramirez - New Hire as a Paraprofessional at the Intermediate School for the 2021-2022 school year
 - Karlos Santos - Resignation as a Paraprofessional at Tiger Trades Academy effective October 14, 2021
 - Christina Cook - New Hire as a Paraprofessional at the Junior/Senior High School for the 2021-2022 school year
 - Katie Morales - New Hire as a Paraprofessional at Tiger Trades Academy for the 2021-2022 school year
 - Kellie Buhr - New Hire as NJHS Sponsor for the 2021-2022 school year
 - Julie Meiklejohn - Resignation as High School TAC Director effective November 1, 2021
 - Aaron Pearson - Resignation as Golf Coach effective November 1, 2021
 - Kristina Ruiz - New Hire as Student Advocate at the Primary School for the 2021-2022 school year
 - Charles Quinton - New Hire as Classroom Supervisor at the Junior/Senior High School for the 2021-2022 school year
 - Allyssia Aguilar - New Hire as a Paraprofessional at Tiger Trades Academy for the 2021-2022 school year
 - Taylor Geisenger - New Hire as Junior High Basketball coach for the 2021-2022 season

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- Cassie Martinez - New Hire as a Paraprofessional at the Intermediate School for the 2021-2022 school year
- Katherine Mora - New Hire as a Paraprofessional at the Primary School for the 2021-2022 school year
- Daniel Fausto - New Hire as Custodian/Driver for the 2021-2022 school year
- Joidawn Noe - New Hire as Media Coordinator for the Primary School for the 2021-2022 school year
- Kenny Rivera-Diaz - New Hire as a Paraprofessional at Child Development Services for the 2021-2022 school year
- Anjelica Naputi - New Hire as a Paraprofessional at Child Development Services for the 2021-2022 school year
- D.C. DiPrince - New Hire as Junior High Boys Basketball Coach for the 2021-2022 season
- Taylor (Chuck) Geisenger - New Hire as High School Boys Assistant Basketball coach for the 2021-2022 season

B. Approve Resolution Authorizing Signing of Checks/District Bank Accounts at Colorado Bank and Trust

C. Approve Additional Substitute Teachers for the 2021-2022 school year

D. Approve an Additional Out-of-District Student for the 2021-2022 School Year

E. Approve Revised Policies IKF, BID/BIE, JLCDB, AC, GBA, GDE/GDF, JB, JF, JICDD, JII, LBD, GBEB, GCQC/GCQD, GDQB, GDCA, GCCBA and GCBC on First/Revised Reading

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

Merinda Reisch, Business Manager, said the fund balance for the month of October shows income of \$1,138,000 and expenses as \$1,411,000. This leaves a negative balance of \$272,638. Mrs. Reisch shared there are monies that have been made such as breakfast/lunch for September which was over \$103,000; the annual transportation funds of \$51,794 and Title V-B funds in the amount of \$4,200. These amounts will add \$159,000 to the October income balance. Mrs. Reisch said she still has updating to do as the fund balance shows last year's totals. Superintendent Lovato said the large part of the deficit is that federal programs funds have not been requested yet. This is a difference of around \$250,000. He said this is not uncommon for this time of year, but it is taking a little longer to get final approval from the federal programs. **FINANCIAL REPORT APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

7. MINUTES

Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on October 11, 2021. **APPROVED AS PRINTED**

8. PRESENTATIONS

Tate Honacker and Brian Levingston with Trane Supply of Colorado Springs reviewed their HVAC proposal with the Board. The Board was informed that an assessment was completed of the district's HVAC systems and from that analysis the proposal was created. Mr. Honacker explained the entire proposal has been run through a third party to verify pricing. The target date to begin the project is the summer of 2022 with a completion date of mid-August, 2022. Mr. Honacker reviewed each building that will be worked on (Junior/Senior High School, Intermediate School and Tiger Trades Academy). The Junior/Senior High School will have 16 roof top units replaced, as well as 55 boxes in the classrooms. At the gym, two units above the pool will be replaced. Director Backes asked if the units above the pool are required to be different. Mr. Honacker said the technology used when the current units were installed was different than today. The new units will be a little bit longer and the proposal addresses making adjustments in the roof for the longer units. Director Derbigny noted the proposal stated any unused outdated switches or controls will be left on site. She is wondering if our staff will know what is outdated or not. Mr. Honacker said a lot of the older equipment uses wire to communicate and the new equipment will be wireless. The old tubing, etc. in the ceilings will just be abandoned. He said Tiger Trades Academy was an interesting building to analyze as there is two furnaces with duct work in the floors. He shared they were able to find a company that will be able to service the in-floor ducting. This company will clean the ducts and spray an epoxy inside to ensure their integrity and air quality. Superintendent Lovato said this project is being funded by a \$2.6 million emergency BEST grant and \$1.4 million out of ESSER III funds. There is zero out-of-pocket cost to the district. Superintendent Lovato informed the Board that the district's attorney has worked with Trane on the contract and it is agreeable. Director Ayala clarified this proposal will upgrade all buildings in the district. Superintendent Lovato said it will with the exception of Central Office and the buildings should be good for a long time. She also clarified the HVAC systems are internet based. Mr. Levingston said yes and Mr. Miell, Maintenance Director, will be able to make adjustments remotely. Director Backes thanked Trane for checking into a solar option and understands that option is not available to the district due to La Junta Utilities being bound by rules set by the Arkansas River Power Association.

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Mr. Honacker said the district would need a solar system size of around 700-900 kw and the largest La Junta Utilities will allow the district to go is 25 kw.

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Lovato said the auditorium lighting project is beginning. There is a high school choir concert scheduled for the first week of December, but that will be held in the Primary gym in order to get the lighting project completed.

The bus barn has the electrical installed and the majority of the buses are now parked inside. Superintendent Lovato said he is researching the best place to park the remainder of the vehicles which provides the best lighting and camera coverage as he would like to get the basketball courts open again.

The Covid numbers in Otero County are up but the numbers in the district are remaining flat. Superintendent Lovato said the district is battling staff absences, which is not necessarily Covid related.

The S-CAP review is on schedule and Superintendent Lovato said new signs have been purchased for each building which list the strategic priorities.

Superintendent Lovato said the most important thing he wanted to express is that the stress level and emotional frustration from top to bottom is nothing like he has ever seen in his career. He said he can't thank staff enough and he couldn't be more thankful for the staff we have. He said brainstorming is happening to find moral boosters. Superintendent Lovato emphasized he couldn't prouder and more thankful of the things staff are doing. He said he does feel and see the stress everywhere, not just in our district. He wanted to make a point to say thank you to all staff.

Director Ayala asked if the sound system for the auditorium was ever addressed. Superintendent Lovato said Daniel Hyatt is currently working on proposals for the sound booths at both the auditorium and stadium. Superintendent Lovato will obtain three to four proposals for this project.

Director Ayala also inquired about the open space surrounding the bus barn and what, if anything, will be done with it. Superintendent Lovato said the space north of the bus barn will become parking for school vehicles and TLM Constructors will be working on road access for buses on the east side of the bus barn. Director Ayala asked if the fencing that currently is around the basketball courts will be moved to fence in the school vehicles. Superintendent Lovato said gates will be installed and there will be planning involved. Mr. Miell will be working with the City of La Junta to install bright lighting around Tiger Trades Academy.

Superintendent Lovato informed the Board he is continuing work on the ESSER II grant and has written into the grant \$750,000 for new flooring as laminate flooring is less likely to hold germs than carpet.

The WISH grant (health and wellness grant) has an unspent balance. Superintendent Lovato said he is looking into a concrete multi-purpose court for pickle ball and basketball as well as installing shade areas.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Certify Total FTE for October Count at 1348.5 for 2021-2022 (Lovato) **CERTIFIED AS PRESENTED**
- b. Approve TRANE HVAC Proposal (Lovato) **APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,000,000.00 AS PRESENTED**
- c. Approve District-Wide Professional Development (Lovato) **APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$26,613.00 AS PRESENTED**
- d. Approve Intrusion Alarm and Access Control at the Bus Barn (Lovato) **APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$29,230.00 AS PRESENTED**
- e. Executive Session regarding student discipline per C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4)(h). **ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:32 P.M. MEETING RECONVENED AT 7:52 P.M.**

11. BOARD COMMENTS

- ✓ Director Leyba congratulated everyone.
- ✓ Director Backes thanked Director Ayala for the nomination for the CASB delegate but stated Director Leyba has all the contacts and it makes sense for her to do it. Director Ayala said in the past, the Board rotated the roles. Superintendent Lovato asked everyone to think about it if this is going to be re-opened.

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- ✓ Director Backes said for everyone to hang in there. She acknowledged everyone is working hard. With this week being a week to celebrate education Director Backes asked staff to hang on to why they became an educator, take it one day at a time and thanked everyone for everything they do.
- ✓ Director Derbigny said those were good points and good encouragement.

12. ADJOURNMENT – MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:59 p.m.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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