



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

BOARD WRAP-UP

Board of Education Meeting

May 11, 2020

1. **ROLL CALL VIA VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING** – Ayala, Backes, Bickel, Derbigny and Leyba.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **RECOGNITION OF THE 2020 VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN** - The Board of Education recognized the following students for their hard work and achievement at La Junta Junior/Senior High School:
 - 2020 Valedictorian – Allyson Haugen
 - 2020 Salutatorian – James Reeder
4. **SPECIAL RECOGNITION – BETTE McFARREN**

Bette McFarren was recognized by Superintendent Lovato for her time in covering the Board meetings for the La Junta Tribune-Democrat.
5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA – AGENDA APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
 3. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - ~~Sheila Gimeno – New Hire as Second Grade Teacher at the Primary School for the 2020-2021 school year~~
 - ~~Nicole Romero – New Hire as Third Grade Teacher at the Intermediate School for the 2020-2021 school year~~
 - ~~Maria Jervyl – New Hire as Third **Fourth** Grade Teacher at the Intermediate School for the 2020-2021 school year~~
 - ~~Brandon Coates – New Hire as an Elementary Teacher at the Intermediate School for the 2020-2021 school year~~
 - **Tristan Frederickson - Resignation as Math Teacher at the Junior/Senior High School effective May 22, 2020**
6. **CONSENT AGENDA - APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED**
 - A. **Personnel Approval**
 - Madison Cuckow - Resignation as Paraprofessional at the Primary School effective April 30, 2020
 - Gina Marez - Resignation as Paraprofessional at Child Development Services effective February 28, 2020
 - Heidi Bounds - Resignation as Route Bus Driver effective May 21, 2020
 - ~~Sheila Gimeno – New Hire as Second Grade Teacher at the Primary School for the 2020-2021 school year~~
 - Lyssa Newlin - Resignation as Paraprofessional at the Primary School effective May 22, 2020
 - Marlina Maes - Resignation as Paraprofessional at Tiger Trades Academy effective May 22, 2020
 - Ty Buderus - Resignation as Industrial Arts Teacher at the Junior/Senior High School effective May 22, 2020
 - Jessica Buderus - Resignation as Third Grade Teacher at the Intermediate School effective May 22, 2020
 - ~~Nicole Romero – New Hire as Third Grade Teacher at the Intermediate School for the 2020-2021 school year~~
 - ~~Maria Jervyl – New Hire as **Fourth** Grade Teacher at the Intermediate School for the 2020-2021 school year~~
 - ~~Brandon Coates – New Hire as an Elementary Teacher at the Intermediate School for the 2020-2021 school year~~
 - Tristan Frederickson - Resignation as Math Teacher at the Junior/Senior High School effective May 22, 2020
 - B. **Approve Out-of-District Students for the 2020-2021 School Year**
7. **MINUTES**

Approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on April 13, 2020. **APPROVED AS PRINTED**

8. FINANCIAL REPORT

Merinda Reisch, Business Manager, said the Cash Flow and Fund Balance reports were attached. The revenue for April was \$1,736,000.00 and the expenses were \$1,517,000.00. This shows the books in the black \$218,000.00. However, there is still some outstanding funding that is not included. The March food service payment in the amount of \$44,000 hasn't been received. Some of the title funds have been received and the remaining amount will be included in May's report. The March and April Chartwells newsletters are also attached. Director Derbigny inquired why there are two food service lines on the report and one is blank. Mrs. Reisch explained Line 51 is where the old food service funds were listed. She isn't clear on whether or not that line can be deleted or not so she is leaving it. **FINANCIAL REPORT APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

9. FOOD SERVICE UPDATE

Cori Hanson, Chartwells Food Service Director, gave the Board an update. He shared there have been 91,416 meals served to students since the middle of March. 53,740 of those meals were served in the month of April. He said one of the questions that was asked at last month's Board meeting was what happens with the surplus and if the bill changes. The billing doesn't change due to the fact that the district's contract with Chartwells is a flat fee. As far as the waivers that are in place, food service is set to serve until the end of June. He said past that point, he isn't sure what things will look like but as soon as he knows he will let Superintendent Lovato and Mrs. Reisch know.

Director Leyba asked if we weren't in this situation, how is the transition to the summer lunch program. Mr. Hanson said typically the transition is the first week of June. The waiver that is in place allows Chartwells to hand the meals to the parents to take to their children and allows multiple days to be served at a time. If the waivers weren't in place, kids would have to go to the school and eat the meal in it on site. Mr. Hanson said Chartwells is waiting on CDE and the state to determine if the waiver will be extended or if students will have to come to the building.

Superintendent Lovato said the summer lunch program applies for kids up to 18 years of age. The waivers have allowed schools who don't meet the criteria to serve meals.

Director Leyba asked Mr. Hanson how many districts Chartwells serves in the Arkansas Valley. He said there are three other districts beside La Junta. Director Leyba clarified that the number of meals served are just for La Junta and Mr. Hanson verified that. Mr. Hanson thanked all those who have helped with getting the meals out to families. Director Ayala asked Mr. Hanson to thank his team for their efforts and a job well done.

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Superintendent Lovato congratulated Mrs. Frankmore for being named the Outstanding Colorado FBLA Adviser. He said state FBLA was held virtually and took a lot of work. He said Mrs. Frankmore was a pivotal piece in that. The FBLA students will be recognized at the June Board meeting.

The summer school count will be 60 kids at the Primary School with eight teachers and 80 kids at the Intermediate School. Superintendent Lovato said the number of teachers for Intermediate is still being looked at and he said he is trying to stay with the ratio of 10:1 or less. For secondary students, summer school will be online through Odysseyware and it is basically for credit recovery. There is not a number count for secondary students yet.

On Wednesday, May 13 Kindergarten Round-Up will be held. CDS (Child Development Services) has also shared some information. Superintendent Lovato recommended using social media and the district website for more information.

There will be 90 Seniors graduating this Sunday. He said things have been worked out to be in compliance with the health department regulations. Superintendent Lovato said four guests per student will be allowed.

Superintendent Lovato talked about the budget. He said the revenue forecast will be released tomorrow by the state. He is preparing for anywhere between 5%-15% in budget cuts. This would be equivalent from \$500,000 to \$1,500,000. He said he fully intends to bring back as many staff members as he can next year. A special board meeting will be held later this month for the budget. PERA increases will also affect the budget, as well as an increase in insurance costs. The capital improvements will be prioritized based on safety and climate for students. It is likely there will be minimal improvements next year.

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Director Leyba asked about extra duties. Superintendent Lovato said if the activity requires face-to-face contact, those probably won't be happening. He said we will have to wait to see what restrictions will be in place. There are many things that come into play. Extra duties will be frozen until things are known.

Director Ayala asked about the parent fees for athletics. Mr. Nuschy said parents are being refunded for spring sports at this time. Parents won't be charged until things are known.

Superintendent Lovato said art projects, yearbooks and pictures distribution is being worked on by the buildings. Director Ayala asked if something can be released so parents will know when distribution will be taking place.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Adopt 2020-2021 Calendar (Lovato) **ADOPTED AS PRESENTED**
- b. Approve Revised Policies IKF-2 and IHCD A on Second/Final Reading (Lovato) **TABLED UNTIL NEXT MONTH**

12. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Approve Revised Policies IKE, GCCAA and GDCA on First/Revised Reading (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- b. Adopt New Exhibits JICDE-E-1 and JICDE-E-2 on First/Revised Reading (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

13. BOARD COMMENTS

- ✓ Superintendent Lovato said he will be sending the Board a link to join the Rural Alliance call. The Rural Alliance briefs rural districts on what is happening at the state level and is very informative.
- ✓ Director Backes congratulated the students who competed in the History contest. She said there were some excellent presentations. She also congratulated all of the FBLA work that was done for the state competition. Director Backes congratulated Mrs. Frankmore on her award. She thanked staff members who have worked tirelessly on helping students be successful. She appreciates the flexibility and creativity that occurred. Director Backes congratulated the Class of 2020 and Allyson Haugen as Valedictorian and James Reeder as Salutatorian and wished all best of luck in their future endeavors.
- ✓ Director Ayala said that summed up everything she was going to say. She addressed items shared in the online feed during the meeting. 1) Why weren't cuts discussed in depth versus concurrent enrollment and 2) a complaint regarding milk not being up to par. She doesn't want people to feel they aren't being heard. She asked Superintendent Lovato to re-elaborate these points. Superintendent Lovato said he discussed the food service complaint regarding outdated milk earlier via telephone earlier in the day and shared the concern with Mr. Hanson. He said Board members were informed of this issue this afternoon and it has been taken care of. Regarding possible cuts, the state revenue forecast won't be released until tomorrow and he said he would be remiss to make any sort of judgment right now on what should or shouldn't be cut until figures are released. Director Ayala also thanked the FBLA state qualifiers for their hard work and putting La Junta on the map and shared that her heart goes out to the Seniors and everything they have had to deal with. La Junta Pride all the way!
- ✓ Director Bickel says La Junta still continues to be awesome. She said there have been comments on social media during our meeting tonight. She is wondering if there is any way to allow people to sign up for five minutes for public input during our online format. Superintendent Lovato said he will look into that. There is an email: questions@lajunta.k12.co.us or Board member's email addresses are listed on the website that the public could communicate their issues or concerns to. Director Leyba said this might be added as an agenda item and can be addressed at the meetings.
- ✓ Director Ayala thanked Superintendent Lovato. She said his job has been very trying lately and she appreciates all of his hard work. Superintendent Lovato said he appreciates a lot of people. He said he has had a number of people say to him they are glad they don't have his job and he appreciates that. He said he and the staff have had an interesting spring. He said he has a sense that people are over it and he feels tension and stress and that people are tired. Patience levels are low and the lack of control over doing things that we think we need to do because of bigger entities or bigger things is frustrating. He is proud to be where he is at and he enjoys it, but it has been more frustrating because there is less to control and when it comes to money and livelihood and the financial stability of our community he is frustrated with that. He thanked the Board.
- ✓ Director Derbigny said for everyone to stay encouraged and to keep putting one foot in front of the other.

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- ✓ Director Leyba thanked everyone for just trying to do your best, for staying positive and for lifting each other up. She said there are a lot of people that are just getting tired and it won't always be like this. She said there is always a silver lining and maybe some good things will come out of this.

12. ADJOURNMENT – MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:01 p.m.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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