SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4
Tuesday, December 19, 2023
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
6:00 PM @ Springfield Elementary School Library

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. ROLL CALL: Tyler Gibson, Board President, called the December 19, 2023, regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. MEMBERS PRESENT: Jennifer Esch, Tyler Gibson, Darrell Mackey, Heath Piper and Jeremy West.

C. MEMBERS ABSENT: None

D. SCHOOL PERSONNEL PRESENT: Shelly Swayne, Ginger Walker, Jerri-Ann Montoya, Pam Hartley, Brenda Chick, Carey George, Tanisha Hinds, Carol Grahn, Jamie Houghton, Deb Sharpe, Thelma Wells, Van Walker, Shuamay Gale and Christa Ricker.

E. GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE: None

II. **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:** Superintendent Swayne requested the addition of two items to DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS. Add Item F: Removal of Used Playground Equipment and Item G: 1st Reading of Resolution on Sustainability and the Design and Construction of High Performance Schools.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Darrell Mackey made a motion to add Item F: Removal of Used Playground Equipment to VIII. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS and to add Item G:1st Reading of Resolution on Sustainability and the Design and Construction of High Performance Schools to VIII. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS. Jennifer Esch seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. ROUTINE ITEMS:

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. Regular Meeting: November 20, 2023
2. Work Session: November 27, 2023
3. Special Meeting: December 01, 2023

Mr. Gibson noted a correction needed on the Special Meeting minutes for December 1, 2023 under IV. RECOGNIZE NEWLY ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS: A. Oath of Office. Darrell Mackey was also administered the Oath of Office by Board President, Tyler Gibson.

Jeremy West made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2023 Regular Meeting and the November 27, 2023 Work Session as presented and to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2023 Special Meeting as presented with the addition of Darrell Mackey to Agenda IV. RECOGNIZE NEWLY ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS: A: Oath of Office. Darrell Mackey seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. FINANCIAL REPORTS: Superintendent Swayne reported to the board that the % of budget remaining in comparison to the % of school year remaining is looking good. At the current time she would classify the budget as Strong -better than average.

C. CLAIMS PAYABLE: The board reviewed the Claims Payable. Jennifer Esch made

a motion to approve the 12-15-23 Claims Payables as presented. Darrell Mackey seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

V. PUBLIC FORUM:

Please Note: ***Welcome to the open forum portion of our meeting. We appreciate your interest in participating in this conversation with the Springfield School District RE-4 Board of Education. A sign-up sheet was provided at the entrance to the Board meeting for all persons wishing to address the Board. It is requested that comments be limited to five minutes per speaker. Patrons are invited to share comments with the Board in an orderly manner that is consistent with the respect and dignity that should be part of a Board of Education public meeting. The Board will require that speakers and audience members adhere to basic standards of civility and, with limited time available, as the Board President, I may need to limit or terminate discussion to maintain decorum or to give as many people as possible the opportunity to speak. The Board will not take any action during this time. It is the preference of the Board that comments concerning District personnel be addressed in an executive session. Discussion of individual students must occur in the executive session. Please inform the Board if you intend to make comments concerning District personnel or students so those comments may be heard in the executive session.***

Ms. Deb Sharpe reported that preschool enrollment is currently 40. Dismissal for snow days necessitated the rescheduling of the 2nd quarter culmination day which may have had a slight effect on attendance, but 34 of 40 parents participated in the culmination activities. The Preschool Advisory Council met, and Ms. Sharpe shared her appreciation that members of the council volunteered to help with classroom audits mandatory for the NAEYC report that is due at the end of January. She also stated her appreciation for the school board members and for Mrs. Montoya taking time to stop by and check-in at the preschool and participate in some of the preschool events. For the benefit of the new board members, Ms. Sharpe gave a brief summary of the new UPK funding that the state instituted this year and explained the constant changes to the program during this first year.

VI. Curriculum Corner

A. Reading Intervention Instruction K-5

Mrs. Shuamay Gale, Title I Director, presented some background and information on the additions and changes to the program requirements of the CDE READ Act since its inception in 2012. Board members had a lot of good questions, some of which extended to other areas which Mrs. Gale supervises. These areas will open up more conversations that will be included in future topics for the Curriculum Corner.

VII. Data Dive - General Enrollment Numbers and Class Offerings

Superintendent Swayne compared October Student Count enrollment numbers with current enrollment and reported that it remains fairly stable. PK is down by 3 students (43 / 40), K-5 is up by 1 (126 / 127) and JH/HS is done by 4 (134 / 130).

Mrs. Walker reported on what LCC classes will be offered to SHS students for 2nd semester. These include: Building Trades, DL General Psychology, College Trigonometry, Intro to Literature and College Speech. There will be no college government or calculus offered in the 2nd semester. She gave a brief clarification on Concurrent Enrollment VS Satellite Campus and the benefits to Springfield students.

VIII. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

A. Springfield Elementary Staff Conversations

Mrs. Tanisha Hinds and Mrs. Christa Ricker, addressed the Board as spokespersons for the entire Springfield Elementary staff. They read a letter authored through a collaborative effort of staff members. The letter discussed the effects of unstable and chaotic environments, adverse childhood experiences, and poverty on some of our students. Their objective is to raise awareness of the reality of teaching these students and ask the board to work alongside staff as they try to come up with creative solutions for our most challenging students. Discussion followed which formulated the next steps of establishing leadership direction and developing a public-private partnership in the form of a committee, with the process starting in January, 2024.

B. Homework Discussion

Director Heath Piper spoke about his desire to cultivate positive perceptions of the Springfield School District. There was discussion about what is seen, heard and understood about policy and practice of student homework. The board agreed that a committee and more research at all levels should be established to continue this discussion.

C. Historical Trophies

Superintendent Swayne talked about the large number of trophies that are currently in storage. In preparation to move into the new facility, she asked the board to help determine what to do with the trophies, some dating back over 50 years. The board directed Ms. Swayne to create rules for display and standards to establish a practice to rotate current trophies. The current cache of old trophies will be offered to the public or repurposed when possible.

D. Account Closure

The school has an open account specific to Anthem Health Insurance. This is not a necessary account. The account that insurance should be paying out of is our Fund 10 General Fund. Darrell Mackey made a motion to close Account #205000924 at Community State Bank. Jeremy West seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

E. Mill Levy Certification Timeline

The timeline to receive final valuations, figure mill levy rates, and approve those has been adapted this December. This will require a special meeting before January 10, 2024, to evaluate and certify the mill levy. Superintendent Swayne recommended a special meeting on Monday, January 8, 2024 at 7:30 a.m. The board agreed to this date.

F. Playground Equipment

The used playground equipment on the north and west of the existing elementary building will have to be removed. Direction from the board for the disposal of this used equipment was to sale by auction. Darrell Mackey made a motion to declare the used playground equipment surplus property, eligible for sale. Heath Piper seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

G. 1st Reading of Resolution on Sustainability and the Design and Construction of High Performance Schools

Jeremy West made a motion to approve 1st reading of the Resolution on Sustainability and the Design and Construction of High Performance Schools. Heath Piper seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

IX. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Principal Reports

Mrs. Montoya, Elementary Principal, reviewed her written December Admin Report. She reported an enrollment of 127 and attendance at 90%. December 8th was Family Reading Night with over 60 students and parents attending. Students of the Month were recognized with ice cream dessert and special seating in the commons dining area. The combined K-12 winter concert was exceptional with many positive comments from parents and community. In a compassionate endeavor, the 4th grade students have hosted donation boxes at the elementary for clothing for the Care Closet and toys to donate to families in need. The Good Grief group made hand crafted hand ornaments of their loved ones to place on their trees at home. Good Grief group will return in the spring.

Mrs. Walker, Jr. /Sr. High Principal, discussed items from her written report. An evacuation drill was held on December 7. It went smooth for a first run and helped identify some issues to iron out. Career Choice interviews were rescheduled due to the snow days. She reported that students working on online credit recovery classes have passed and recovered credits. The RL Ballard Tournament had good attendance and under Mrs. Self's leadership the FBLA & FCCLA organizations had very successful concessions. Christmas treat bags have been prepared for every JH/HS student to take home.

B. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Swayne gave a verbal report. She expressed how proud she was of the amazing winter concert performance. Many positive comments have been received. She reported that there looks to be 2 to 4 new enrollees on the group health insurance plan. Primarily as a result of the board's action to increase the employer share of the premium. The staff work day on Friday, Dec. 22 is a task based day. The leadership team will meet all morning and employees are free to leave for the holiday when semester grades are completed. Staff will return on January 8 with a professional development day that will consist of education camp style learning centers in the morning and Crisis Management in the afternoon. During the holiday break, there will be 3 days of campus wide planned power outages.

C. Board Forum/ Comments

Director Esch gave a shout out to the SUPPORT group for the amazing activities they have been doing for the school, students and staff. She also commented on how much more visible the Booster Club is.

Director Piper suggested that someone speak with construction about relocating some materials to another area to help with student safety and inquired if the blue storage container and recycling bin could be relocated.

Director Esch read a thank you from the Mona Myer's family for the flower arrangement sent to Mrs. Myer's memorial service. A card was received from the Springfield Preschool Team thanking the school board and administration for the generous Christmas bonus, and a Christmas card from Mrs. Kathy Self was read expressing her thankfulness for the Christmas gift, everyone's helpfulness and the opportunity to teach in the district.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Session 1: The Board will convene in executive session pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b) to conference with the Board's attorneys for the purpose of receiving legal advice on a pending litigation matter, specifically *Roane v. Springfield School District RE-4, Court Case No. 23CV30010*.

Session 2: The board will meet in an executive session pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(g) and 24-72-204(3)(a)(XI)(a) to consider documents protected by the mandatory non-disclosure provision of the Colorado Open Records Act. The particular matter(s) for discussion is the content of letters of reference & recommendations for Substitute Staff, and Classroom Support Staff for 2023-2024.

Jennifer Esch made a motion to enter Executive Session. Jeremy West seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Superintendent Swayne was invited into the Executive Sessions. The board entered Executive Session 1 at 8:51 p.m.

The board returned to Regular Session at 9:37 p.m.

XI. ACT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION(S)

No action was taken.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Jennifer Esch made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Darrell Mackey seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

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Tyler Gibson, President Jeremy West, Vice President

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Jennifer Esch, Secretary Heath Piper, Treasurer

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Darrell Mackey, Director