OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Big Horn County School District No. 3
7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 12, 2024

A. Work Session November 6, 2024 5:30 p.m.

B. Welcome

1. The regular meeting of the Board of Education, Big Horn County School District No. 3, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on November 12, 2024 by Board Chairman Bette Rae Jones

2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by William Robertson.

3. Roll Call: Bette Rae Jones, Sandra Menke, Lynette Murray, Pam Flitner, William Robertson, Mark Fritz, Mart Hinckley, Sara Schlattmann,

   Absent: Todd Dalin

   Guests: Tanya LaBossiere, Cadance Wipplinger, Michelle Arnett, Diana Stephens, Mike Whaley, Cord Edeler, Grainger Russell, Mataia Henderson, Shelby Hunt, Lynn Forcella, Aleksey McColloch, Fatima Chavez, Lucia Garcia, Shawn August, Camila Acuna

4. Leadership Moment

Board Chairman Bette Rae Jones presented the board members with a handout entitled "What Will Matter" by Michael Josephson. She referred to the Seven Habits for Highly Effective People Book by Stephen Covey/Habit #2: Begin With the End in Mind. She read the handout and followed by mentioning she would take volunteers for the leadership moment presentation for December.

C. Agenda Additions/Deletions/Adoptions

Chairman Jones asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Superintendent Fritz stated there were three additions. Those additions included: the FFA Presentation to E. Audience and Communications section and student photographs to E. Board Discussion. Two items were deleted from the agenda: Private Road Approval and the Audit Report, both under New Business.

It was moved by Mart Hinckley and seconded by Pam Flitner to approve the November Board Meeting Agenda with the changes.

The motion carried unanimously.

D. Consent Agenda

1. Approval of regular board minutes of October 8, 2024.

2. Approval of Bills

Approve General Fund checks #43649 through #43786 inclusive, totaling $344,029.43; Payroll Fund checks #30415 through #30416 inclusive totaling $500,135.41; Lunch Fund ACH Transfer, totaling $30,689.02; Major Maintenance Fund ACH Transfer, totaling $30,666.05; Activity Fund ACH Transfer, totaling $8,956.03; Federal Fund ACH Transfer, totaling $5,264.72.

It was moved by Pam Flitner and seconded by Lynette Murray to approve the consent agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

E. Audience and Communication

1. Community Remarks

There were none.

2. Yearbook State Champion Presentation

Lynn Forcella attended the meeting with several members of the yearbook staff to give a presentation on the results of the State Journalism Convention they attended in Casper on October 28th. The 2023-2024 Yearbook received honors as the 1A/2A Overall All State Champion, as well as sweeping the awards for photography, writing and yearbook layout. She thanked the community, board and the administration for the incredible support of the program. Mrs. Forcella reviewed the theme and design elements of the yearbook. She commented her staff was very committed to the project and even came in after school was out in May to finish the project. She said she has a great staff and is excited for the up and coming students for next year. Board Chairman Jones asked about the ads in the yearbook. Mrs. Forcella explained the process of selling advertising and added that surveys are sent out to the businesses after ads sales in the hope they get feedback on how well they did and how they can improve.

3. High School Student Council

The High School Student Council report was given by Grainger Russell. Mr. Russell informed the board about the activities which took place during Red Ribbon Week. This week, he explained they were involved in Veterans Day Wall project. He invited the board to come in and view the wall. He shared in the upcoming week, several members will be attending the state convention in Riverton. He added it is a great opportunity for schools to share ideas. Mr. Russell and Lucia Garcia will be involved in putting on a workshop based on Homecoming and sharing their ideas with other schools and hopefully gaining some new ideas they can incorporate into the high school festivity.

4. Middle School Teacher of the Month and Champion of the Month

Middle School Principal Cadance Wipplinger introduced Diana Stephens as the Middle School Champion of the Month. She stated Mrs. Stephens has been a paraprofessional in the district for the last 16 years and how valuable she is to their school. She is a team player and cares not only for the students, but also the staff and will do whatever it takes to support the Middle School. Mrs. Stephens was presented with a Buff Champion plaque by board member Lynette Murray. Principal Wipplinger then introduced Michelle Arnett as the Middle School Teacher of the Month. Mrs. Arnett is in her sixth year of teaching, two of those being at the middle school. Mrs. Wipplinger commented that Mrs. Arnett is the best version of herself every day. She has a great growth mindset. This year Mrs. Arnett took on an additional responsibility which consisted of classes for the FFA Program, as well as teaching sixth and seventh grade science. Mrs. Arnett was presented with a Buff Champion plaque by board member Sandi Menke.

5. FFA Presentation

FFA Officers Mataia Henderson, Shelby Hunt and Cord Edeler reported to the board concerning the activities the team has been involved in so far this year and upcoming activities. They attended the NILE Livestock Judging in Billings in October where the judging team placed 45th out of 300 teams. The State Officer visited on October 2nd and were a part of the Trunk or Treat activity on main street on October 31st. They plan to attend the Leadership Conference in Casper, Wyoming this coming weekend. William Robertson commented that even in Paris, France, the FFA Organization is represented. He saw a student from Ohio wearing his FFA jacket which Mr. Robertson stated he thought at the time, showed confidence and leader-ship-exemplified! Mrs. Arnett, FFA Sponsor, explained what some of the conferences offer for students as well as what her classes in agriculture consist of.. A short discussion followed.

F. Reports

1. Clerk's Report

Clerk Lynette Murray reviewed the information in the Clerk's Report which included the board work session which was held on November 6th, the Veterans Day Assembly on November 11th and the upcoming WSBA Annual Conference on November 20-22, 2024 in Casper. She asked if there were any committee reports. William Robertson reported that the BOCES Committee had met and approved funding for the Missoula Children's Theater and the Cold But Cozy Program at the Elementary School. Pam Flitner shared some of the board members had attended the International Crimes Against Children presentation put on by Daniel Brown in the high school auditorium which was excellent. She would like to see the school get parents involved in such a presentation in the future. Superintendent Fritz stated the plan is to invite Mr. Brown back at the beginning of next school year and incorporate the presentation into the open houses which are held at the schools. A short discussion followed.

2. Elementary Report

Elementary Principal Tanya LaBossiere reviewed the information in the board packet. She had attended an administrative meeting in Casper and AI was one of the subjects. There were very good speakers at the meeting. She stated the month of October had been very busy. She added there were 15-16 businesses involved in the Trunk or Treat activity at the Elementary School. The Elementary Student Council held a very successful Haunted House fundraiser in cooperation with Three Rivers Clinic. Mrs. LaBossiere reported the Elementary School had a 93% turnout for Parent/Teacher Conferences. The Kindergarten classes recently visited the Buffalo Bill Center of the West with a focus on art designed for younger children. The fourth grade is the spotlight class of the month. Mrs. LaBossiere also spoke about the new format for report cards at the Elementary, which are standards based. Lastly, she added the whole school was involved in a CLUE game during Red Ribbon Week and it was very successful and enjoyed by all.

3. Middle School Report

Principal Cadance Wipplinger informed the board the Lego League had begun practices and they will be completing projects to enter in the state competition in December. Participation numbers for girls' basketball is twenty-four and for wrestling twenty-five. She stated they had 83% participation in the Parent/Teacher Conferences. Their spotlight class of the month is math. Additional activities for the month were Red Ribbon Week, Caught Being Good Celebration at the corn maze in Clark, Wyoming, and the Veterans Day Assembly. Principal Wipplinger is very proud and pleased to take the students to activities. Their behavior is very good and they represent our school well. They have added a GMS Honor Display to celebrate student successes. Mrs. Decker arranged interviews with 10 local veterans. She feels it is very good generationally for those students.

4. High School Report

Principal Flock was ill and did not attend the meeting, but his report was included in the board packet.

5. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Fritz informed the board about the items in his report which included information on the Mental Health Board Grant which will not be renewed this year. Those affected by the loss of these funds will be given options from the Mental Heath Board. Included in the report was also swatting calls to six school districts in the state. The local police have been informed and drills will be carried out if the school receives such a call. William Robertson asked if the building secretaries have been notified. A short discussion followed. The facility five-year plan was given at the work session, but Superintendent Fritz asked if there were any questions concerning the report. The delegate assembly voting information for the board members who will be attending the upcoming conference and the CREG report from the state were also included in his report. William Robertson had a question concerning how the delegate voting happens and an explanation was given. Superintendent Fritz also explained the resolution which was submitted from our school district that will be voted on at the conference. He then reviewed the contents in the CREG report. A short discussion followed.

6. Financial Report

District Business Manager Sara Schlattmann asked if the board had any questions concerning the General Fund Financial Report and the Treasurer's Report. She stated the school district had received a large amount of money from the county which normally happens this time of the year. She feels the district is in good shape. She added the ESSER Funds have all been spent. Chairman Jones asked about upcoming projects and what the criteria were for getting bids. Project estimates which are above $50,000.00 must be bid out.

G. Old Business

There was none.

H. New Business

1. Information

Superintendent Fritz shared the calendar, district enrollment and the community musical information.

2. Donations

Superintendent Fritz reviewed the donation made to the district for the month of October which was a $300.00 donation from Freier Properties for the school lunch program. It was moved by William Robertson and seconded by Sandi Menke to approve the donations as presented. Lynette Murray asked if thank you cards were sent out to those who donate. This information will be added to the marquis outside the high school and Sara Schlattmann added she reports to Mrs. Freier how many student lunch balances are cleared due to their donation. Lynette Murray suggested the donations be listed on upcoming sports programs.

The motion carried unanimously.

3. Home School Recognition

Superintendent Fritz reviewed the information concerning the registrations for home-schooled students. It was moved by Pam Flitner and seconded by Mart Hinckley to recognize the home school registrations as presented. A discussion followed.

The motion carried unanimously.

4. Leadership Governance

Superintendent Fritz reviewed Board Governance Policy 2.7 Instruction. A motion was made by Mart Hinckley and seconded by Sandi Menke to reaffirm the Board Governance policies as presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

5. Personnel

Superintendent Fritz explained there were two recommendations for openings for personnel. Dawn Ward was recommended for a bus route position and Bailee Foster for the assistant speech coach position After taking a few moments to review the applications and recommendations, a motion was made by Mart Hinckley and seconded by Lynette Murray to accept the recommendations.

The motion carried unanimously.

6. WSBA Conference

Superintendent Fritz reviewed the schedule for the upcoming WSBA Conference in Casper on November 20-22, 2024. Included with the conference agenda was also the delegate assembly voting items and the Wyoming Federal Cohort Graduation Rate Guidebook.

7. Facility Five-Year Plan

Superintendent Fritz mentioned the five-year plan for the facilities which was discussed at the November work session, But asked if the board members had any questions.

8. Superintendent's Evaluation

Chairman Jones explained the superintendent's evaluation is listed on the Governing Monitoring Matrix as taking place in November, but it will be done in June 2025 as well as the board evaluation in July 2025. A motion was made by Mart Hinckley and seconded by Lynette Murray to approve the dates of the evaluations as presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

6. Board Work Session

Superintendent Fritz shared the information of the next board meeting being on December 10, 2024 and the proposed work session on December 5th at 5:30 p.m.

I. Board Member Open Discussion

Superintendent Fritz noted the submission of photos taken by the yearbook's staff for the board thank you cards. Pam Flitner mentioned in the past, artwork from the students was mentioned for use on these cards. Superintendent Fritz explained it has been a long process to get the photographs and they are ready to send in digitally for the cards and would work very nicely. Student artwork for additional cards can be discussed in the future. A discussion followed.

J. Executive Session

A motion was made by William Robertson and seconded by Mart Hinckley to move to executive session at 8:30 p.m. after a short break. Motion carried unanimously.

Oath of Office – Superintendent Fritz issued the Oath of Office to newly elected board members Pam Flitner, Bette Rae Jones and Mike Whaley. Todd Dalin will be given the Oath of Office the following day due to his absence at the meeting.

The board recessed into executive session to discuss matters considered confidential by law and reconvened into regular session at 9:25 p.m. Note that no action was taken and minutes were sealed in a secure location.

K. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Sandi Menke and seconded by Mart Hinckley to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

Bette Rae Jones

Bette Rae Jones, Chairman

Lynette Murray

Lynette Murray, Clerk

Recorded by: Tina Spragg