

WEST VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
West Valley School, Conference Room, 5:00PM
January 9, 2017

Board Members Present

Stephanie Nadasi
Wendy Field
Jane Wheeler
Rochelle Nicholson
Cory Hill

Board Members Absent

None

Also present

Cal Ketchum, Superintendent
Cindy Foley, District Clerk
Guests in attendance: Erin Grieco, Tina Blair, Brent Benkelman and Renell Wilson.

Chairman Nadasi called the meeting to order at 5:00PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Nadasi led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Jane Wheeler moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Wendy Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MONTHLY BILLS

Rochelle Nicholson moved to approve the January bills totaling \$110,556.70. Cory Hill seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE/GUESTS/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

WEST VALLEY PTO

Nothing to report.

WEST VALLEY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Erin Grieco shared that the negotiations team representing the WVTEA has been meeting and collecting data to share with the Board.

Renell Wilson presented to the Board on activities involving the Library, for example Google Classroom and how teachers and students use this in collaboration on assignments. She stated how much she enjoys the library and daily sees just how completely the entire building is being

used by students and staff. She thanked the Board for their efforts with the school facilities. Mrs. Wilson shared pictures of the "Little Free Library" that has been built and is being filled up with donated books from staff and students. The "Little Free Library" will be located in the Pleasant Hill Subdivision. She would like to have more located in other areas within the West Valley School District.

PRINCIPAL REPORT

Principal Benkelman shared STAR testing had begun in the primary grades and the data will be meaningful to see how students have progressed over the first semester; a team of staff members will be attending an assessment conference in Missoula on 1.21.17 concerning the SBAC and CRT Science; and non-tenured teachers receive two evaluations during the year and he will be doing evaluations on 9 non-tenured teachers.

Tina Blair shared that ski trips have begun for 5th grades through PE; Mr. Pollard is planning the History Trip for May 17-19; the overnight "Stay In" for girls is being coordinated by Mrs. Brinton; and on the "red flag" days, where students are staying in due to cold, they have all been doing really well.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Ketchum shared Victoria Bedell, Sped Director for the Flathead Special Education Cooperative, had presented to the NW Supt's regarding the high rate of fetal alcohol in the valley and how that affects student with emotional disturbance. She is working on a program for emotionally disturbed students in K-1, in conjunction with the Intermountain Children's School, and they are looking for a site on the west side of the valley and wondering about West Valley hosting. There would be 6-8 students from area schools and the program would be run by Intermountain. Mr. Ketchum shared this was just in the information and beginning stage at this point with nothing being ready for board approval.

Mr. Ketchum stated that area legislators met with administrators in our area on education issues that will be going before the legislature, including cuts to all areas of the budget, including education; that the pre-kindergarten program introduced by Governor Bullock in the past session was not on the table at all; Mr. Ketchum will continue to update the board on bills as they go through the legislature; February 13 is the Day of Advocacy in Helena and Superintendent Ketchum plans on attending; upcoming workshops through the MTSBA are Human Resources on February 8th and Budget on March 2nd; Mr. Ketchum will be attending the American Association of School Administrators Conference in New Orleans in March as he was awarded a scholarship through School Administrators of Montana; and the administrators will be meeting with Board members, 1 and 2 at a time, to review needs for next year for personnel and professional development.

Phil Jackson had CEC come in to do an assessment of lighting in the building to see if there were some rebates and incentives that the district may benefit from.

The Superintendent shared that the current evaluation module being used, EPAS, has a component for Superintendent Evaluation that is all inclusive with personal goals, goals for the school, and is more comprehensive than what is currently being used.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Out of District Student Attendance Agreement – TD, attending SD5

Cindy Foley stated TD has been attending school in SD5 since the beginning of the 16/17 school year as an out of district student. Recommendation would be to acknowledge receipt of this attendance agreement.

Wendy Field moved to acknowledge receipt of the Out of District Student Attendance Agreement for TD. Jane Wheeler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Boys/Girls Activity Acct – Remove April Snell, Add Brooke Ells as signer

The Clerk shared that with Brooke Ells moving into the Administrative Assistant position with April Snell's resignation, it makes sense to remove April from the account and add Brooke as a signer on the Boys/Girls Acct.

Jane Wheeler moved to approve removing April Snell and adding Brooke Ells as a signer on the Boys/Girls Activity Acct. Wendy Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. New Hire: Michelle Hensley, Assistant Secretary/Attendance Clerk

Cindy Foley shared that interviews were done for the Assistant Secretary/Attendance Clerk position and the team recommends Michelle Hensley for the position. An approved background check has been received and a credit check is being performed.

Rochelle Nicholson moved to approve the hiring of Michelle Hensley. Cory Hill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Board Negotiation Committee Appointees
Health Insurance Committee Appointee

Jane Wheeler stated she would like to be on the Health Insurance Committee and Wendy Field and Stephanie Nadasi expressed their interest in being on the Negotiations Committee.

Cory Hill moved to approve the committee appointees as discussed. Rochelle Nicholson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Superintendent Evaluation – Possible Closed Session in accordance with
Section, 2-3-203, MCA

Chairperson Nadasi determined that due to the Superintendents Evaluation being a matter of individual privacy and that the demands of individual privacy clearly exceed the merits of public disclosure, the meeting is being called into Executive Session at 5:50 pm.

The Board returned to opened session at 6:59pm.

Jane Wheeler moved to table the acceptance of the Superintendent's evaluation until a later meeting with a date to be determined. Wendy Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

None

ADJOURNMENT

Rochelle Nicholson moved to adjourn at 7:01PM. Wendy Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.



Stephanie Nadasi, Board Chairman



Cindy Foley, District Clerk