

WEST VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
West Valley School, Conference Room, 5:00PM
February 13, 2017

Board Members Present

Stephanie Nadasi
Jane Wheeler
Rochelle Nicholson
Cory Hill

Board Members Absent

Wendy Field

Also present

Cal Ketchum, Superintendent

Cindy Foley, District Clerk

Guests in attendance: Mark Wilson, Tina Blair, Brent Benkelman, Bethany Knudsen, Tania Kalenga, Marycaye Dover, Brinn Romagnuolo, Erin Bodman, Tara Measure, Melanie Ruonavaara, Charlene Iannucci, and Erin Grieco.

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. Cory Hill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MONTHLY BILLS

Rochelle Nicholson moved to approve the January 17, 2017 bills totaling \$2,333.33 and the February bills totaling \$172,071.36. Jane Wheeler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE/GUESTS/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

WEST VALLEY PTO

Nothing to report.

WEST VALLEY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Brinn Romagnuolo shared that a calendar committee of Wendy Schwartz, Clay Keller, Alesia LaRoque, and Kathleen Johnson will help prepare the 17/18 calendar with the administration, and the negotiations team will be ready to meet with Board representatives after March 15.

Bethay Knudsen and Tania Kalenga shared that 4th grade classrooms are doing a rotating schedule through social studies, science, and reading/writing 4 times per week, in order to better prepare students moving into the middle school grades. They feel this process has been very beneficial and helpful for the students to move in their core group.

Mark Wilson updated the Board concerning Lit Fiber Internet Services and the process the district is using through E-Rate requesting bids/RFP's. Bids will be opened on February 22nd at 4:01 pm and a recommendation will be made to the Board for approval at the March 13, 2017 Board Meeting. Mr. Wilson shared we currently max out at 30 MBPS for our internet bandwidth and with the Lit Fiber we would have the potential to be at 100MBPS. The total cost of installation is estimated at \$40,000 with E-Rate picking up half of that. Ongoing costs would be approximately \$200/month down from \$300/month.

Cory Hill shared his son was a state speech/debate champ for Glacier High School as a sophomore. He thanked the teachers in the room, as his son had been a student here.

PRINCIPAL REPORT

Principal Benkelman shared STAR testing results are currently being reviewed in the primary grades; Nelia Solberg trainings continue at all grade level in the district, with focus on helping teachers prepare students for SBAC testing and English/Language Arts at the middle school level; Mr. Benkelman and Mrs. Blair attended a training concerning setting the groundwork for Gifted/Talented programs at West Valley and policy concerning that; Tina Blair stated eighth graders took the Gates Test for class placement at the high school level; eighth graders also attended Graduation Matters hosted at the Fairgrounds; the final ski trip of the year is next week; a representative from the Sheriff's department will present to students on Cyber Bullying; and the snow sculpture contest for the middle school students was a great success.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Ketchum shared that Kalispell Toyota made a donation to the school of approximately \$660.00 which will go towards the electronic sign; the district received an Exxon Mobile Grant of \$500 to go towards Math curriculum; February 24th there are meetings with a representative from AdvancEd for administrators, board members, and staff; Charlene Iannucci is reviewing various math curriculum for future adoption; the cost to purchase versus lease is being reviewed concerning one to one devices at the middle school level; the calendar committee will meet on February 22nd and the proposed calendar will be given to the Board for approval at their April meeting; Sarah Matdies, Molly Roe and husband, Brent Benkelman, Mark Wilson, and Mr. Ketchum did the Polar Plunge into Whitefish Lake on behalf of Special Olympics raising approximately \$2,000; Science Fair is March 15th and judges are needed from 11:00 to 4:30; Mr. Ketchum applied for a Roundup for Safety Grant in order to get scanners on the front doors that is programmed for both the security and fire alarms; a lighting audit will be done on 2/20/17; Kirk Miller, Executive Director of School Administrators of Montana, asked if Mr. Ketchum would be interested in running for President of MASS, as well as being on a steering committee for the national committee representing rural schools; March 13 and 14 Mr. Ketchum will be in Helena for the MASS meeting; and the Spring Student Count for ANB was shared with an increase in enrollment of 10 students from the fall count, for a total enrollment of 601 students.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Non-Renew, J. Tikka

Chairman Nadasi recognized Melanie Ruonavaara who had requested to read a letter of support for the continued employment of Ms. Tikka, as well as Tara Measure who spoke in support of Ms. Tikka.

Mr. Ketchum recommended Janie Tikka be non-renewed, without cause pursuant to 20-4-206 MCA, for the 2017-18 school year.

Rochelle Nicholson moved to non-renew Janie Tikka. Jane Wheeler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Call for Election - Trustee & Appointment of Election Judges

Mail Ballot Written Plan, Timetable and Instructions

Cindy Foley presented to the Board the date of May 2, 2017 for an election to elect 1 trustee for a three year term, to appoint Michael Fraser, Don Garner, and Sharon Tikka as election judges, and to conduct the election by mail ballot. If it is later determined that any portion of the election is not required, the Board of Trustees authorizes Cindy Foley, election administrator, to cancel that portion of the election in accordance with 13-1-304 and 20-3-313, MCA.

Jane Wheeler moved to approve the Call for Election, appointment of judges, as well as conducting the election by mail ballot, as presented. Cory Hill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Surplus Sale of Floor Scrubber

Mr. Ketchum shared the desire to sell an outdated floor scrubber and purchase a new one for the facility.

Jane Wheeler approved the surplus sale of the floor scrubber. Cory Hill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Out of District Student Attendance Agreement(s)-JF, MC

Cindy Foley stated one of these students recently moved out of district, but wants to continue at West Valley, and the other student is out of district and new to our district. Tuition has been paid and the administration recommends the approval of the Attendance Agreements.

Rochelle Nicholson moved to approve the Out of District Student Attendance Agreement(s) for JF and MC. Jane Wheeler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Out of District Student Attendance Agreement(s) – WVSD students attending Evergreen SD

Cindy Foley stated 7 Attendance Agreements were received for West Valley resident students attending school at Evergreen Schools since the beginning of the 16/17 school year. Recommendation would be to acknowledge receipt of these attendance agreements.

Rochelle Nicholson moved to acknowledge receipt of the attendance agreements. Cory Hill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Snow Day – Unforeseen Emergency, 20-9-806 MCA

The Superintendent requested board approval to use the 1 unforeseen emergency day allowed per MCA towards the Snow Day taken on February 6, 2017. He further stated that we not require certified staff to come back and fulfill this day contractually due to the many hours put in on a regular basis. Should the district have another Snow Day, we could utilize the April 17th day if needed for both students and staff.

Cory Hill moved to accept the Snow Day – Unforeseen Emergency for use on February 6th. Jane Wheeler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

7. Crystal Thurman's Intent to return for the 17/18SY

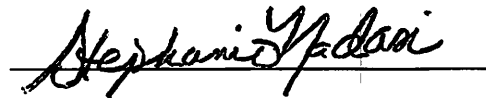
Mr. Ketchum shared he was in receipt of a letter from Ms. Thurman indicating her return for the 17/18 school year.

8. Health Insurance Committee Report

Cindy Foley shared the committee had met on February 1st; a survey was formulated and given to staff regarding current insurance and potential changes; a health statement will be given to staff and retirees on 2/16/17 in order to receive quotes from various health insurance companies; and as a member of the Consortium Board Mrs. Foley had requested an actuarial review be done in order to determine the soundness of the Consortium and potential increases in premium. The next meeting of the Health Insurance Committee is March 8th at 3:40pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Rochelle Nicholson moved to adjourn at 6:12pm. Jane Wheeler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.



Stephanie Nadasi, Board Chairman



Cindy Foley, District Clerk