

WEST VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
West Valley School, Conference Room, 5:00PM
April 10, 2017

Board Members Present

Stephanie Nadasi
Rochelle Nicholson
Wendy Field

Board Members Absent

Jane Wheeler
Cory Hill

Also present

Cal Ketchum, Superintendent
Cindy Foley, District Clerk
Guests in attendance: Erin Grieco, Kathleen Johnson, Jo Kowalka, Kathleen Johnson, Tad Lisowski, Clay Keller, Jake Loveless, Tina Blair, Brent Benkelman, Sara Hall, Erin Bodman, and Marycaye Dover

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Nadasi led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Wendy Field moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Rochelle Nicholson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MONTHLY BILLS

Rochelle Nicholson moved to approve the April, 2017 bills totaling \$156,992.39. Wendy Field seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE/GUESTS/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

WEST VALLEY PTO

Nothing to report.

WEST VALLEY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Erin Grieco stated that she and Brinn Romagnuolo had met with Administrators and discussed the question of adding 3 more minutes to the student day, and asked about the possibility of the teacher contracts being converted to minutes, rather than days.

Marycaye and Erin Bodman recognized 15 families who went to State Science Fair and thanked them for their participation. She also noted the Rocket Rally for 7/8 grade students will occur on May 24, 25 at Glacier High School.

Kathleen Johnson, Jo Kowalka, Jake Loveless, and Sara Hall shared it has been an exciting year in kindergarten with the use of Lucy Calkins and the Starfall reading curriculum, as well as jumping into Starfall Math, which aligns curriculum with the Common Core. Students are using various strategies to problem solve and having fun doing it.

PRINCIPAL REPORT

Mr. Benkelman noted that Cross Country had started with the first meet being April 11 at West Valley; Missoula Children's Theatre auditions began on the 10th, with performances on April 15; Mrs. Blair noted that SBAC testing is currently underway with students in grades 5/6; STREAM training will end on 4/12 for those teachers who have been participating this year; science standards will go into effect in July and Erin Bodman will be meeting with K-5 teachers to begin some curriculum work with them.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Ketchum noted a new key fob entry system will be up and running very soon with \$3,000 received from Roundup for Safety helping to pay for that and the balance will come from the Building Fund; West Valley was approved to participate in the AdvancED program, with a workshop in Bozeman in July to begin the process. Mr. Ketchum got to participate in a review using AdvancED at Shodair in Helena recently and found the process very interesting; SB307 was finalized at the legislature which allows for flexibility in permissive levies in various budgeted funds and the district has submitted the required public notice; Mrs. VanHelden did a fantastic job with the spring concert for band and choir; the electronic reader board will be installed over the summer at a cost of \$27,000, with the PTO contributing approximately \$12,000 and the balance will come from the Building Fund; Run Fight, Hide training will occur August 30th for all staff and it is given by local law enforcement; Mr. Ketchum was voted in as the President Elect for MASS which is a 3 year commitment; and there are 39 kids currently registered for Kindergarten Roundup on April 20th.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. 17/18SY School Calendar

Superintendent Ketchum presented a draft of the proposed calendar to the Board showing start and end dates of August 31, 2017 and June 8, 2018; there are proposed late starts on Friday's for students, with teachers having time for grade level meetings; snow make up days would be February 19 or April 23, 2018. Mr. Ketchum requested this proposed calendar be tabled as there is more work to be done on the calendar.

Rochelle Nicholson moved to table the school calendar. Wendy Field seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

2. Interlocal Agreement - FSEC Severe Communications Disorders Program

Cindy Foley shared that participation and placement fees will be paid by the Flathead Special Education Coop, with the district paying out of district tuition for a student placed in the Severe

Communications Disorders Program. Tuition would be paid by permissive levy through the Tuition Fund in the following year. The district would need to be a participant in the program, prior to the need for student placement.

Wendy Field moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement with the Severe Communication Disorders Program. Rochelle Nicholson seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

3. 17/18 Tuition Rates

Cindy Foley shared the current Board approved tuition rate for 16/17 is \$1050.00. The State has not yet set the rate for 17/18, but the 16/17 rate was \$1088.00. By law, the district can't charge more and the Board could elect to keep the rate the same at \$1050.00.

Rochelle Nicholson moved to approve the 17/18 Tuition Rate at \$1050.00. Wendy Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Out of District Student Attendance Agreement - HL Crossroads Program

The Clerk shared that HL had attended the Crossroads Program for approximately 6 weeks at the beginning of the school year, while residing in the West Valley District. This was a district placement. Recommendation would be to approve the attendance agreement

Rochelle Nicholson moved to approve the Out of District Attendance Agreement for HL. Wendy Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Superintendent's Contract, three years

Cal Ketchum proposed a three year contract, as he is in his last year of a three year contract. He requested the same increase on the base as the certified staff negotiates, a decrease in contracted days from 245 down to 240 in the 17/18 year, and 235 in the 18/19 and 19/20 years. He also requested the option of selling back up to 10 vacation days at the end of the school year, which is in his current contract. The Board discussed keeping the contract at 245 days, the option of a one year contract, as well as waiting to see where negotiations go with the Certified Staff.

Wendy Field moved to keep with the same contract for the Superintendent at 245 days, the same increase on the base that is negotiated with the Certified Staff, 3 year contract, with up to 10 day vacation day sell back. Rochelle Nicholson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Principal's Salary Schedule

Mr. Ketchum proposed an increase to the base on the Principal Salary Schedule that is 10% higher than the top paid teacher, which is currently \$69,053.00 for a 187 day contract, for a starting rate of \$76,000.00. He further requested a change from a 210 day contract to a 202 day contract. Currently a first year Principal would make \$69,000 on a 210 day contract for a daily rate of \$328.57. Principals do not receive stipends for a Master's or PhD, nor do they receive incentive increases for taking more credits.

Stephanie Nadasi shared the estimated budget for next school year is lean and without settling yet with the Union, does not feel comfortable approving the proposed salary schedule.

Rochelle Nicholson moved to table the Principal's Salary Schedule until negotiations are finished. Wendy Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Business Manager/District Clerk Evaluation - Possible Closed Session in accordance with Section, 2-3-203, MCA

At 6:01pm Chairman Nadasi determined that due to the Business Manager/District Clerk Evaluation being a matter of individual privacy, and that the demands of individual privacy clearly exceed the merits of public disclosure, the meeting will be called into Executive Session.

At 6:16 the Board returned to Regular Session.

Wendy Field moved to approve the Business Manager/Clerk Evaluation. Rochelle Nicholson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Rochelle Nicholson moved to approve the Closed Session Minutes. Wendy Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

8. Staff moving over on the Salary Schedule for 17/18SY

The Board was notified that Gena Wilson intends to move to BA+45 and Sarah Matdies intends to move to BA+15.

ADJOURNMENT

Wendy Field moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:19pm. Rochelle Nicholson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Stephanie Nadasi, Board Chairman

Cindy Foley, District Clerk