

WEST VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
West Valley School, Conference Room, 5:00PM
June 12, 2017

Board Members Present

Stephanie Nadasi
Cory Hill
Wendy Field
Jane Wheeler
Tad Lisowski

Board Members Absent

None

Also present

Cal Ketchum, Superintendent
Cindy Foley, District Clerk
Guests in attendance: Kallie Woods, Brinn Romagnuolo, Marycaye Dover, Tina Blair, and Brent Benkelman.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Nadasi led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Jane Wheeler noted the motion for Item #7 in the May 8, 2017 minutes, was not included. Cindy Foley stated she would review her notes and make sure that motion was included correctly in the minutes. Jane Wheeler moved to approve the Consent Agenda, with the correction as noted to the May 8, 2017 minutes. Wendy Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MONTHLY BILLS

Jane Wheeler moved to approve the Unum May 19, 2017 bill, totaling \$1248.12, the Capital One April 10, 2017 claim of .46, and the June 12, 2017 bills totaling \$129026.73. Tad Lisowski seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE/GUESTS/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Stephanie Nadasi, Board Chair, read policy concerning the public comment that is allowed.

Marycaye Dover requested to deliver sealed letters to school board members from students and a parent. Chairman Nadasi stated that staff members and students have to go through the Superintendent prior to going to the Board. Mr. Ketchum welcomed Ms. Dover to put the letters in his mailbox.

Brinn Romagnuolo addressed the Board in a letter concerning the contractual hours noted in the

Negotiated Agreement, versus the actual amount of time that teachers in general spend on their job. This was in response to a statement that teachers did not work an 8 hour day.

WEST VALLEY PTO

Nothing to report.

WEST VALLEY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Brinn Romagnuolo stated the grievance procedure in the CBA is incomplete and not clear. The Union wants an MOA to address this issue to make it clearer and add that to the CBA in the next negotiations session. She asked why the district and the WVTEA can't get together this summer to draw this up prior to school starting.

Ms. Romagnuolo asked when the staff will see the results of the Climate of the School survey that was conducted on 6/5/17. Mr. Ketchum shared he is presenting results to the Board at this meeting, noting the purpose of the survey was to get a feel of staff and students and what the district wants to do as a whole moving into the future. The survey was not just a check off of answers, but contains anecdotal notes and comments. Mr. Ketchum will share the results with the entire staff, once the Board has a chance to review. He feels there is useful information in this survey to help the school grow, as well as working with students to create leadership and growth within the student body.

Ms. Romagnuolo asked about a hiring committee for the K-4 principal position and Mr. Ketchum stated yes there is. Interview packets will be reviewed June 19, with determination on possible interviews made at that time.

The new WVTEA officers will take over in September and they are: Gena Wilson and Sarah Matdies, Co-Presidents, Wendy Schwarz, Vice-President, Melanie Ruonavaara, Secretary, and Renell Wilson, Treasurer.

PRINCIPAL REPORT

Principal Benkelman stated K-4 has had a strong finish to the school year; restructured the Sped Dept to better serve our kids amongst the 3 teachers and paraprofessionals with 1 teacher taking on K-5, 1 to serve 6-8, and one to provide a district wide life skills program; Go Math adoption is underway with teachers very excited about it; a goal for next year would be for the K-4 or K-8 staff to work on positive school climate and positive school behaviors with work on MBI. Mr. Benkelman informed the Board that he has accepted a principal position in Kalispell Schools for the 17/18 school year. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to work at West Valley. He has appreciated the collaboration with Mr. Ketchum and Mrs. Blair, and can't praise his staff enough.

Principal Blair shared a slide presentation using data from the 10/11 school year to the 16/17 school year to show where the district ranked on the CRT in Math and Reading moving from not meeting to proficiency in some years, to meeting in other years in certain subjects under the proficiency ratings with No Child Left Behind. She also compared data concerning the SBAC over the last 3 years in English/Language Arts in grades 7/8 and the proficiency rating between 71-75%. Our proficiency rating was higher when compared to other area schools that are similar

in size to West Valley. She noted that in the 17/18 school year there are required literature and reading courses for 7/8 grades, with Title support occurring in the middle school. SBAC proficiency ratings in 7/8 Math improved from 36 to 48%, with Math enhancements. In 17/18, Go Math will be used in the middle school, as well as Accelerated Math, Pre-Algebra, and Algebra. Other offerings include choir, coding, Engineering Academy, Engineering Rocket Rally, general music, guidance, health in a quarter rotation, literature/reading, and PE on an a/b schedule.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Ketchum reviewed a summer maintenance list which includes installation of the electronic reader board, electricity hook up for the gutters, conference room lights and ventilation, fixing water damage in a classroom, removal of some trees, curbing on the parking area on north end of the building, planting of native plants along the older part of the building and upgrading the planter areas.

Mr. Ketchum further noted he will be attending the AdvancEd training in Bozeman on June 20 along with Tina Blair, Vonnie McDonald, Becky Davis, Molly Roe and Gretchen Wick; MBI training will be in Bozeman the week of June 19 and he and Mrs. Blair are attending; district policy will be reviewed with Joe Brott and a Work Session will be scheduled with the Board; Pure Cleaning will be submitting a proposed contract by the end of June; Mr. Ketchum accepted the resignation of Erin Bodman who accepted a science position with Whitefish Middle School; and interviews for the science position will be held on June 16.

Mr. Ketchum shared the survey, "A School Culture of Student Engagement", from Ignite Nation, in conjunction with Office Depot. This is a no cost survey to collaborate with school leadership to develop shared beliefs, improve collegiality, and build a culture of student success. This survey was conducted through an informal audit utilizing data collection through surveys and discussions with students and staff. Dr. James Schafer spent an hour with various groups of staff members and students to compile the results for this survey.

Superintendent Ketchum wished Mr. Benkelman well in his future position with Kalispell Schools and stated he appreciated his work this year.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Kallie Woods – Boundary Line Adjustment from Olney/Bissell
Mrs. Woods shared she currently has a student attending West Valley as an out of district student, as their property is on Wendt Way. She stated when they purchased the property they had no idea what district they were in and it didn't matter to them as they loved the property. She requested the Board accept her property into West Valley School District through a boundary line adjustment with Olney/Bissell School District.

Mr. Ketchum stated that being a good neighbor to our border districts is very important, and if this property is adjusted and brought into West Valley then the Olney/Bissell District would lose students and part of their tax base.

Jane Wheeler moved to not approve the acquisition of this property into West Valley. Cory Hill

seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Revisit Ruling on Unruh Boundary Line Adjustment

The Board had approved this boundary line adjustment at the May Board Meeting. They considered their decision after learning that Olney/Bissell had denied the Unruh request and now the decision will go to Jack Eggensperger, County Superintendent for a hearing.

Cory Hill moved to let the vote stand from the last meeting. Wendy Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Summer Schedule

August 14th Board Meeting/Budget Meeting

Authorize Clerk to pay end of year bills and July bills

Authorize Clerk to approve transportation contracts

Jane Wheeler moved to approve the Summer Schedule as presented. Wendy Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Northwest Montana Schools' Health Consortium

-Multidistrict Interlocal Agreement

-Participation Agreement

-Participating District Board Member Appointee

Cindy Foley shared these agreements will be for a three year term, as they were when we originally joined the Consortium in 2014. She also noted she currently sits as the District Board Member Appointee

Wendy Field moved to approve the Multidistrict Interlocal Agreement and Participation Agreement for three years, and appoint Cindy Foley as the board member. Tad Lisowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

5. New Hires:

District Secretary – Laura Cox, as of June 1

Christian Wallace – Kindergarten, start August 28, 2017

Suzanne Hyatt – Part Time Food Asst, start August 29, 2017

Cory Hill moved to accept the new hires pending background checks. Wendy Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Michelle Hensley – Notary Designation

Cindy Foley requested the District have Michelle Hensley get her notary due to the number of folks needing immunization and proof of residency affidavits signed. Mrs. Hensley waits on these community members and it would be less interruption to the Business Manager.

Jane Wheeler moved to approve the notary designation for Michelle Hensley. Wendy Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Matt Pollard – Athletic Director 17/18SY

Mr. Ketchum shared Mr. Pollard had done a good job as AD in the current school year and would recommend him for the position in 17/18.

Wendy Field moved to approve Matt Pollard for AD for the 17/18SY. Cory Hill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Volleyball Coaches – 17/18SY: Teri Dierenfield and John Chisholm

Mr. Pollard recommends Mrs. Dierenfield and Mr. Chisholm to coach volleyball for the 17/18 school year.

Cory Hill moved to approve the Volleyball Coaches as presented. Tad Lisowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Out of District Student Attendance Agreement – State Placement

Cindy Foley shared 3-2172 was placed in the district by Child and Family Services and that the district can apply to the State for out of district tuition payment.

Jane Wheeler moved to approve the Out of District Student Attendance Agreement. Tad Lisowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Out of district Attendance Agreements – Moved out of district this spring

The Clerk shared that CC and CK lived in district until April 10, 2017, when they moved to another school district. The family has paid pro-rated tuition to remain in the district until the end of the school year and Mr. Ketchum has accepted the agreements.

Wendy Field moved to approve the Attendance Agreements for CC and CK. Cory Hill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Principal Salary Schedule

Superintendent Ketchum shared a proposed salary schedule which would increase the starting pay for a principal to \$72,000 up from \$69,000, to the top end at year six from \$83,097 to \$87,000. Principals would receive the same percentage increase as the certified staff, calculated on the base. Principals can negotiate a pay increase after year 6 on the salary scale.

Mr. Ketchum noted that the current salary schedule was put in place in June of 2015 with the staff and salaries we had at the time. Prior to that year we had a principal for the entire building, as well as an assistant principal/dean of students.

Jane Wheeler moved to approve the salary schedule for the principals. Stephanie Nadasi seconded. Discussion. The motion failed with Jane Wheeler and Stephanie Nadasi in favor, and Cory Hill, Wendy Field, and Tad Lisowski against.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

12. Audit Exit Conference – Jonathan Maertz, Denning & Downey

Jon Maertz thanked everyone who participated in the audit for the FY16 year. He stated he should have a final audit report by the end of June. He stated that the financial statements were free from misstatements and he has issued an unmodified opinion which is the best they can give. It was noted that a finding from the FY15 year concerning enrollment was corrected. There were no findings in the FY16 audit and Mr. Maertz stated we have good people here.

13. Preliminary 17/18 Budget

Cindy Foley presented a preliminary budget to the Board noting the General Fund Budget total of \$3,748,946.88 which is the highest without a vote as provided by the OPI in our preliminary budget data.

14. Five Year Comparison of Growth

Wendy Field had asked for some information concerning growth over the last five years using enrollment, staffing, budgets, etc. Cindy Foley shared this document will need to be reviewed and fine-tuned as to how the board wants it and would find it to be of value in comparing budgets, etc. Wendy Field will meet with the Clerk over the summer to review.

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

The Board was notified that Teri Dierenfield intends to move to MA+75, Claudia Anderson to BA+60, Erin Grieco to BA+75, Tonya Jewett to BA+45, and Vonnie McDonald to BA+60.

ADJOURNMENT

Wendy Field moved to adjourn at 7:22pm. Cory Hill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.



Stephanie Nadasi, Board Chairman



Cindy Foley, District Clerk