

WEST VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
West Valley School, Conference Room, 5:00PM  
March 12, 2018

Board Members Present

Wendy Field  
Cory Hill  
Stephanie Nadasi  
Jane Wheeler

Board Members Absent

Tad Lisowski

Also Present

Cal Ketchum, Superintendent  
Tina Blair, Middle School Principal  
Richard Gross, Elementary Principal  
Brooke Ells, Assistant Clerk  
Guests in attendance: Mark Wilson, Alesia Hamill, Becky Davis, Chelsea Belanger, Matt Downing, Aidan Downing

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. Cory Hill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MONTHLY BILLS

Jane Wheeler moved to approve the March bills totaling \$113,571.20 Wendy Field seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE/GUESTS/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

Ignite Nation Student Ambassadors: 5th grader Aidan Downing and Mrs. Hamill shared a presentation about Ignite Nation. They explained how it improves and helps to build school character. Trainings have been going on with staff this past year, students are now part of the process. Themes are : Give best work and be best self. Success follows after building culture. Students went to 2 days of training at FVCC where they learned about getting out of their

comfort zone and respect. They learned public speaking and leadership skills. Next, 3-4 Ambassadors trained each class once a month, 30-45 minutes. Respect was the theme in February, Responsibility and STAAR learners were the themes in March. Will be working on Shared Beliefs with staff and community.

#### WEST VALLEY PTO

Nothing to report

#### WEST VALLEY TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Mark Wilson shared a letter from the WVTEA about negotiations and shared beliefs. He said that it makes sense to bring same ideas of culture building from Ignite Nation into the negotiations process.

3rd Grade: Mrs. Hamill shared about "I love to read day" in Feb. to celebrate reading. Students read to the Kindergarteners and read the fairy tales they wrote. Mrs. Davis shared that Nov. they started doing a Walk to Read program to work in small groups and target different needs. Mrs. Belanger shared how they are doing a Warrior Award that celebrates a student each week who is doing his/her best work and being his/her best self. These awards are voted by classmates. They also did a class compact of shared beliefs.

#### PRINCIPALS REPORT

Mr. Gross shared that WV will be hiring 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade teachers. Interviews will be March 22 and 23. New paraprofessional, Aryn Kientz, started today. 4th grade CRT testing starts March 13. He is sending teachers to Reading Wonders training on March 14th, which builds on 2nd year of knowledge. The ELA Curriculum Review team is meeting this week to review standards. Kindergarten Head Start is this week to tell parents about Kindergarten at WV. Mrs. Kowalka and Mr. Loveless are going. Parents can ask questions. Child Find clinic is coming in a couple weeks. Kindergarten registration is open. We are not doing a Round Up to screen kids this year. They have found that screening in the spring doesn't give a clear picture of who a student is in September. Kindergarten will be staggered in its start date, to do screening and then placing afterward. Jane asked about Kindergarten teachers going to homes to visit new students. Cal and Richard shared that compensation for teachers is a challenge but would look into the idea.

Mrs. Blair shared that 8th grade Science CRT testing is tomorrow, the 13th. Interviewing will take place on March 21 for  $\frac{7}{8}$  math position. Interviews for art half-time position will happen at a future date. Gates reading scores came in and she shared that WV was ahead of the median score of 69 with a score of 74. 33% were advanced level, only 1 student in the lowest section was not already identified and had IEP in place already. She is very proud of the teaching and Title team; it made a difference in improved scores. The 8th gr Girls Camp In works on character building, and all but 4 8th grade girls are attending. Crystal Thurman does a great job with this. There might be something put together for 8th grade boys at a later date. The 6th grade basketball team won the home tournament. They won 4 games in a row. Math

intervention for 6-8 grade is something she is working on and implementing Reading Wonders program into grade 5. She is working on scheduling, due to a concern with safety during lunch breaks, as there are large numbers of students out at once. She is also looking at making 4 groups instead of 3 for 6th grade, to decrease class size. She is excited about Montana Digital's, Teacher Learning Hub which provides PIR for teachers. It gives a common language for professional development.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Cal Ketchum announced that the new elementary music teacher will be Becky Davis.

He shared about the Ignite Nation student Ambassador training with Helena Flats which lasted two days. 65 Students in grades 5-7 learned a lot about leadership. Cross grade teams will teach lessons in a classroom in grades 2-7. Kris and Ashoke Menon have been working with West Valley students and staff about the "Warrior Way." March 22-23 is the next training for students. He believes this is the best thing he's been a part of at West Valley.

Cal Ketchum shared that five ELA staff and District Secretary, Laura Cox participated in Google Fest, and the training went very well.

The AdvancED group is meeting every other week. They put together the AdvancED standards into folders and now staff are involved in collecting data for each standard. The Board will also be looking at a couple of these standards.

The Calendar Committee met two weeks ago to start the calendar process. They meet again March 13 and hope to have the 2018/19 calendar done by the April Board meeting.

Cal also shared that there are walkouts planned in area schools for March 14 in response to school shootings. West Valley School will be business as usual.

Cal will attend the MASS Board meeting next week in Helena.

And he will attend the AASA pre conference in LA, May 2-6.

### ACTION ITEMS:

1. Setting of General Fund Levy Amount

Jane Wheeler moved to approve the general fund mill levy amount of \$149,691.00.

Wendy Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Budget Amendment Resolution - General Fund and Retirement Fund

Wendy Field moved to approve budget amendment resolution concerning the general fund and retirement fund. Cory Hill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Consideration and adoption of resolution estimating changes in revenues/mills from tuition, adult education, building reserve, transportation and bus depreciation levies for school fiscal year 2019 SB307

Jane Wheeler moved to approve the resolution estimating changes in revenues/mills from tuition, adult education, building reserve, transportation and bus depreciation levies for school fiscal year 2019. SB307. Wendy Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Diane Farnes, Early Retirement Incentive

Jane Wheeler moved to accept Diane Farnes early retirement incentive. Cory Hill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Transportation Contract, Special Needs Preschooler

Cory Hill moved to approve the Transportation contract for a special needs preschooler. Wendy Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6. New Policy, First Reading - 5460, Personnel-Electronic Resources and Social Networking

Mark Wilson and Cal Ketchum cleaned up language of new policy 5460 Personnel-Electronic Resources and Social Networking. Jane Wheeler moved to approve the first reading of policy 5460. Cory Hill seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

7. New Policy, Second Reading - 4550, Community Relations-Registered Sex Offenders

Cory Hill moved to adopt policy 4550 on second reading. Wendy Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

8. New Hire- Aryn Kientz, Paraprofessional

Wendy Field moved to approve new hire- Aryn Kientz paraprofessional, pending background check results. Jane Wheeler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Cross Country Coaches, T. Smith and B. Ells

Cory Hill moved to approved to approve Cross Country coaches, Tony Smith and Brooke Ells. Jane Wheeler seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

10. Business Manager/District Clerk Evaluation

Stephanie Nadasi, Board Chair, asked that evaluations for Cindy Foley be given to her by March 29, 2018/

ADJOURNMENT

Jane Wheeler moved to adjourn at 6:27. Wendy Field seconded. The motion passed unanimously.



Stephanie Nadasi, Board Chairman



Brooke Ells, Assistant Clerk