

DOLORES SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4A
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES FOR APRIL 27th, 2017
SPECIAL MEETING – BUDGET WORKSHOP

Special Board Meeting
Professional Development Room

April 27th, 2017
5:00 p.m.

- I. CALL TO ORDER - The Dolores School Board regular board meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m. on April 27th, 2017.
- II. ROLL CALL - Members present were: Rebecca Frasier, Vangi McCoy, Dee Prock, Deanna Truelsen (arrived at 5:30 p.m.) and Linnea Vass. Scott Cooper, Superintendent, Jenifer Huffman, Secondary Principal, Gary Livick, Elementary Principal, Doreen Jones, Finance Manager, staff and community members were also in attendance.
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
A motion was made by Rebecca Frasier and seconded by Dee Prock to approve the agenda. Votes: Frasier-aye; McCoy-aye; Prock-aye; Vass-aye

IV. BUDGET DISCUSSION

Ms. Jones went over the highlights of the budget, breaking down the biggest expenditures. Salaries is one of the biggest expenses of the district. Some rearranging of staff has been done to save some costs. Elementary and secondary staff costs have been broken out, along with the step increases. Optional budget items are highlighted in the board packets.

Our reserve is about \$3.2 million. Salaries is not something the district should be paying for out of reserves, and there is a small amount that is being taken out of reserves for this year. We've had a pretty substantial drop in student count. We have a low number coming in to kindergarten also this year, the second year in a row.

Counselor positions discussed; the recommendation is a counselor per 250 students, so we need three. Ms. Finch is retiring. CO doesn't require a licensed counselor in the counselor position, so the past couple of counselors have not been licensed. Flags seen by staff at the secondary prompt calls to Ms. Finch, Access, or other sources to appropriately handle situations. Ms. Stark will also be teaching next year, in addition to the role of guidance counselor.

(Budget discussion was paused.)

Lisa Roche, Four Corners Recycling Initiative – Ms. Roche is approaching the board for donations. As a nonprofit, they only want to break even, but they have not been doing that recently. Commodities prices have dropped. The bins have been moved to the parking lot by the elementary. They recycle quite a bit of cardboard. They're searching for some grant funding to purchase more green bins, with one dedicated to cardboard, the only commodity making money right now and the commodity that fills up the fastest. Currently there is no money for processing plastics in the area, because of the distance needed to travel to recycle the product. Paper is going for \$30/ton, with a cost of \$45/ton to process it. The landfill is not charging FCRI the \$15. Cardboard \$130/ton, down from \$140/ton. February 2017, collected 2,000 pounds of cardboard = \$30, and it costs \$160 to pull the bins twice, which is how often they are emptied. They have enough funds to make it to July. They do get yearly donations through a state grant that comes in October, for \$6,000, which helps considerably. They're also searching for more consistent donations.

In the past Dolores did donate \$500. They'll be asking the Town of Dolores. Mancos Schools has bins also. Dolores Public Lands Office has bins, and they pay for their own hauls.

The current hauling cost is \$160 per load.

They're asking for \$1,000, which would pay for two months, which would be substantial.

Mr. Cooper recapped the summer lunch program that Ashley Schrage (who is absent) has been working on. The cost is \$2,000 for the summer, for two hours of summer lunch program for summer students. They're estimating 1200 lunches for the summer. A packet of information regarding the program was given to the board for review.

Discussion continued on the budget. We currently are paying below some area schools on our coaching salaries and AD. Coaches spend money out of their own pockets for the kids, so an increase in their stipends usually makes it back to the students. The AD is always in the public eye. Discussion ensued on the willingness of staff to do things for students, whether on their own time, during school hours, etc. If Dolores wants to attract and retain high quality staff, the pay needs to be there.

Ashley Schrage arrived and reported a bit more on the summer lunch program. She is asking for a bit of compensation for her time this summer. She has donated her time in the past. She is searching for a restaurant that will provide the food. That Place in Dolores provided it last year. The program follows the CDE rules for food. The total program cost is \$2,003.29. The request for the district is to purchase the materials.

Discussion resumed on the budget. Mrs. Jones provided sheets on the proposed budget figures, what's been spent, etc., to give the board an idea of where the district stands. Subs have been used heavily this year, and we are over budget in that area. Mrs. Jones requested that the Board contact her for questions or detailed information on any budget item.

The board will review the budget reports in detail. Any questions, contact Ms. Jones.

- V. ADJOURNMENT was at 7:20 p.m. The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, May 11th, 2017, at 5:00 p.m.


Board President Date


Board Secretary Date