

DOLORES SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4A
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES FOR APRIL 9TH, 2015
BOARD MEETING

Regular Board Meeting
Professional Development Room

April 9th, 2015
6:00 p.m.

- I. CALL TO ORDER - The Dolores School Board meeting was called to order at 6:11 p.m. on April 9th, 2015.
- II. PLEDGE
- III. ROLL CALL - Members present were: Vangi McCoy, Joye McHenry, Dee Prock (telephonically), Deanna Truelsen and Linnea Vass. Scott Cooper, Superintendent, Sherri Maxwell, Elementary Principal, Tammy Hooten, Business Manager, staff, students and community members were also in attendance.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Deanna Truelsen and seconded by Vangi McCoy to approve the agenda with the additions, adding Teddy Bear Preschool under X. B. and the FFA banquet discussion under XV. A.

Votes: McCoy-aye; McHenry-aye; Prock-aye; Truelsen-aye; Vass-aye

VI. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING FOR REVIEW OR CORRECTION

The March 12th, 2015, regular board meeting and policy meeting minutes were approved as presented.

VII. OPERATION GRADUATION PRESENTATION - KRISTIN PEJSA

Ms. Pejsa reported this is the 20th year for a parent sponsored grad night at the rec center. She is asking for a donation. They still owe the rec center rental of \$580. Last year the board donated \$550.

A motion was made by Joye McHenry and seconded by Deanna Truelsen to approve a donation in the amount of \$550 for Operation Graduation.

Votes: McCoy-aye; McHenry-aye; Prock-aye; Truelsen-aye; Vass-aye

VIII. SENIOR TRIP REQUEST

A request was made by the senior class for assistance in their class trip to Phoenix; the cost is \$5,564.97, not including transportation costs. They have raised funds for their entire trip. They are asking for a bus and bus driver to accommodate 22 total people attending.

A motion was made by Joye McHenry and seconded by Vangi McCoy to approve the senior trip to Phoenix and the cost of a bus and bus driver.

Votes: McCoy-aye; McHenry-aye; Prock-aye; Truelsen-aye; Vass-aye

IX. CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD - None.

X. STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

A. Strategic Plan #1: Middle School Staff Presentation - The MS teachers reported concerns among staff of inadequacies at the MS. The staff feels there should be equity among the elementary, MS and HS in class sizes and supplies and they feel there currently is not. Scheduling issues are expected at the MS, following the 6th grade moving to the elementary. Students need intervention, remediation, GT enrichment, etc., and they are underperforming at the MS level. MS is being outperformed in math, reading and writing by surrounding schools within BOCES. The staff is asking the board to help them help our students.

Solution: Staff would like the board to approve and implement a math curriculum, splitting 7th and 8th grade into four math classes each semester; all students must pass all four classes and repeat any failed classes. Currently, students are being set up for failure, because they move on to the next grade, regardless of passing the class. Math scores have been decreasing for the last 10 years.

Student accountability is crucial; remedial classes need to be taught with specific interventions for students that need it. The staff is requesting another math teacher, along with an additional paraprofessional. This is in addition to what was provided this year.

Staff are not asking for additional or new resources; they are asking that preexisting resources be restored. Detrimental effects are being seen; lowering of achievement scores; behaviors are declining. Monies have been spent everywhere else within the district except at the MS. The most basic need is another teacher, but there are also building needs that need to be addressed. Roofs have been leaking for years, new vents are needed, tack strips, fresh coats of paint. They are here advocating on behalf of the MS students. They have a huge need for Chrome books, classroom or department sets; new textbooks - the majority of the textbooks being used are more than 10 years old and in very bad condition, they lack the necessary content and curriculum to meet current standards. Additional work has to be done by the staff to create their curriculum. 21st century skills can't be taught without the proper resources.

Proper interventions are not being done for students, it can't be achieved in 20 minutes a day; there is a need for intervention classes to address those students that need it.

Mr. Cooper sees the need for more attention spent at the MS.

- B. Strategic Plan #2: Teddy Bear - Ms. McCoy reported that Teddy Bear has achieved its National Association for Accreditation of Young Children; only 3% of centers have this accreditation nationwide. This needs to be celebrated as it's a tremendous achievement. Ideas were ice cream social, spirit sticks, large certificate with signatures. A meeting will be held next week to plan this event.
- C. Strategic Plan #3: Mill Levy - Mr. Cooper reported that flyers have been made. On April 21st, at 6:00 p.m., in the commons, community/staff informational event will be held. Current override expires in 2016. We'll be pursuing an extension with the 2015 ballot. People need to know what it is, what the money goes towards. There will be no increase at all to the taxpayer, only a continuation of what they are already supporting. This money is approximately 7% of our annual budget so it's critical to the health of the district. Spread the word so attendance is high. E-mail Mr. Cooper with additional ideas.

XI. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT - Report in packets. A lot of hiring is taking place.

XII. PRINCIPALS' REPORTS - Ms. Maxwell reported on her last nine years worth of work on curriculum. The curriculum binders for all teachers will be available online for the staff. This will be very helpful for the incoming principal.

XIII. BOARD REPORTS AND REQUESTS

- A. Student Government Report - No report.
- B. BOCES - Mr. Cooper reported a small restructuring is occurring, creating another ESS coordinator. Ms. McCoy reported on the A, B, C, D project that's going on for screening and referrals for early intervention and child find. BOCES will be sharing some of their data, to help identify young children with developmental delays.
- C. District Accountability - Mr. Cooper reported they're focused on the Mill Levy.
- D. Legislative Network Reports - Ms. McCoy reported on killed bills, including effective teachers in low performing schools, funding for full day kindergarten, long acting reversible contraceptives, the CO preschool program expansion, among others. Early childhood is being talked about, increase for K-12 education, ongoing access to healthcare for vulnerable children. Changes to state assessments, HB 151323, closely reflects the recommendations of the task force that the board provided input for. It's been removed from the senate calendar so the status is unknown.

The most troubling bill is an assessment bill that would be a step backwards for accountability in K-12; when parents opt children out, students won't be held accountable. The threshold for a test is 95% participation. Below that, schoolwide data is not available. This bill has passed out of the educational committee and will be heard by the senate, so it does have some momentum.

On Tuesday, April 28th, 6:30 p.m., there is a screening at the Sunflower Theatre, "Raising of America."

- E. Board requests for agenda items, information, etc. - None.
- F. Communication plan reports and discussion - None.
- G. Town of Dolores Report - Mr. Cooper reported that the district and the town are working together on the parking issue. Hopefully a resolution will be reached next week.
- H. Other - None.

XIV. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approval of April bills and financial statements for period ending March 31st, 2015.
- B. Approval of minutes for the March 12th, 2015, regular board meeting and policy meeting
- C. Personnel: **Approval of:** *Elementary Principal:* Gary Livick; *Preschool Sub:* Juan Vega; *Maternity Leave April 9th, 2015-May 22nd, 2015:* Shannon Gonzales
Resignation of: *Secondary Principal:* Brandon Thurston; *Preschool Teacher:* Shannon Gonzales; *Agriculture Teacher:* Jake Gordanier; *Second Grade Teacher:* Alisha Liska; *Fifth Grade Teacher:* Lydia Loera; *Fifth Grade Teacher:* Jennifer Reinhardt; *High School Math Teacher:* Dana Petersen
- D. Approval of Certified Staff for 2015-2016
- E. Policies

CODE	TOPIC	READING
IKF	Graduation Requirements	2nd reading
	(approve change voted on 3/12/2015, and address again in a year)	
JICH♦	Drug & Alcohol Use by Students	2nd reading
JICDH-R	Drug & Alcohol Use by Students - reg	2nd reading
JIHD†	Breathalyzer Screening at School Dances ...	2nd reading
♦	Required by law	
†	New Policy	

A motion was made by Deanna Truelsen and seconded by Joye McHenry to approve the Action Items as presented.

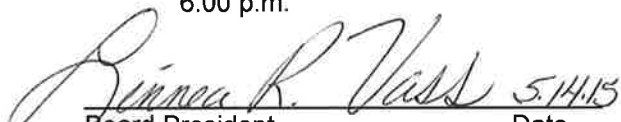
Discussion: Ms. Vass reiterated the first highlighted paragraph in JIHD is stricken. Policy IKF will be revisited after the hiring of the secondary principal and VoAg teacher.

Votes: McCoy-aye; McHenry-aye; Prock-aye; Truelsen-aye; Vass-aye

XV. DISCUSSION AMONG BOARD MEMBERS

- A. Ms. Vass reminded everyone of the upcoming changed meetings: The June board meeting is on June 18th, 6:00 p.m.; a policy meeting is on June 24th, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. There is also an elementary career day on May 1st, 8:30 - 12:00. May 8th is the end of the year retirement party at the community center from 5:00 - 8:00 or 9:00 p.m., Ms. Hooten will send out the invitations, luau theme. Ms. Vass would like the board to have further discussion on the next agenda regarding the the MS presentation tonight, the discussion needs to include the staff and their needs.
 Ms. Maxwell suggested having an academic report along with the principal reports.
 The board members are encouraged to attend the FFA banquet.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT was at 8:05 p.m. The next board meeting will be held on Thursday, May 14th, 2015, at 6:00 p.m.


 Board President Date


 Board Secretary Date