

DOLORES SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4A
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES FOR JANUARY 14TH, 2016
BOARD MEETING

Regular Board Meeting
Professional Development Room

January 14th, 2016
7:00 p.m.

- I. CALL TO ORDER - The Dolores School Board meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. on January 14th, 2016.
- II. PLEDGE
- III. ROLL CALL - Members present were: Vangi McCoy, Joye McHenry, Dee Prock, Deanna Truelsen and Linnea Vass. Scott Cooper, Superintendent, Jimmie Lankford, Vice Principal/Athletic Director, Gary Livick, Elementary Principal, Doreen Jones, Finance Director, Karen Andrews, staff and community members were also in attendance.
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
A motion was made by Deanna Truelsen and seconded by Joye McHenry to approve the agenda with the following change: Move the Executive Session to precede the approval of the minutes. Votes: McCoy-aye; McHenry-aye; Prock-aye; Truelsen-aye; Vass-aye
- V. EXECUTIVE SESSION - LEGAL ISSUE
A motion was made by Deanna Truelsen and seconded by Vangi McCoy to move into executive session for the purpose of discussion regarding legal matters as authorized by C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b). Those present at the outset of the executive session shall be members of the Board of Education, the Superintendent and the District's attorney. Votes: McCoy-aye; McHenry-aye; Prock-aye; Truelsen-aye; Vass-aye

The Board broke into Executive Session at 7:05 p.m. and returned at 7:46 p.m. with no votes taken and no decisions made.
- VI. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING FOR REVIEW OR CORRECTION – The December 10, 2015, board meeting minutes were approved as presented.

The WISCAT report was given (see X. C. below).
- VII. STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE
 - A. Strategic Plan #1: ACT vs. SAT – Mr. Cooper reported that we can do the ACT this spring, but 10th grade has to do the PSAT. Next year, the SAT will be implemented. Colleges in CO will accept both.
 - B. Strategic Plan #2: Student Government Report – None.
 - C. Strategic Plan #3: Final FY 2016 Budget Presentation and Approval (Action Item)
Ms. Andrews passed out some changes to the proposed budget. Salary schedules will be updated to show the extra contract day that is added to the teachers' contracts. Ms. Andrews is recommending an increase of \$3/day for paras/secretaries and substitute teachers/ as we're barely above minimum wage currently.
Pupil Activity – Decrease of \$101; Capital Projects/Capital Reserve – increase of \$6,785; Bond – increase of \$2,900; Food Service – decreased, but please note that equipment cannot be bought without CDE approval first; Insurance – Reserves increase of \$1.
All these funds reflect the audited carry forward balances.

We still have the negative factor that could change in the next month. Right now we're being paid by CDE for 712.4 students. More money will be coming, but the amount is undetermined at this time. Pupil count decreased from 720.5 to 711 FTE.

Small Rural Schools distribution - \$188,000. The check is being issued this Friday.

General Fund – Ms. Andrews went over the various increases and decreases within this fund.

Insurance and carry forward amounts are the two big ticket items; the overall increase is \$670,841.

A deficit of \$294,000 was to be taken out of reserves originally; there will not be a draw on reserves with this budget.

\$223,000 was added to the budget; a large part of this was \$90,000 in attorney's fees, and some other expenses. \$447,164 was added to the reserves. The budget is balanced. Ms. Andrews recommended to the board that they stick to this budget; expenses that can wait, can be done next year; school finance is still an unknown. Really good news for the budget and Dolores is in good shape.

Be it resolved by the Board of Education of Dolores RE-4A School District/BOCES in Montezuma County, that the amounts shown in the following schedule be appropriated to each fund as specified in the Adopted Budget for the ensuing fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2016.

Fund	Appropriation Amount
1. General Fund	1. 9,910,602
1b. Insurance Reserve Fund	1b. 27,762
Food Service	
3. Special Revenue Funds	3. 301,065
Bond Redemption Fund	
9a. Bond Redemption Fund	9a. 1,053,129
Capital Projects Fund	
12. Capital Reserve Capital Projects Fund	12. 382,087
Trust/Agency Funds	
17. Pupil Activity Agency Fund	17. 328,903
Total Appropriation	21. \$12,003,548

A motion was made by Joye McHenry and seconded by Vangi McCoy to approve the Final Budget as presented.

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

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – A report was in board packets.

IX. ACADEMIC REPORT

A. Elementary – Mr. Livick's report was in board packets. He gave a report on the results of the PARCC testing; areas of strengths and weaknesses were discussed.

B. Middle School

C. High School – Mr. Lankford reported that they're still working on the data that has come in. The advisory schedule has been revamped and will be implemented. Graduation planning is underway. Discipline and tardies are down; attendance is up.

X. BOARD REPORTS AND REQUESTS

A. Student Government Report – None.

B. BOCES – Ms. McCoy reported they didn't attend the December meeting because of a conflict with the elementary program. Mr. Cooper reported they are looking for an executive director; he and Ms. McCoy are on the interview team.

C. WISCAT – Josie reported they just got out of their meeting; Wellness Connection is going out in the Goose, and it will be going out via a secondary newsletter once a week. They are working on aligning the UIP to coincide with the current standards. The team needs some clarification on the wording within the UIP, and will await feedback from Ms. Huffman. Clarification is also needed on the MTSS plan, are all students getting the service or only targeted students?

D. Legislative Network Reports – Ms. McCoy reported the session just started on the 13th. Mr. Cooper reported that 60 superintendents were at the capitol on Monday to advocate for school funding,

discussing their hardships that their districts are experiencing. Ms. McCoy reported that in K-12 education, financing and academic standards are at the forefront. Preschool is looking at increased funding for mental health. Funding for full-day kindergarten is being sought again.

- E. Board requests for agenda items, information, etc. – Ms. Truelsen requested that a student and their parent be brought in again from the elementary to lead the pledge of allegiance. Mr. Livick will look into it.
- F. Communication plan reports and discussion – Mr. Cooper reported the safety forum was last night; about 39 attendants. The sheriff's department wanted to join with the district on safety measures taking place in Dolores. There is always room for improvement in communication. The board linkage dates are posted on the website, they are in February.
- G. Town Board Report – Ms. Truelsen reported that discussions re Family Dollar are still occurring. They do not have the proper permits to continue their building. This has been an ongoing issue and will continue to be addressed.
- H. Other

XI. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approval of January bills and financial statements for period ending December 31st, 2015
- B. Approval of minutes for the December 10, 2015, board meeting
- C. Personnel: **Approval of:** *Middle School Boys Basketball Assistant Coach:* Jessica Schliesser
Substitute Bus Driver: Bernadette McClain; *Substitute Teacher:* Diana Negri
Resignation of: *Bus Driver:* Patty Tutton
- D. Approval of the following sites as the designated places for posting notice of Board of Education meetings: the side windows at the entrances of the Preschool, Elementary and Middle/High Schools, the outside display board at the District Office and the Dolores School District website
- E. Approval of Middle School and High School Unified Improvement Plans
- F. Approval of donations from Dolores Rotary Club: \$1849 for Spirit Council and \$1849 for High School Football
- G. Approval of January 7th and January 8th, 2016, as snow days

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

Discussion: Mr. Cooper remembers signing the stipend for Josie to be the Knowledge Bowl coach. It should have been in tonight's additions. Ms. McHenry would like it to be added to next month's agenda for approval.

Ms. Vass thought the snow days were built into the calendar. They are, and we have enough cushion for two more snow days. Mr. Cooper is trying to use the two-hour delay versus an entire snow day. If another snow day is taken, Mr. Cooper will contact CDE for clarification on hours.

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

XII. DISCUSSION AMONG BOARD MEMBERS

- A. Homework policy – Mr. Cooper reported that this was brought up about five months ago. Ms. McCoy reported this is the biggest complaint she's received at the elementary; Ms. Vass at the secondary. Mr. Livick reported they looked at their policy a couple of months ago; it's 10 minutes per grade after kindergarten, i.e., third grade = 30 minutes; sixth grade = 1 hour, and so on. If your child is frequently exceeding this guideline, then speak with the teacher and accommodations will be made. The policy is appropriate and it's been communicated to stakeholders. PowerSchool grading, homework is 10% of a student's grade.
- B. Set policy meeting for March (Action Item)
After discussion, a motion was made by Deanna Truelsen and seconded by Vangi McCoy to set the policy meeting for March 10, 2016, at 5:00 p.m.
Votes: McCoy-aye; McHenry-aye; Prock-aye; Truelsen-aye; Vass-aye
- C. Superintendent Evaluation – The evaluation is due March 1, 2016, by contract. They can be submitted electronically. There is an executive session set for February's board meeting to discuss the evaluation. Ms. Vass would like them turned in by January 28th to be able to compile the data in time for the February meeting.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT was at 9:43 p.m. The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday, February 11th, 2016, at 6:00 p.m.

Binnar R. Vass *2-11-16*
Board President Date

Deanna S. Truelsen *2-11-16*
Board Secretary Date