

DOLORES SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4A
BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES FOR MARCH 14TH, 2017
BOARD MEETING

Regular Board Meeting
Professional Development Room

March 14th, 2017
6:00 p.m.

- I. CALL TO ORDER - The Dolores School Board meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. on March 14th, 2017.
- II. ROLL CALL - Members present were: Rebecca Frasier, Vangi McCoy, Dee Prock, Deanna Truelsen and Linnea Vass. Scott Cooper, Superintendent, Jenifer Hufman, Secondary Principal, Gary Livick, Elementary Principal, Doreen Jones, Business Manager, staff and community members were also in attendance.
- III. PLEDGE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Vangi McCoy and seconded by Rebecca Frasier to approve the agenda with the additions.
Votes: Frasier-aye; McCoy-aye; Prock-aye; Truelsen-aye; Vass-aye
- VI. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING FOR REVIEW OR CORRECTION (Done before IV.)
The January 26th, 2017, special board meeting minutes were approved as presented.
- VII. PRESENTATIONS
 - A. Farm to School Program – Patrick Alford and Sarah Syverson
Ms. Syverson, interim director, and two colleagues reported that this program is going into its eighth year. They had a PowerPoint presentation they presented to the board. Fiscal challenges and transitions in leadership posed challenges this past year. Overlaps and integrations are taking place among all three local districts. Greenhouse will be redone over the 2017-'18 year. The aquaponics system is showing some newly planted growth despite the slug issue. The program saw 5,000 student educational hours, 800 students taught in the fall and spring, it produced 374 pounds of produce, 2,658 taste testings for this year.
Future goals: Collaboration with FFA in MS and HS, plans for roof structure on east side of hillside garden, heritage orchard expansion, increasing produce volume to cafeteria, remodeling/installing a new greenhouse structure.
Projected baseline budget: Approx. \$56,000. They're requesting the same as last year from Dolores, \$9,600; Dolores pays 17% of total costs, School to Farm covers 83%. Thanks to Dolores for its continued support and collaboration. Thanks to all partners and donors, local sponsors.
Mr. Soukup would like more return for the investment, gaining more produce. Ms. Truelsen would like better follow up regarding the aquaponics system
- VIII. CELEBRATIONS – Ms. Rosenkrance reported submitting an application to the SW Regional Collaborative, funded through El Pomar, for 15 slots. She has unofficially been granted the funding. They are also applying for another 10,000-dollar grant. An infant/toddler playground is needed, because of the daycare center being installed at the preschool. Fill dirt and gravel is being donated. The modular was donated. Electric and plumbing will be worked on. The town charges \$4500 each for a sewer and water tap; they will waive the installation and permit fees. There is a need for infant/toddler care in Dolores, thereby necessitating this growth. The going rate is \$35/day for the care; this is yet to be determined. Further discussion and commitment will take place at the April board meeting. Ms. Rosenkrance would like the district to continue paying the utilities. Maintenance will be the responsibility of the preschool.

IX. CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD – None.

X. STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

- A. Strategic Plan #1: Student Success! - Ms. Huffman reported Ms. Honeycutt, a freshman, and Mr. Watkins are here to present what's going on in the science classroom. Based on the student perception survey that was taken, students want to create their own learning. The deeper learning model is in the student handbook and pieces of it have been in the Monday memos throughout the year. The block schedule this year is something maybe the secondary schools weren't ready for. Ms. Huffman, Mr. Livick and some staff in May will be touring the Polaris Expeditionary Learning School, and will also attend a Thinking Strategies Training. Ms. Huffman reported increased engagement happening at the secondary; students are adjusting to the project workload. All are invited to National History Day.
- B. Strategic Plan #2: Student Centered Culture – Incorporated above.
- C. Strategic Plan #3: Student First Financing – See WISCAT's report below.

XI. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Report's in board packets.

Ms. Truelsen thanked Mr. Soukup for his willingness to provide more to the students, while still meeting his requirements.

Mr. Cooper reported we did not get the GOCO grant. \$1.1 million was requested; only eight grants out of 21 were awarded. An evaluation is forthcoming, with notes of why we scored low.

XII. ACADEMIC REPORT

- A. Elementary – Mr. Livick reported being able to reduce the cost of supplies to parents by using excess ML funds. Student registration will occur before the end of the school year, with a goal of 80% registered before summer. Those that register then will not have to come back over the summer. The Schoolarama was a success and a lot of fun. Teachers' night went well also, raising about \$913. Exciting science fair projects this year. Mini conference did take place; teachers were able to instruct on things important to them.
- B. Middle School – The MS is doing a Fear Factor activity on the day the HSers are going to career fair.
- C. High School – Ms. Huffman reported that the MS Advisory Council will be at the next board meeting with the winning MS playground design. Mr. Cooper suggested everyone stay up with the Monday memos; they contain good information.

XIII. BOARD REPORTS AND REQUESTS

- A. Student Government Report – Ms. Huffman reported Ms. Boyd was disappointed that there were no board members at the pep squad last week. There is another at the end of April, planned by this month's winners.
- B. BOCES - Ms. McCoy reported they have not met since the last board meeting; they meet tomorrow.
- C. District Accountability (WISCAT) – Ms. Snow reported they have not had a meeting. She reported being approved for the school based health center planning grant. CO nurse of the year in 2013, Ms. Brisbin, whom Dolores hired in 2014, is helping with this endeavor. The center will be run by our employees, but we'll be a satellite of the SWOS clinic.
- D. Legislative Network Reports - Ms. McCoy reported that there's attention being given to OSS suspension and expulsion in young children, pre through 3rd grade. We're leading in the nation in looking at this. Passed out of committee today with bipartisan support, so there's still a way to go. A disciplinary strategy/professional development is in the works, teaching teachers of young children how to deal with behavioral issues in young children. SB 61 did pass the senate.
- E. Board requests for agenda items, information, etc. – None.
- F. Advocacy – None.
- G. Town Board Report - Ms. Truelsen reported there was a meeting last night; nothing of significance was discussed.
- H. Other Information - None.

XIV. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Approval of March bills and financial statements for period ending February 28th, 2017
- B. Approval of minutes for the January 26, 2017, regular board meeting

- C. Personnel: **Retirement of:** *Third Grade Teacher:* Meg Neeley (effective May 26, 2017)
Custodian: Maria Perez (effective June 1st, 2017)
Approval of: *Assistant Track Coach:* Todd Erlandson
- D. Approval of transitional teacher contract for 2017-2018 school year for Meg Neeley
- E. Approval of School Closure "Snow Day" February 28, 2017
- F. Approval of certified staff for 2017-2018
- G. Approval of transitional contract for July – December 2017 for Maria Perez

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

Discussion: Ms. Frasier would like Nowlin's letters attached to the minutes, which the board has previously decided not to attach. Ms. Vass stated the letters have information that is not appropriate for public dissemination. Ms. Prock reported at the meeting having discussion that it was decided those letters would not be attached. Ms. Vass reported following the advice of district counsel, we are a small community, and information is extremely difficult to keep private. They are available in the office for the board members only.

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

XV. DISCUSSION AMONG BOARD MEMBERS

A. Academic Calendar 2017-2018 (Action Item)

The final two versions have been out for feedback. Majority feeling of keep things the same, don't change the start times. Most liked Version 4, which is most like this year. Mr. Trussler reported discussions with CHSSA re increasing the start date for sports one week earlier than what they allow; it would allow kids more of an opportunity to get some practice time in. Expansion of weight room may need to occur soon. There is a focus on strengthening work for kids to reduce injuries in sports. It has been helpful. Ms. Jones reported that maintenance would prefer a later start date because of the amount of work they need to get completed in the summer and with all of the summer activities that take place on campus. Quality of instruction is increased by increased PLC days, which is what most staff prefer. Mr. Cooper will have a calendar committee start work in the fall of '17 for the following school year. **A motion was made by Dee Prock and seconded by Deanna Truelsen to approve Version 4 of the 2017-2018 draft calendar.**

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

B. School Board Calendar of Wildly Important Dates

Ms. Vass and Mr. Cooper have a draft available for the board to review. It was suggested to add graduation. Further discussion will take place at the April board meeting, all board members bring any other dates/information pertinent for the calendar; you can also e-mail Ms. Vass or Mr. Cooper.

C. Board Information:

1. National History Day Regionals March 17th
Ms. Huffman reported judging starts at 1:00 p.m.; exhibits are open to the public throughout, from about 1:00 – 6:00 p.m. In the future Monday Memo, links to projects that have websites and videos will be posted so folks can enjoy them. Kids need to be there at 11:30, those not presenting are expected to help with concessions. Displays and presentations will be held throughout campus. Ignacio is attending; Cortez is not. There are about 67 entries, which is good for our first regional. Lunch and snacks for honored guests (which include the board members). Regionals will need to be in Durango next year because it's more centrally located.
2. Barbara Coloroso presentation April 11th
3. Epic Day (Middle School Student event April 12th)
Ms. Graham is part of a leadership team that is hosting an Epic Day for 8th graders, along with other staff. Mancos 8th graders will be joining our 8th graders; how we collaborate, how we treat others, how everyone's attributes should be celebrated, etc. Parents will need to sign a release form. Ms. Finch will also be available.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT was at 8:30 p.m. The next board meeting will be held on Thursday, April 13th, 2017, at 6:00 p.m.

Kimberly R. Vass 4-13-17
Board President Date

Deanna E. Trudman 4-13-17
Board Secretary Date