

NORTH CONEJOS SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1J
REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
February 21, 2017
District Administration Building
6:30 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting scheduled for 6:30 p.m. at the District Administration Office was called to order at 6:33 pm by Mark Bahr, President.

ROLL CALL

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, absent; Robert Chavez, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

PREDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA/CHANGES TO CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Garth Crowther to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Steve Sorensen. **(Attachments #1 - #6)**

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, absent; Robert Chavez, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

A motion was made by Robert Chavez to approve the agenda with the addition of item 11b approval of out valley trips, the addition of item 11c approval of Donna Mae Keys as \$1 CHS track coach, and the addition of item 7 FCCLA and Skills USA presentation, seconded by Chuck Finnegan.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, absent; Robert Chavez, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

FALCON AWARD

The falcon awards were presented to Tinley Buhr and Joey Torres by Mr. Salazar and Mr. Fringer. Tinley and Joey are model kids. As kindergarteners they are respectful, good listeners, kind, smart, helpful, and empathetic towards others. They truly celebrate their peers' success. NCS D celebrates these good students for being great role models for other students in the district.

STUDENT FCCLA AND SKILLS USA PRESENTATIONS

FCCLA members Kord Howsmon and Danielle Sanchez shared with the board their project on safe driving for CHS students. They found that CHS student need to use their seat belts better and they need to stop at all stop signs. Their project is to help CHS students have better driving habits before school, at lunch, and after school. FCCLA will be bringing in a speaker on March 1st to emphasize some of the safe driving issues. Danielle and Kord also told of the Skills USA competitions and workshops they attended. They want the board and others to know what Skills USA is and the purpose of the group.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Natalie Taylor and Donald Jarvies addressed the board concerning the possible 4 day school week.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS/ACTIVITIES

Achievement Reports: (Attachment #7)

See attached reports from building administrators.

BOCES Report:

Mark Bahr reported that BOCES is encouraging board members in the Valley to sit in on the state senate hearings. Senate Bill 61 is a concern to public schools and they are predicting it will pass, which would allow charter schools to split funding with public schools. BOCES discussed moving the Science Fair to a Monday/Tuesday versus Thursday/Friday.

NCEA Report:

John Camponeschi addressed the board concerning SB61, the 4 day week, the early retirement policy and school funding concerns. He thanked the board and Mr. Wilson for the staff Christmas bonus and thanked Mr. Wilson for meeting with NCEA on various issues.

Administration Report:

Mr. Wilson congratulated the wrestlers on a job well done and acknowledged the amazing fan/student following at the state wrestling tournament. He expressed appreciation for the students and their great conduct.

There will be a bond levy workshop that will be very informative and worth attending. Curt plans to attend and invited all board members to go.

NCS D enrollment was 963 in October and we presently have an enrollment of 982 students.

Mr. Wilson addressed the board concerning the UIP/federal funding. Of the CDE rural and small rural designation, NCS D is the largest of the small rural schools. The five largest school districts in the state support better funding for the small rural districts.

The calendar committee met and Mr. Wilson presented the board with the proposed 17-18 calendar.

There will be a DAC meeting on February 28th at 6:00 pm.

Mark Bahr and Mr. Wilson will travel to Denver to receive performance awards for North Conejos School District in March.

9 News aired a report on schools that do not have emergency plans. NCS D has a plan and is still working on updating that plan with Rodney King.

NCS D is very aware of the drug issues in the community and schools. We are working with Joseph Valdez and the Conejos County Drug Coalition. We currently have K-9's that visit the schools and Mr. Wilson plans on using the CHS students to educate and role model to younger students the importance of staying away from drugs. Peer teaching will begin on March 1st and the anti-drug message will be presented by older students twice more during the school year on April 2nd and May 3rd.

Valley Superintendents have met and will be presenting a model to the state to fund Colorado education. School finance is a concern and Mr. Wilson showed the board a power point presentation on marijuana revenue and noted that merely 1.3% of the marijuana tax actually goes to education.

Mr. Wilson told board members he will be and has been transparent with his spending in the district.

Mr. Wilson is going to ask the town of La Jara to reduce the sewer costs the district currently pays. The sewer bill each month is killing the district budget and he plans on addressing the issue and asking for a school exemption. He invited all board members to go with him to address the La Jara Town Board.

The food service program has set up a weekly dialer calling parents/guardians of students that have lunch balances. A sample policy for collecting lunch balances will be forthcoming in June.

Federal transgender laws have changed giving control of those decisions to the states. Colorado has already made a decision on this and NCS D will follow Colorado law.

CTE program is planning on making a vehicle purchase. CTE uses the vehicle for 4 years and then the vehicle becomes school property. This is a very good thing for our district.

Mr. Wilson shared a teacher salary analysis with the board and NCS D ranks 63rd in the state. Our benefits and cost of living help in this ranking.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

District Transportation Update & Presentation

Patrick Crowther showed board members a power point that told the condition, miles, use, and years of each vehicle/bus the district owns. He shared that a recommendation may be forthcoming to use bus stops versus stopping at each home in the district to save on transportation costs.

Student Data Privacy (Attachment #8)

There is a high concern in legislation concerning student data privacy. HB16-423 is in the process.

Discuss New Policies & Revision of Policies BCB, BEDF, BID/BIE, DAC, DJ/DJA, DJB, DJB-R, DJE, DKC, EHB, GBEA, JRCB, JRCB-R (Attachment #9)

Mr. Wilson went over each policy with the board.

4 Day Week Presentation

Mr. Wilson expressed that discord among the community brings bad test scores and he has data to support this. He wants community members and parents/guardians to hear all sides of the issue and to be cautious of how we use social media. He cautioned that we can use any poll to support our cause. He presented a power point to the board and audience members showing all sides of a 4 day school week. The board directed Mr. Wilson to present his power point at a community informational meeting to be held on March 7th from 7:00-8:00pm. Mr. Wilson will use the school reach, the website, and the NCS D face book page to inform parents and the community of this meeting. After the community meeting a survey will be made available to all parents/guardians and community members. The survey will require a signature of each participant and data from the survey will be made available to the board.

Early Retirement Policy

The district cannot afford to use the current early retirement policy and Mr. Wilson recommended possibly between 2-5% of the staff salary. The board asked Mr. Wilson to come up with the exact figure to present to the board at the March board meeting. Curt has been meeting with NCEA members on changes concerning this policy.

ACTION ITEMS

Discuss and review policies CBD-E and DKB for the second reading

A motion was made by Garth Crowther to approve policies CBD-E and DKB for the second reading, seconded by Chuck Finnegan.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, absent; Robert Chavez, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

Approve Out of Valley Trips

A motion was made by Robert Chavez to approve the out of valley trips with CMS wrestling to Pagosa Springs, CMS wrestling to Walsenburg and CHS Seniors to Elitch's in Denver, seconded by Steve Sorensen.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, absent; Robert Chavez, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

Coach Approval

A motion was made Garth Crowther to approve Donna Mae Keys as a \$1 CHS track coach, seconded by Robert Chavez.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, absent; Robert Chavez, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Robert Chavez to go into executive session with Mr. Wilson and others as needed, to discuss privileged information and personnel issues, seconded by Steve Sorensen.

Mark Bahr, aye; Joseph Baroz, absent; Robert Chavez, aye; Garth Crowther, aye; Chuck Finnegan, aye; Steve Sorensen, aye.

The motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:28 p.m.

Topic 1 – 2 minutes

Topic 2 – 2 minutes

Topic 3 – 21 minutes

The next regular board of Education meeting will be March 28, 2017 at 6:30pm.