

Tonasket School District #404
"Focused on Learning, Linking Learning to Life"

School Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 28, 2015
In the Board Room at 7:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Jerry Asmussen, with Catherine Stangland, Lloyd Caton, Ty Olson, and Ernesto Cerrillo present. Superintendent Steve McCullough and secretary Janet Glanzer were present. Administrators present were Liz Stucker, Jay Tyus, and Jeremy Clark. Also present were Michael Greene, Rachel Silverthorn, Katherine Teachout, Joyce Fancher, and Trisha Schock. Arriving later was Rob Inlow, Joyce Fancher and Janet Bretz.

FLAG SALUTE

Jerry Asmussen led the flag salute at 7:33 p.m.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA – None

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Board Action: Catherine Stangland moved to approve the minutes of the August 31, 2015 and September 14, 2015 board meetings as presented. Lloyd Caton seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS - None

CONSENT AGENDA

Board Action: Catherine Stangland moved that the consent agenda be approved as presented. Ty Olson seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

SCHOOL REPORTS

ASB

Rachel Silverthorn provided a report on the high school club activities. Homecoming week is this week and Rachel provided an overview of the activities for the week.

Special Programs

Liz Stucker reported that the start of school has been busy with the new special education staff and with a number of new students transferring into the district. Preschool has started for the year with fewer numbers in the program because of limited classroom space. Birth-3 services are in place with home visitations being made. The SES (Supplemental Education Services) window is approaching. The Health Care Authority School-based Medical Services contract and annual update is being completed which allows Medicaid reimbursement for these services back to the program. The annual parent involvement meeting is scheduled in conjunction with the PTO meeting next week.

Middle School

Jay Tyus commented that the opening of the year went well. The opening assembly was completely student leadership driven. Fall sports are underway. The science team has agreed to be trained on the KNOW curriculum to be able to provide the annual HIV/AIDS classes for students. Mr. Tyus reported that Advisory program is called Homeroom and are currently working through LEAD, which is the MS version of The Leader in Me, curriculum. The Lighthouse Team is the school improvement team. Mr. Tyus will be in Yakima in October for a meeting for all the Instructional Frameworks Specialists in the state.

Elementary School

Jeremy Clark reported that this September's start of school was one of the best. Many donations were made from community members and from as far away as New Orleans. Students are learning the 7 Habits after which each individual habit will be a focus each month as the school year progresses. The first awards assembly will be held on October 2. NWEA testing is almost finished. An ES team will attend a training for trainers at the ESD on differentiation who then will bring back information and skills to train staff on early release days throughout the year. Mr. Clark, along with staff members, will be attending an early literacy conference. Focus is being given to K-2 regarding reading gaps with Reading Corps members providing services to help close the reading gaps. The student improvement team meets this Thursday. Mr. Clark expressed appreciation for the support of the students at the fair.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bond and Levy

Steve McCullough reported that this afternoon a bond facilities committee meeting was held with 12 people attending. The majority of the time, discussion was held whether this is the time to go forward with a bond election. Michael Greene addressed the Board commenting that it is understood that it is a Board decision, but he expressed the concerns of the committee about the bond and the levy running at the same time. The following are three recommendations from the committee: 1) Focus on the levy in February, with a back-up plan in April; 2) Moving the bond from this February 2016 to next February 2017; 3) Add an increased amount to the maintenance and operations levy to get a few of the essential items done that were on the bond. The recommendation from the facilities committee is to give the board more time to focus on the levy this year. Committee members have been speaking to community members and the feeling is to wait on the bond election.

Lloyd Caton reported that he received the same message from people he has spoken with expressing concerns of running a bond in February. Mr. McCullough remarked that the decision to run a bond would need to be made as soon as possible so work can be started. Each of the board members expressed their thoughts regarding running a bond or not. Discussion was held about increasing the levy to get some of the essential projects done if the bond isn't held this year, but consideration needs to be given in increasing the levy, it's important for the levy to pass.

Rob Inlow commented on the challenges that face community members at this time in support of delaying the bond, but he understands the primary reason to be on the board is to do what's best for students. Joyce Fancher added a historical perspective to the passing of a bond expressing her opinion to delay one year. Mr. McCullough recommended to the board, not delaying in making the decision to run the bond because of all the work that needs to be started right away in the event that the board wants to run it this year. Discussion was held.

A comment was made from the committee that campaigning would begin now for the next year and a half, highlighting important projects needing to be done and building it into the culture of the community. Steve McCullough commented that the board is correct in the needs of the district, but his recommendation is to delay running the bond, adding that the chances of passing are greater if the decision is made to wait for a year. He added that it is a very doable campaign for the next year and half.

Board Action: Ernesto Cerrillo moved to postpone running the bond until February 2017. Lloyd Caton seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

School Board Calendar

Board Action: Catherine Stangland moved to approve bringing for first reading the revised board policy to change board meetings to Wednesday evenings. Lloyd Caton seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

School Garden

Steve McCullough provided information regarding the school garden being moved.

NEW BUSINESS

Athletic Community Appeals Board

Board Action: Catherine Stangland moved to approve Seth Buchert, Felicia Clark, and Richard Rawley to the athletic community appeals board committee for 2015-16. Lloyd Caton seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Traffic Safety Fee

Steve McCullough provided information on the change of the traffic safety class. A private contractor from Omak is offering the class on the school campus. Discussion was held regarding whether or not to bring the program back to the school next year.

Board Action: Lloyd Caton moved approve the traffic safety fee increase to \$460 to accommodate the private contractor. Ty Olson seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Minimum Basic Education Compliance

Board Action: Ty Olson moved to approve the Minimum Basic Education Compliance report. Lloyd Caton seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

BOARD POLICY UPDATE

Second Reading: 6022, 6210

Steve McCullough provided information regarding the minimum fund balance. Discussion was held regarding the schedule to reach the minimum fund balance of 8% by or before the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Board Action: Ty Olson moved to approve the third and final reading of Policy 6022. Ernesto Cerrillo seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Steve McCullough reported that further work has not been done on policy 6210 yet.

First Reading Policies: 1340, 2020, 2027, 2418, 3122, 3421

Steve McCullough provided information regarding each of the policies presented for first reading.

Board Action: Catherine Stangland moved to approve the first reading of policies: 1340, 2020, 2027, 2418, 3122, 3421. Ernesto Cerrillo seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

MISCELLANEOUS

Committee Reports

Lloyd Caton provided a report of Tonasket students' sales at the Okanogan county fair. Tonasket was well represented.

WSSDA Regional Meeting

The WSSDA Regional meeting will be in Oroville on October 6.

Legislative Assembly

Lloyd Caton provided a report of the Legislative Assembly that was held on September 18-19.

REPORTS

Trisha Schock reviewed the financial reports.

ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD AGENDA

District office restructuring will be on the next work session agenda along with board protocols.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board moved into executive session at 9:55 p.m. for 20 minutes to review the performance of a public employee and to consider professional negotiations.


The Board moved out of executive session at 10:15 p.m.

The Board moved back into executive session at 10:15 p.m. for 15 minutes.

The Board moved out of executive session at 10:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Board Action: The Board adjourned the meeting at 10:30 p.m.



Janet Glanzer
Assistant Secretary

The minutes of the September 28, 2015 regular board meeting (4 pages) were approved at the October 26, 2015 board meeting.



Secretary to the Board



Chair of the Board