

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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### **Joint Hagerman School District No. 233 Gooding and Twin Falls Counties, Idaho Minutes of Regular Board Meeting November 9, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bryan Whitmarsh at 7:00 p.m. in the Hagerman Jr/Sr High School media center. Roll call was taken by District Clerk Cathy Bridwell and a quorum was present with other trustees in attendance being Teri Dorchuck, Phil Gossi, Brian Moore, and Monte Osborne. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Jim Brown, High School Principal Jaren Wadsworth, IT Director Matt Cottam, and Business Manager/District Clerk Cathy Bridwell. Audience members included Jenny Hoop, Melissa Lemmon, and Daniel Knapp. Others were present via Zoom.

Chairman Whitmarsh led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Employee of the Month Awards

Dr. Brown presented the classified employee of the month award for the elementary school to Melissa Lemmon. Principal Wadsworth presented the certified employee of the month for the high school to Dr. Troy Easterday.

#### Consent Agenda

Moved by Trustee Dorchuck to approve the current agenda with the elimination of Item H2, Safety Crossing Lights, from the agenda; seconded by Trustee Moore; motion carried. There were several questions on the financial reports which were answered by Mrs. Bridwell and Mr. Wadsworth. Moved by Trustee Dorchuck to approve the minutes from the October 12, 2020, regular meeting and the October 21, 2020, special meeting; the bills; and the financial reports as presented; seconded by Trustee Gossi; motion carried.

#### Public Input

Daniel Knapp spoke about the district COVID protocol and the negative effect of quarantine on students and families.

#### Reports

Dr. Brown thanked staff and community members who recently helped Mr. Martin when he was ill. Enrollment numbers are 150 in the elementary and 135 in the secondary, and Venture Upward is 98. Parent-teacher conference attendance at the elementary was 91%. The high school parent-teacher conferences had a 100% attendance rate. Dr. Brown thanked Alex Gonzalez for doing interpreting during parent-teacher conferences. Most of the technology purchases for the blended learning plan have been made. A committee has been meeting on the continuous improvement plan and will meet again on December 7. Dr. Brown also mentioned some of the things for which the Idaho Rebounds funding will be used.

#### Action Item

Chairman Whitmarsh moved the T-Mobile grant update to this point on the agenda. Jenny Hoop talked to the board about a program through T-Mobile to help families get internet access. The district was awarded 30 hot spot devices, which will support up to 3 Chromebooks at each location. The grant also

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offers unlimited internet for \$15 per month, which will be paid for with the blended learning grant. T-Mobile has an education filter on the devices.

#### Reports (continued)

Principal Wadsworth thanked the teachers for the work they put in on the parent-teacher conferences. The Veteran's Day Honor Ride will be Wednesday starting at 11:45 a.m. and he invited veterans to participate. There will be a public meeting regarding athletics tomorrow evening to discuss the focus of the athletic programs. Most of the touch screens are up and there will be training on using them this Friday. The new technology is going out to students and they are being taught how to use it and take care of it. Mr. Wadsworth thanked Mrs. Hoop for the T-Mobile grant.

Chairman Whitmarsh moved Item H.1, COVID-19 Plan Update and H.4, Marketing Contract for Website, to this point on the agenda.

#### Action Items

COVID-19 Plan Update. Dr. Brown shared with the board numbers of staff and students who have been confirmed as positive for COVID-19. In addition to those testing positive, current protocol requires any students who have been exposed to also be quarantined. Not all those testing positive are notifying the school and some of those are not quarantining. Back tracing has become a big problem, taking an immense amount of time. Dr. Brown recommended that the district stop doing back tracking and focus on those students who test positive. Parents need to be encouraged to quarantine if anyone in the family has a positive test. He also brought up attendance at extra-curricular events. He recommended only allowing Hagerman student body and families to attend with a limit of 50 fans not counting team members. The board discussed various ideas on limiting attendance and on getting the word out to parents, students and fans. The board discussed the danger to staff if contact tracing is discontinued. So far, none of the students who were quarantined due to exposure have subsequently tested positive. Moved by Trustee Moore to remove back tracing from the current COVID-19 protocol; seconded by Trustee Gossi. There was discussion about whether or not exposed students would be banned from extra-curricular activities and going forward, they would not be. Motion carried.

Marketing Contract for Website. Trustee Dorchuck explained that there was one contract for live-streaming for the AG/Food Science Department, paid for by the Chobani Grant. The second contract is for rebuilding the district website. The cost could be shared between the major users of the website. Terry Mode spoke about the district website, saying it was not very good and didn't give adequate information. He felt the district had lost potential students due to a poor quality website and encouraged the board to do whatever they could to develop a vibrant, informative website. Trustee Moore questioned the cost and if other quotes had been requested. Several other vendors were contacted and none could do both the live streaming and the website. Rinard Media has been very good about meeting with the district and answering questions. Trustee Dorchuck recused herself from the decision. Moved by Trustee Gossi to approve the two contracts with Rinard Media, one for live streaming and one for website development and upkeep; seconded by Trustee Osborne; motion carried.

#### Information Items

Board Policy 1<sup>st</sup> Reading. Revisions to the following policies were presented for a first reading:

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#2700 High school graduation requirements—Mr. Wadsworth proposed adding two additional required credits of math and granting a PE credit for sports. Discussion did not favor requiring more credits but centered on how to encourage students to take more math and to make the math courses they do take more meaningful. Since the district charges a fee for students to take sports, it would not be appropriate to grant credit for playing sports.

#3040 and #3050 Attendance—Dr. Brown will be writing a procedure to go with these policies.

#3285 Relationship Abuse and Sexual Assault Prevention and Response

#3290 Sexual Harassment/Intimidation of Students

#3380 Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Participation—it was suggested that a deadline of 8:00 a.m. be added to the proposed revision for the updating of grades by teachers. There was also discussion on whether or not an athlete could receive a sports letter, team, or personal athletic award if they had violated the district drug policy. The board would like to see another revision to this policy at the next meeting.

#4120 Uniform Grievance Procedure

#4600 Volunteer Assistance

#5240 Sexual Harassment/Sexual Intimidation in the Workplace

#5250 Certificated Staff Grievances

#5445 Salary Schedule Non-Certificated Employees—Dr. Brown will bring a revision to this policy back to the board prior to the start of next year's budget planning.

#5800 Classified Employment, Assignment and Grievance

#8605 Retention of District Records—There was concern that the policy is too complex to be used appropriately. Mrs. Bridwell will go over it to see if the district can comply or if the policy could be condensed or simplified and bring it back next meeting.

Board Policy 1<sup>st</sup> Reading New Policies. The following new policies were presented for a first reading:

#2215 Air Quality Restrictions on Outdoor Activities, Practice, and Competition—a time frame for making decisions to hold or cancel activities was discussed and Dr. Brown recommended two to four hours depending on location of the other participants in the activity. Mr. Wadsworth said the medium of communication could include text alerts, Facebook announcements, and the school marquee.

#2580 Use of Animals in Educational Programs—Consensus was not to adopt this optional policy

#5275 Adult Sexual Misconduct

#5620 Safety Management Program and District Personnel

The board took a brief recess.

Venture Upward Update. Mrs. Bridwell presented a four-year average of enrollment compared to state funding and how that might translate to increased funding for the district due to the addition of Venture Upward students.

Reed Street Property Update. Since the vacate ordinance from the City of Hagerman specifies that the property will revert to the adjacent land owners and the other land owner has agreed to sign over their half of the property to the district, a simple quit claim deed could be filed to finalize the transfer. Mrs.

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Bridwell is working with a title company on the next step. Trustee Dorchuck also stated she has a form that could be used by the district.

Blended Learning Technology Plan Update. Dr. Brown informed the board that the student Chromebooks, the teacher laptops, and big screens for the classrooms have been purchased and delivered to the district. IT staff is getting them out to students and staff and is working to hang the touch screens. At this time, all the funding has been expended or encumbered.

Continuous Improvement Plan. The committee has identified strengths, areas of weakness, opportunities, and threats and aligned these areas with the focus points for the year. Each area has been assigned to committee members to address strategies and determine measurable goals.

#### Action Items

Building Safety Inspection Report and Response. Dr. Brown presented the recent safety inspection report. Several findings were repeat offenses and many had to do with housekeeping. He will start addressing these immediately.

Board Policy Revisions 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Board Policies #2100; #2110C; #2150; #3010; #3080; #4105; #4225; #5480; #8170; and #8235 were presented for a second reading. Moved by Trustee Dorchuck to adopt all as presented; seconded by Trustee Moore; motion carried.

Staff Compensation – Idaho Rebounds Special Distribution Funds. Moved by Trustee Dorchuck to approve a \$600 stipend for all staff for extra hours; \$900 for those staff members doing the tutoring program; \$1,000 for four team leaders; and \$1,000 for the two staff members providing professional development; seconded by Trustee Moore; motion carried.

ISBA Resolutions. The board discussed the upcoming ISBA resolutions and reached consensus on each. No. 1 – do pass; No. 2 – do pass; No. 3 – do pass; No. 4 – do pass; No. 5 – do pass; No. 6 – do pass; No. 7 – do not pass; No. 8 – do pass; No. 9 – do pass; No. 10 – do pass; No. 11 – do pass; No. 12 – do pass; No. 13 – do pass; No. 14 – do not pass; No. 15 – do pass; By law for vice president – do pass; membership dues & fees – do not pass.

#### Executive Session

Moved by Trustee Moore to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel, superintendent goals, real estate, and records exempt from disclosure, as per Idaho Code 74-206(1)(a)(b) (c) and (d); seconded by Trustee Dorchuck; motion carried by roll call vote at 10:09 p.m. as follows: Trustee Gossi—yes; Trustee Moore—yes; Trustee Dorchuck—yes; Trustee Osborne—yes; and Trustee Whitmarsh—yes. Present in executive session were all board members, Dr. Brown, Mr.

Wadsworth and Mrs. Bridwell. The board discussed personnel, evaluation of superintendent, real estate, and records exempt from disclosure and returned to regular session at 11:46 p.m.

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Moved by Trustee Dorchuck to hire Dana Strong as varsity boys basketball coach and Joe Kendall as junior high boys basketball coach; and Blair Kelley as a kindergarten/special education para; seconded by Trustee Moore; motion carried.

Moved by Trustee Moore to approve out of district enrollment applications; seconded by Trustee Gossi; motion carried.

The next meeting will be December 7, 2020.

Trustee Whitmarsh adjourned the meeting at 11:51 p.m.

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District Clerk