

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

**Joint Hagerman School District No. 233
Gooding and Twin Falls Counties, Idaho
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
August 23, 2021**

Chairman Bryan Whitmarsh called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. in Room 7 of Hagerman Jr-Sr High School. District Clerk Cathy Bridwell took roll and a quorum was present with other board members in attendance being Phil Gossi and Monte Osborne. Brian Moore arrived at 6:09 p.m. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Jim Brown, High School Principal Jaren Wadsworth, Associate Principal Dr. Troy Easterday, Jolinda Solosabal, Dan, Jessica and Josiah Knapp, Lori Osborne, Melissa McCullough, Ray Hoffmann, Josh Richards, Josh Mavencamp, Dagny Bogaard, and Cindi and John Kinder.

Chairman Whitmarsh led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Special Reports

Ag instructor Daniel Knapp reported on recent events involving students at the Gooding County Fair. About 15% of Hagerman students had projects at the fair and did very well at the sale. He asked that next year school registration not be during fair week. Hagerman High School has six national finalists in the agri-science fair, which is quite high considering the state of California only has 21.

Moved by Trustee Osborne to approve the current agenda; seconded by Trustee Gossi; motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Questions: Board members were concerned about the balance in the building fund, but were looking at the investment balance instead of the fund balance; there was a state revenue increase due to Venture; Trustee Osborne pointed out a mistake in the minutes on the bottom of the second page where it should say Trustee Osborne, not Trustee Moore. Moved by Trustee Gossi to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2021, regular meeting as corrected; the bills; and the financial reports; as presented; seconded by Trustee Moore; motion carried.

Public Input

Four people wished to speak on various topics and one person wished to speak on a topic that concerned personnel. Chairman Whitmarsh announced that those wishing to speak on agenda items will be asked for input when those items are addressed and the individual with a personnel issue will be invited into executive session.

Administrative Reports

Dr. Jim Brown reported that enrollment has dropped overall, but face-to-face enrollment has increased by about 55 students. A five-year strategic plan training has been scheduled for the September board meeting. Tutoring this year will not impact sports practice start times, but athletes required to attend tutoring sessions may miss practice. Dr. Brown thanked Chairman

Whitmarsh for allowing the district the use of his home for the building retreat. Dr. Brown also thanked Phil Gossi for assisting with the purchase of the lawn mower and for helping to spread

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bark on the elementary playground. Staff from both buildings attended several training opportunities over the summer. Classrooms were painted, new sinks were installed, new carpet was installed in 10 classrooms, and outside painting is in progress. A training room has been set up for student athletes and a teaming room for coaches at the old gym. Dr. Brown hired a local company to repair the high school gym roof based on the quotes he received. They will also be doing the elementary roof. The AC units have been inspected and the district will start the bid process to replace those that have outlived their use. Dr. Brown turned the floor over to Kirt Martin for an update on the Food Service program. Mr. Martin reported on plans for remodeling the ag building based on available funding. This addition would not infringe on the vacated Reed Street, for which the district is still in process of finalizing ownership with the adjacent land owner. He will be adding three industry certifications to his program. He also explained the different types of equipment that he will be needing this year and new training he will be offering to students.

Principal Wadsworth thanked the maintenance crew for their great job getting the building ready for school. Several rooms have new carpet. He gave the floor to Jolinda Solosabal, who reported on a grant she was awarded for student athletes from Dairy West. The grant includes a pallet of milk, a banner, and a cooler. The school website will also have a banner on it about the program. Students dressed as milk cartons and cows will be part of the homecoming parade. Dr. Brown had mentioned putting a refrigerator in the teaming room for milk storage for athletes. Leah Brown will also teach these concepts in her body conditioning and health classes. The board thanked Mrs. Solosabal for her work on this project. Mr. Wadsworth announced that the Hagerman Booster Club helped pay for nets for the high school volleyball program. Homecoming is September 10 with the parade and the community barbecue both on September 9. This is the year to put together a career fair, so plans will be made soon. Mr. Wadsworth thanked Mrs. Kinder, who helped with fair projects when Mr. Knapp was under the weather and who will also help with the career fair. The calendar on the website is now syncing every six hours, so it's up to date and the athletic section Mr. Wadsworth added is very helpful. The ice machine in the Prince gymnasium has been replaced. He created an Instagram account for the high school and has 54 followers. He is trying to link it to the Facebook account so one update hits all the different applications. The building inspector will be here in September. The first day was a little chaotic but students seem glad to be back.

Information Items

Building Maintenance Report. Dr. Brown updated the board on the safety inspection violations from last year. Administrators plan to hold fire drills monthly. The emergency lighting has been replaced and repaired. The bleachers and crow's nest also need to be repaired before the inspection. Arc shields will be ordered and replaced and extras ordered for the school year.

Tanks need to be anchored and housekeeping and storage deficiencies will be completed. All issues in the elementary school have been addressed except the housekeeping in the server room. The elementary playground has had bark added to alleviate the issue of concrete under the spider web play apparatus. The broken sections of sidewalk will be taken out and replaced later this fall. The elementary parking lot has new gravel and painted lines. A classroom in the

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Prince gym has been opened, which creates a communication issue in the case of a fire alarm. Maintenance crews will work on a solution immediately.

ESSER Plan Committee Report. Dr. Brown reported on the recent committee meeting for the use of ESSER funds. Expenses include things already committed to and other things the committee felt were important. This will be addressed in more detail with the board during their upcoming strategic plan training.

Procedure for Restoring Internet Services in Absence of Technology Director. IT Director Matt Cottam submitted a written report stating that internet failure is rare, but he is training Dr. Easterday and Mr. Wadsworth on protocols if it should be necessary.

Driver Education Program. Dr. Brown reported that Josh Douville is interested in becoming the teacher and will need to take a course this fall to become licensed as an instructor.

IT Ticket Report. Dr. Brown presented Mr. Cottam's report. He is in the process of looking at three different programs that would be more user friendly for staff. The program has a phone app that employees can use instead of texting or calling him. He has been very busy getting everything ready for school to start and most of these tasks are not documented. Dr. Brown also mentioned the problem of staff absences during the summer impacting completion of tasks. Dr. Brown will be meeting with Mr. Cottam concerning projects that need to be completed.

Action Items

Online Meetings - To Zoom or not to Zoom. Mrs. Knapp asked the board to return to hosting electronic meetings for the convenience of the community. Chairman Whitmarsh mentioned the issue of accidentally broadcasting executive sessions and asked if people were okay with him closing the meeting when executive session starts. Those present at the meeting agreed to this. Moved by Trustee Moore to reinstate Zoom board meetings and end them right before executive session; the Zoom meetings will not re-start after executive session, so those interested in what happens following executive session will need to get the notes at a later date; seconded by Trustee Gossi; motion carried.

Approval of ARP School Reopening Plan. Jessica Knapp commended the board and administration for in-person learning and removal of barriers and mandates for students. The district will not require masks or contact tracing but will be emphasizing safety and sanitation

protocols. Dr. Brown asked for feedback on when staff and students can return to school after a positive test. The plan currently states 10 days from onset of symptoms, but it was suggested changing the language to two days symptom-free and/or a negative test. The communication plan section was suggested to be stricken; consensus was to agree. Moved by Trustee Osborne to approve the plan as revised; seconded by Trustee Gossi; motion carried.

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Approval of Bus Routes and Safety Busing Areas. No changes were recommended by Tom; moved by Brian Moore to approve the same as last year; seconded by Trustee Gossi; motion carried.

Approval of Transportation Contract. Rates are higher this year as shown by the consumer price index on which they are based. Moved by Trustee Gossi to approve the transportation contract with C8 Transportation as presented; seconded by Trustee Osborne; motion carried.

Trustee Election, Zone 2 Vacancy and Appointment of Check Signatory. Moved by Trustee Osborne to accept Teri Dorchuck's resignation and open a vacancy in Zone 2; seconded by Phil Gossi; motion carried. Moved by Trustee Moore to appoint Phil Gossi as check signatory; seconded by Trustee Gossi; motion carried.

Board Policy Revision 1st Reading: #2700 (Graduation Requirements). Dr. Brown reiterated the rationale for making the requirements more rigorous, one of which is that the current low number of credits allows students to fail or not take courses and therefore not be in school when they should be. Chairman Whitmarsh went over the draft policy, which was what the board had considered at a prior meeting. Dr. Brown said since this draft, things have changed and this draft is no longer accurate. He mentioned the idea of requiring specific classes for each grade level to maximize resources. He went through the draft and explained to the board why some of the required classes have been changed. Mr. Knapp was concerned about limiting students to certain classes in certain years due to dual credit options and advanced opportunities. He expressed the need to advance students in math beginning in fourth or fifth grade. He wants the schedule to always allow students to advance and to challenge them.

Board Policy Revision 1st Reading: #2435 (Advanced Opportunities). Dr. Brown put forth a proposal saying if a student is advanced and takes a dual credit course their tenth grade year, they will get both credits, but will be required to take another math class second semester. A student spoke about allowing students to take classes any time they want and getting all their credits earned earlier so they can take more electives. Jessica Knapp spoke on dual credit. Mr. Wadsworth would like to see students get 2 for 1 credits if they do a dual credit course. Jessica Knapp asked the board to continue 2-1 for dual credits. Chairman Whitmarsh suggested that in order to get 2-1 credits, the student must pass the class with at least a B. Mrs. Knapp asked the board to remove the required courses per grade section from the draft policy. She felt the

administration should have a plan and a suggested track that would allow for exceptions without breaking policy or having to revise it. Mrs. Kinder mentioned that her student is not an A-B student, but does well in his dual credit courses. She also talked about the expense of college and how these courses help with the cost. John Kinder and Josiah Knapp spoke to the board about the value of getting these college credits in high school. Jessica Knapp mentioned that Math 143 is difficult and students should be allowed to skip a semester of math after completing it. Chairman Whitmarsh thanked the public for their input.

The board took a brief recess.

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Moved by Trustee Osborne to go into executive session as per Idaho Code 74-206(a) and (b) for the purpose of personnel; seconded by Trustee Moore; motion carried at 8:40 p.m. Present in executive session were all board members, Mrs. Bridwell and Josh Mavencamp. The board discussed personnel and Mr. Mavencamp left at 8:58 p.m. The board continued to discuss personnel. Dr. Brown and Mr. Wadsworth entered the session at 9:09 p.m. The board discussed personnel and returned to regular session at 9:49 p.m.

Moved by Trustee Moore to accept the resignation of Charlee Wilson and approve Kamri Cunningham taking on these extra duties with additional compensation; and also to hire Christina Belknap and Allix Schlund as paras; seconded by Trustee Gossi; motion carried.

Announcements

The next meeting was set for Wednesday, September 15, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

Mrs. Bridwell informed the board of the ISBA conference in November and asked those board members interested in attending to let her know so she can register them.

Moved by Trustee Gossi to adjourn; seconded by Trustee Moore; carried at 9:54 p.m.

Catherine Bridwell, District Clerk