

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION LIMON SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4J Limon, Colorado

Regular KIND OF MEETING	East Central BOCES MEETING PLACE	7:00 p.m. TIME	December MONTH	8 DAY	2014 YEAR
----------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------	-------------------	----------	--------------

Russell Lengel
PRESIDING OFFICER

Wendy Pottorff
MEMBER

Troy Jaklich
VICE CHAIRMAN

Dave Marx
SUPERINTENDENT

Bart O'Dwyer
TREASURER

Craig Bailey
SECRETARY

- Roll Call:** The regular Board of Education meeting of Limon School District RE-4J was called to order by Board President Russell Lengel at 7:00 p.m. Roll call reflected that all Board members were present.
- Mission Statement:** Craig Bailey read the district mission statement.
- Agenda:** Wendy Pottorff moved and Bart O'Dwyer seconded the motion to approve the agenda for December 8, 2014. The motion passed unanimously.
- School Officials:** Dave Marx, Joel Albers, Traci Weisensee & Dirk Pedersen
- Audience:** Les Layton, Kim Steinhart, Charles Hoffman, Layne Higgins, Larissa Hubbard, Jim Hubbard and Sharon Hansen
- Minutes:** Craig Bailey moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve the regular board meeting minutes of November 17, 2014 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
- Staff Report:** Larissa Hubbard was asked to give a staff report. She is the special education teacher for grades kindergarten thru 5th. She is averaging 25 students on her case load. This year she is in one of the modulars and doesn't have any complaints about it. It's a quiet room that is working well. She has 2 paras that are either in her room or in classrooms. Most of her kids also qualify for BOCES services such as occupational therapy, speech and social and emotion support. She enjoys the challenges and the wide variety of kids she sees. The most difficult part is scheduling. She tries to keep the kids in their gen ed classroom for all core instruction. Her favorite part of her job is working with the kids. She really gets to know them because most are with her from kindergarten until they move up to jr. high.
- Financial Reports:** Bart O'Dwyer moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve the General Fund and Insurance Reserve expenditures for November of 2014 in the amount of \$360,799.40. This included a half payment to BOCES for \$56,419. Bart was very concerned with the low cash balance in the general fund. He asked if we have any money coming in. Kim stated not much extra until March and that the cash flow is always low this time of year. Craig reminded them that we did balance the budget and should have a net income this year of over \$50,000 as opposed to the net loss of over \$300,000 for the 2013-2014 school year which is very good. The Board would like Kim and Dave to check with our attorney to see if we can move some of the money from the bond redemption fund into the general fund. Kim stated that looking back \$96,000 (approximant amount) has always been in the beginning fund balance designated as Debt Reserve which was spent for the Bond refinancing last year. The Board asked if all the MCC students have paid the school back. Kim and Traci stated that there was about \$5,000 still outstanding. Traci thought that Shirelle was letting them enroll in second semester college courses but they needed to be paid in full before they could start the class. Bart stated that they were not supposed to be able to enroll unless all bills were paid in full. Traci was going to check with Shirelle and let the Board know. The motion passed unanimously.
- Education Reports:** **Elementary Principal Report** (stated report was in the packet)
Mr. Albers highlighted items from his report. Enrollment is at 227 students. The attendance rate continues to be above our goal. Teachers have begun the second round of the mandatory assessments using DIBELS. The end of year testing will be the last two weeks of April. This is to help identify our students with a significant reading deficiency. The 3rd graders took the CogAT assessment on the Monday and Tuesday before Thanksgiving. This is to help identify our gifted and talented students. Students participated in the annual Tree Walk at the Senior Center. The

Christmas program, "Filling Buckets", will be next Tuesday at 7pm in the Activities Building. The 3rd graders will be going on their field trip early this year because of all the testing and the earlier end of school. They will be going to the Denver Museum of Science and Nature on Wednesday, December 17th. Kindergarten parties will be next Wednesday and they will not attend school on Thursday the 18th. 1st thru 5th grade will have their parties at 10:30am on Thursday the 18th and school will be released at 11:30am. Joel gave an update on the GOCO grant. Two gentlemen hired by GOCO came out last week and met with some staff and students. After looking over everything, they thought that this could be at least a \$300,000 project and we could apply for a bigger grant when that grant cycle comes around. Joel stated that this was perfect timing for the smaller grants and he doesn't want to lose this opportunity. The district would still need to come up with the 10% match and 15% in kind and donations for the bigger grant. Currently we are going to use BEST grant money for the match. Joel has also been talking to some businesses for donation or in kind help. Haselden has offered to donate to this. He asked the two gentlemen that came out to come back and present some ideas of playgrounds that the kids may not have thought of. Bart asked if we would have restrictions on how long the playground would need to be here. Joel stated that they did away with the restrictions. We just have to agree to maintain the grounds.

Secondary Principal Report (stated report was in the packet)

Traci Weisensee highlighted items from her report. Enrollment in the secondary is at 246. The middle school attendance is above our goal and high school is just below. The band raised \$4,500 from their cookie dough fundraiser. Mr. Scherrer told her that this will help with instrument repairs but it was a lot of work. She included the first semester finals schedule and the letter sent home to parents. Dave, Cody, Donny, Kim and she met with Julie McWilson, CTA Manager through the Colorado Community College System, to go over what they can use the Career and Tech Ed reimbursement for. As long as the equipment is portable they can be reimbursed 28%. Mrs. Bandy has been working on the testing schedule for March and April. This is a tight schedule because of all the testing and because we will be getting out earlier this year. We are moving classrooms around to make a new computer lab to accommodate all the testing.

Accountability: Joel stated that they met December 1st. They had a new member attend, Mr. Calkum. They discussed policies KBA and KBAE. Dave gave a building update and Cody gave a Career and Tech Ed report.

Staff Report: (none given)

STUCO Report: (none given)

Athletic Department Report: (stated report was in the packet)

Dirk highlighted items from his report. Jayden Hilferty, Tyler Kimble, Cody Bennett, Kerigan Kappel, Luke Meier, Devin Christian, Tyler Cochran, Braden Kappel, Tristan Ruebesam and Terren Sanchez all made the football All Conference 1st team. James Larson was an Honorable Mention. He congratulated Cassie Alcorn and Mr. Rockwell for Cassie making the CHSAA All-State Softball team. He gave the current records for middle school boys and girls basketball. Both the girls and boys high school basketball teams participated in the Kiowa Tournament. The boys finished in 1st and girls finished 2nd. The Cheer and Dance teams participated in the CHSAA Spirit competition. The Dance team came in 2nd. Cheer participated for the first time in the coed competition and finished 11th. Mrs. Larson told him that the cheer routine was flawless. Carla Stone is volunteering to help out with girls middle school basketball while Justine is on maternity leave.

FFA Report:

Layne Higgins gave the FFA report. He got the final numbers on what they raised at the Hired Hand Auction. They raised \$15,000 and paid \$2,000 for the caterer so they made \$13,000. Mr. Weber picked up 220 tilapia fish for the Aquaculture class. Over Christmas break the officers and jr. officers will go to Fort Collins and stay overnight at a hotel for a team building get away.

Board Reports:

Bart asked if we get any funds from the state for college classes. Kim stated no. Bart said that the President of MCC told him that he thought we received money. Dave and Traci are looking into ways to save money with our college classes. We currently have a 5 year agreement with MCC. We can get out of it but we would need to finish the academic year first.

Superintendent's Report:

Mr. Marx highlighted items from his report. He appreciates all the time Mrs. Bandy has spent working on the testing scheduling for March and April. Construction is moving along. Some of the staff are helping out. Les and Tom are framing out a new storage room for concessions in the foyer of the Activities Building and Charlie is going to run some wiring for computers.

Audience Participation: None

Action Items: **2nd and Final Reading of Revised Accountability and Administrative Policies**

Craig Bailey moved and Troy Jaklich seconded the motion to approve the 2nd and final reading of the following revised Accountability and Administrative policies –

ADC	Tobacco-Free Schools
ADD	Safe Schools
ADD-E	Safe Schools Exhibit
ADF	School Wellness
AE	Accountability/Commitment to Accomplishment
AE-R	Accountability/Commitment to Accomplishment
AED	Accreditation
EEAA	Walkers & Riders

Craig fixed the typo in policy ADC, paragraph number 2b. The motion passed unanimously.

2nd and Final Reading of New and Revised Personnel Policies (Professional Staff)

Sharon Hansen asked the Board to include wording in policy GCQA-R that would pay teachers severance pay if the district broke their contracts if they were RIFed. Bart asked if the teachers had to pay if they broke their contract. Sharon stated that they had to give 30 days notice or pay a penalty. Kim stated that the contracts state the district ‘may’ impose a penalty. It is at the districts discretion. Sharon stated that staff was just asking for protection and that if you are RIFed in October it is near impossible to get another teaching job. Craig would like to get an attorney’s opinion before adding any wording. Troy asked if teachers could collect unemployment if they were let go. Kim stated that yes they could. Les stated he was concerned that if 5 teachers were let go that we would have to let more staff go to make up for the severance payments given out. Charlie Hoffman asked that this policy be tabled for the reading and the teachers come back with the wording that they work out and let the Board decide then. Craig stated that they may also want to look at policy GCQA and not just the regulation that is up for the 2nd reading now. This was agreed to table GCQA-R until the January meeting.

Craig Bailey moved and Troy Jaklich seconded the motion to approve the 2nd reading of the following new and revised personnel (Professional Staff) policies –

GCA	Professional Staff Positions
GCBA	Instructional Staff Contracts/Compensation/Salary Schedule
GCD	Professional Staff Vacation Leave & Holidays
GCE-GCF	Professional Staff Recruiting/Hiring
GCE-GCF-R	Professional Staff Recruiting/Hiring Regulation
GCHC	Professional Staff Induction Program
GCI	Professional Staff Development
GCKA	Instructional Staff Assignments & Transfers
GCKAA	Teacher Displacement (NEW POLICY)
GCKAA-R	Teacher Displacement (NEW REGULATION)
GCL	Professional Staff Schedules & Calendars
GCQC-GCQD	Resignation of Instructional Staff/Administrative Staff
GCQC-GCQD-R	Resignation of Instructional Staff/Admin Staff Mandatory Reporting (NEW REGULATION)
GCQE	Retirement of Professional Staff
GCQF	Discipline, Suspension & Dismissal of Prof. Staff
GCQF-R	Discipline, Suspension & Dismissal of Prof. Staff Mandatory Reporting (NEW REGULATION)
GCS	Professional Research & Publishing

The motion passed unanimously.

2nd and Final Reading of Revised Personnel (Classified Staff) Policies

Craig Bailey moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve the 2nd and final reading of the following revised personnel (classified staff) policies –

GDAA	Title I Paraprofessionals
GDBC	Support Staff Supplementary Pay/Overtime
GDD	Support Staff Vacation Leave & Holidays
GDE/GDF	Support Staff Recruiting/Hiring
GDE/GDF-R	Support Staff Recruiting/Hiring Regulation

GDQB Resignation of Support Staff
GDQD Discipline, Suspension & Dismissal of Support Staff

The motion passed unanimously.

2nd and Final Reading of Policies to be Repealed

Craig Bailey moved and Wendy Pottorff seconded the motion to approve the 2nd and final reading of the following policies to be repealed –

AE-E Accountability Process Time-line
AECA School Accountability Reports

The motion passed unanimously.

Amended 2014-2015 Limon School Budget

Bart O’Dwyer moved and Craig Bailey seconded the motion to approve amended 2014-2015 Limon School Budget, as presented. Bart asked what changed. Kim stated that changes were made based on the student count update and grants that were received. She made adjustments according to the PPOR CPP money, MCC money based on the numbers Mary gave, insurance cost and created fund 41 for the BEST Grant. The motion passed unanimously.

Amended Budget Resolution

Craig Bailey moved and Troy Jaklich seconded the motion to approve the following amended resolution – Be it resolved by the Board of Education of Limon School District RE-4J in Lincoln County that the amounts shown in the presented schedule be appropriated to each fund as specified in the “2014-2015 Budget” for the ensuing fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2015. The new appropriation amount is \$36,933,230. Bart asked if this amount was for the bills we will need to pay for the BEST grant by July 1st. Kim stated that they will probably not get billed for everything by then but that we would get in trouble if we didn’t have enough appropriated for the 2014-2015 budget but we won’t get in trouble if we have too much. The motion passed unanimously.

Mill Levy Certification and Resolution

Bart O’Dwyer moved and Craig Bailey seconded the motion to approve the mill levy of 21.846 mills for the General Fund and mill levy of 10.275 mills for the Bond Redemption Fund on total assessed evaluation of \$69,904,759. This will generate \$1,527,139.35 for the General Fund and \$718,271.39 for the Bond Fund. Also, to give authorization for the administration to modify these amounts to meet State requirements if the assessed evaluation changes after December 8, 2014. The motion passed unanimously.

Coach

Wendy Pottorff moved and Craig Bailey seconded the motion to approve Erin Mellott as volunteer assistant high school girls basketball coach and Carla Stone as volunteer assistant middle school girls basketball coach. The motion passed with four ayes and Bart O’Dwyer abstaining.

Future Business:

Budget Work Session – Monday, January 12, 2015 in the Choir Room
Work Session – Monday, January 19, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Choir Room
Next School Board Meeting – Monday, January 19, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room

Adjournment:

At 8:32pm Bart O’Dwyer moved and Troy Jaklich seconded the motion to approve the Board of Education to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Jill Bull, Clerk to the Board of Education

Approved: _____
Date

President: _____
Russell Lengel