

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 16, COUNTY OF HARNEY, MET AT FRENCHGLEN SCHOOL IN SAID DISTRICT, ON THE 14th day of May, 2024 at 6:20 P.M.

Board Present: Nevada Miller, Corbin Hammond, Rene Villagrana, Debbie Webb and Mary Murphy.

Others Present: Earlyna Hammond, Clerk, Carolyn Whitney, teacher.

The meeting was called to order at 6:20 P.M. Corbin motioned to approve the Agenda and Rene seconded. AIF.

Corbin motioned to approve the minutes as presented and Debbie seconded. AIF.

VISITORS

There were no visitors.

PENDING/PAID BILLS

The bills were reviewed and discussed: the VISA bill was added in the amount of \$551.65 and Julie Opie's invoice for budget services for \$9175.00. There was also discussion regarding the Acorn's account that was set up for the eligible student this year. A debit card had to be used and currently the school does not have one. Nevada put the expenses on her personal debit card and the board agreed to reimburse her. Corbin motioned and Debbie seconded. AIF. Earlyna will get a school debit card for future investment expenses.

CUSTODIAN REPORT/YARD MAINTENANCE

Corbin stated that the yard looks great! Carolyn said that everything is going well.

INTERNAL CONTROL

Rene opened two bank statements and performed internal control. Checks were signed.

SITE COUNCIL REPORT

After discussion the board agreed this Agenda item is no longer needed. Earlyna will delete it.

POLICY UPDATES

Debbie motioned to approve the policy updates as discussed and Rene seconded. AIF.

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Carolyn stated that things were going well and she is working with Austin to get the Library up and going.

TEACHER REPORT

Carolyn said that the locksmith expenses could come from the health and safety dollars from SIA.

There's been one student signed up for the Acorns investment account.

She's still working on the TAG plan.

Joe Baker hasn't gotten back yet regarding the gym heaters.

One student who has been tutored by Lyn Seres could attend a summer reading camp at Fields. \$275 to cover meals etc. This could be ESSER III. Carolyn also recommended continuing to tutor this student this summer at a cost of approximately \$1400-this would be three days each week and 30 minutes each time. ESSER III or SRSA funds could be used. Debbie motioned to allow this and Rene seconded. AIF.

Carolyn said there will also be some Summer Learning again this year- this can also be SRSA or ESSER III funds. Earlyna stated that she will have to get final transfer figures from the 253 fund before knowing how much money is left. Part of the summer learning is funded by the Literacy Grant (ESD). There are Gift cards (not amazon) and reading goodie bags for each student included in the grant.

IXL- grant through the REN is also used for summer learning. Ms. K would like to meet with students in person and online. She is hoping this will help.

Pre-School for the 24-25 school year discussion: Carolyn said that there are four potential students and it would be starting in September. There is a teacher training for a full week before rurals back to school trainings. An ESD grant pays for training. Carolyn could maybe stay with Sheri in town?

Corbin asked how the preschool would work? Carolyn stated that in the past she had a Kindergartener and 7th grader in school and brought a preschooler in for one half day per week. It was 'themed' about how to follow directions and how to be in school, etc. The pre-schoolers can be taught basic activities to do together.

Corbin asked if the board approves the program, will the parents receiving and signing a student handbook like the school aged students do? The board agreed that they should all be signing and agreeing to the handbook policies. Carolyn doesn't think it will take away too much from the other students.

Mary left at 6:50. Nevada stated that she wants to address any worries about the pre-schoolers taking away time from current students. Maybe we only take four year olds and do one half day a week to start? She stated that the board wants to have the current students excelling. The board agreed that the school aged students are the priority. This was tabled until a future meeting where Carolyn has a better feel for how many potential preschool students there are, what the schedule would be etc so that it flows the best and least impactful to the rest of the class. The board agreed.

AIR- fiddler- this went well again this year. There is discussion with other rurals and maybe a writer in residence could come again next year ? BOB went really well at the ESD and we will do it again next year. They've discussed having the final competition earlier in the year next year.

The ESD grant sponsored Astoria field study was wonderful and the kids had a great time!

The students went to EOARC today and they worked with soils, plants, GPS, cows stomachs, and it was also really good.

May Play Day was held in Crane and had the morning music portion again. This and the track events went well.

Tomorrow is Read the Day Away and Thursday is Ms. Caitlin in Fields. There is school Friday.

Also, the Early Literacy grant with the ESD is paying for each student to pick out \$50 worth of books.

The Technology Conference in town was good; Carolyn presented the revised 24-25 school Calendar: this reflects changes discussed from last meeting. She said there are pretty much two days each month for “in school” Fridays. Corbin motioned to approve the calendar and Debbie seconded. AIF.

All the board was emailed Carolyn’s evaluation from the ESD and will review it.

Nevada suggested having a Career Fair here with people from this community. Carolyn said that she could do that.

A Crater Lake field study was discussed for in the Fall and would be paid with an ESD Outdoor School Grant- it would be nice to spread the field studies out and not have the Spring so full. They are also discussing possibly going back to having Market Day and another Ski trip might be an option.

SAFETY COMMITTEE/PEST MANAGEMENT

Wasps are in gym; there still is a broken board on the fence. Ryan Curtis has taped up the new playground equipment area and is currently working in it.

NEW BUSINESS

June meeting will be held on the 11th at 5:30 and includes the public budget hearing. Carolyn will call in.

Auditor contract: after discussion this was tabled. Earlyna will reach out to Annette and with the ESD and also with the secretary at Millington & Co. regarding audit services for next year.

OLD BUSINESS

Acorns Update: Nevada discovered there is a \$9/month fee and a debit card is needed to move the funds and the district doesn’t have one. She and Earlyna talked, and the board agreed that the school will reimburse Nevada the expense on her debit card-this will leave a paper trail for documentation. Earlyna will get with Sandra at US Bank for a debit card with school and Nevada’s name on it. There is also a book on basic financial things that Nevada feels should be read by Riley- Carolyn will order the book. Riley got \$2,000.00. Because Nevada didn’t know about the \$9/month fee, the district will refund Cassandra the \$108 she has paid through May 2025. However, after discussion, the board agreed that the student/parent needed to pay those fees moving forward. Nevada will let Cassandra know and the agreement will be amended to reflect this.

In the future, the parents pay the \$9/month fee. Corbin asked if they had to sign anything? Maybe in the future they could sign the agreement? Debbie agrees that the parent and the student should both sign it. The district will pay for Riley’s \$108 annual fee this year but not after that. It will be the parent’s responsibility.

State Land Update: Corbin talked with State Parks. Tentatively the state will have a green light to give everything to the school district. The county has no interest in it per Judge Hart. There will be a “gift back” clause stating that as long as it’s being used for the public, it will be fine.

CORRESPONDENCE

Debbie motioned to sign Budget Resolution #3 that outlines the additional monies of \$3,503 that the district received in SRSA grant monies for the current year. Corbin seconded and AIF.

Carolyn and Nevada signed her teacher's contract for 24-25.

Nevada signed the rental agreement for the double wide teacherage with the Murphy's.
The meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Earlyna Hammond, Clerk