

Snake River School Board of Trustees
Held at the Snake River District Office via Zoom
103 South 900 West, Blackfoot, Idaho 83221
Monday, March 30, 2020

1. WELCOME AND ROLL CALL

Chairman Kent Miller called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Board members present via telecommunication were Chairman Kent Miller, Marci VanOrden, Carol Hepworth, Lon Harrington and Kent Miller. Also attending was Superintendent David Kerns and Board Clerk Terisa Coombs.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (ACTION ITEM)

A motion was made by Bill Martin and seconded by Lon Harrington to approve the agenda as presented. All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

3. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

- During the closure, we are directed to provide the following essential services:
 1. Provide food services to underserved populations and childcare for community members who provide critical services.
 2. Develop and implement plans for delivering remote or distance learning strategies (online, video or teleconference).
 3. Develop a plan for providing special education-related services.
- All athletic facilities are closed. I have granted a few requests to use the track for personal exercise. I have noticed some motorcycle riding on the grounds at the Middle School. We need all motorized vehicles to stay off our grounds at all times, including closures.
- The District Office Will be closed this Wednesday and Thursday for Spring Break.
- I recommend we cancel Board meeting scheduled this Friday. If our situation changes significantly after Spring Break, we could call a Special meeting April 8th.
- We need to consider offering more Pass/Fail grades at all levels to finish out the year.
- We need to suspend our attendance policy in our next meeting for obvious reasons due to the extended closure.
- We will need to begin discussion of graduation services and what that will look like in June. See below.

4. EMERGENCY CLOSURE

Because of the coronavirus, the State Board of Education required a soft closure of the Snake River School District Schools from April 6, 2020 to April 16, 2020. This needs to be ratified.

It was moved by Lon Harrington and seconded by Carol Hepworth that the Board of Trustees approve the Emergency Closure of the Snake River School District Schools from April 6, 2020 to April 16, 2020 because of the COVID-19 coronavirus. All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

5. RESCHEDULE BOARD MEETING

Because of the soft closure of all schools, the regular board meeting of April 15, 2020 will need to be moved from the high school to the district office via teleconference. Also, the meeting scheduled for April 3, 2020 will need to be cancelled because it is spring break. If a meeting is needed before the April 15th meeting, the board will call a special meeting at that time.

It was moved by Bill Martin and seconded by Marci VanOrden that the board meeting scheduled for April 15, 2020 at Snake River High School be moved to the District Office via teleconference and that the special board meeting scheduled for April 3, 2020 be cancelled. All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

6. GRADUATION DISCUSSION

Superintendent Kerns wanted to start a discussion about options for graduation in the wake of the coronavirus. The Board is in charge, as always, but this year might look quite different than previous graduation ceremonies. Some possibilities are:

Plan A – Hold Graduation as always.

Plan B – Issue tickets to parents only; no one else allowed to attend and live stream video with recorded music, not even processional or recessional, no all-night party.

Plan C – Invite graduates only, no guests, with speakers and live stream video.

Plan D – No program at all, simply have graduates walk through a line with recorded music, receive their diplomas and then exit out immediately after receiving diplomas.

GRADUATION DISCUSSION (Continued)

Superintendent Kerns will send these items to the board to give time to think about each of these options. He would like a decision made by the board meeting held on April 15, 2020 if at all possible. Discussion was held about the different possibilities. Because it is so early in the process, the board will think about it and come ready with a decision at the April 15th meeting.

**7. POLICY READINGS
SECOND READINGS:**

Policy 6415, “Emergency School Closure” This updated policy adds recent changes to state law that allows school districts to request a waiver of required instructional hours on a district-wide basis where natural occurrences creating unsafe conditions require school closure and a county or state disaster declaration has been issued in one or more counties where the district is located. Discussion held. No further changes were made.

Policy 8445, “Communicable Diseases and Life-Threatening Illnesses” Superintendent Kerns would like this policy to be reviewed because of the coronavirus situation. No changes were made.

Lon Harrington moved and Carol Hepworth seconded to approve the second readings of Policy 6415, “Emergency School Closure;” and Policy 8445, “Communicable Diseases and Life-Threatening Illnesses.” All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

8. ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Carol Hepworth and seconded by Lon Harrington.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Terisa Coombs
Clerk

Kent Miller
Chairman

April 15, 2020
Date