

**Snake River School Board of Trustees**  
**Held at Snake River Junior High School**  
**918 West Highway 39, Blackfoot, Idaho 83221**  
**Wednesday, August 12, 2020**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Chairman Kent Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Other board members present were Bill Martin, Carol Hepworth, Marci VanOrden, and Lon Harrington. Also attending were Superintendent Mark Kress and Board Clerk Terisa Coombs.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Carol Hepworth opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ACTION ITEMS:**

**a. Approval of Agenda**

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

**b. Consent Agenda**

**Minutes:** Regular Meeting of July 15, 2020; Special Meeting of July 28, 2020.

**Retirement:** Deanne Casperson, High School/Jr. High Music Teacher.

**Resignations:** Barbara Young, Moreland Special Ed Paraprofessional

**New Hires:** Dashia Ward, High School Bookkeeper; Anthony Crawford, Bus Driver; Alison Walker, First Grade Teacher; SaraKay Larsen, High School/Jr. High Music Teacher; Sydney Martin, Snake River Online Teacher (full-time); Tiffany Versey, Snake River Online Teacher (full-time); Rebecca High, Snake River Online Teacher (part-time); Kristi Blackham, Snake River Online Teacher (part-time); Brenda Patten, Snake River Online Teacher (part-time); Stephanie Ricks, Snake River Online Teacher (part-time); Chelsea Sorensen, Snake River Online Teacher (part-time); Maysa Howell, Middle School Special Ed Parapro; Tarynn Radford, Middle School Special Ed Parapro; Heather Larsen, Moreland Special Ed Parapro; Whitney Luker, High School Special Ed Parapro; Stephanie Wren, High School Special Ed Parapro.

**Transfer:** Angie Richardson, Snake River Online Teacher (full-time)

**Student Teacher:** Ronda Haroldsen, Rockford Student Teacher;

**Budget, Payroll and Claims Payable** for July 2020.

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

**c. Declare a Vacancy:**

Bill Martin submitted a letter of resignation effective following board meeting tonight. Accepting the letter will declare the seat vacant, thus beginning the 90-day period to appoint. Each board member expressed their appreciation for Bill and for the tremendous leader and friend he has been. He will be missed. A gift of appreciation was given to Bill. The vacancy will be posted in the morning.



**Lon Harrington moved and Carol Hepworth seconded to accept the resignation of Trustee Bill Martin from Zone 3, with special thanks for his years of service to the district. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.**

**d. Bus Routes and Safety Busing:**

The board is required by law to review safety busing issues and routes for the 2020-2021 school year during its August board meeting. Gina Dawson, New Transportation Supervisor, began by discussing that the district will be busing about 900 students this year, which is 50 more students than last year. She has added a new route. There are 18 routes in total. There are new housing developments and many students moving into the district, which is the reason for the new route. There are 7 new bus drivers this year and 3 substitute drivers. The district has purchased a new training program that helps train all bus drivers. Safety busing is the same as last year. The state requires that all students who live within a mile of a school walk to school but because there are highways, railroad tracks, and canals, etc., in our district within that mile, the state allows for students to use the busing system for student's safety. Last year there were about 230 safety-bussed students and Mrs. Dawson predicts there will be about the same number this year. Turnarounds have remained the same from last year. She has looked at all of the turnarounds, which she feels are safe. Superintendent Kress discussed the plan for Covid-19 safety on a bus, which are close to classroom rules. The bus will be loaded back to front and will unload front to back. Masks are required when riding on a bus. Issues with the bus island were discussed and possible solutions, including expanding the island and having the buses further apart. There will be increased staffing from the high school and junior high at the island. The front gate will be closed at 7:20 a.m. each morning. This plan is fluid and could change as the first day of school comes and goes. Extensive discussion held.

**A motion was made by Carol Hepworth and seconded by Lon Harrington to approve the district bus routes, turnarounds and safety busing as established for the 2020-2021 school year. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.**

**4. PATRON FORUM**

There were no comments for the patron forum.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. **IHSAA School of Excellence Award:** Superintendent Kress received the IHSAA Schools of Excellence Award for Exemplary Achievement to the High School in Boise and tonight presented to the school board. Snake River High School received second place in the state among 3A schools. Points are given for how student athletes do in the classroom, sportsmanship, and performance. Superintendent Kress explained how impressive it is to receive this award every year and how it is a rarity throughout the state for this to happen. Congratulations were given.
- b. **Covid-19 Update:** Superintendent Kress updated the board on the reopening of schools and Covid-19. The district is in the green stage, meaning minimal risk. Covid procedures and HIPAA laws were also discussed. A lot of discussion was held about the Snake River Online School. It is coming along well and there are about 350 students enrolled so far. Superintendent Kress is expecting a successful year.
- c. **Upcoming Events:**
1. Teachers Return August 17th, Students Return August 19<sup>th</sup>, and kindergarten starts August 26<sup>th</sup>.
  2. Back to School Night will be August 18, 2020 for everyone except for the Middle School which will be August 17th from 4-7 p.m.
  3. Joint Teacher Inservice with Blackfoot at the BPAC is August 21, 2020
  4. Teacher Inservice September 11, 2020
  5. Next Board Meeting will be September 16, 2020 at the District Office at 7 p.m.
  6. ISBA Annual Convention is November 11-13, 2020 and will be held virtually

6. ACTION ITEMS—POLICY READINGS  
SECOND READINGS:

**Policy 7550, “Title IX Grievance Policy”** This is a new policy reflecting the new Title IX regulations that came out in May and conforms with current language. No further changes were made.

**Policy 8075, “Student Suspension”** This policy is updated to include a specific reference to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Discussion held. No further changes were made.

**Policy 8090, “Student Expulsion/Denial of Enrollment”** This policy is updated to include a specific reference to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and to update legal references. No further changes were made.

Lon Harrington moved and Carol Hepworth seconded to approve the second readings of Policy 7550, “Title IX Grievance Policy;” Policy 8075, “Student Suspension;” and Policy 8090, “Student Expulsion/Denial of Enrollment.” All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

FIRST READINGS:

**Policy 8115, “Technology Instruction and Determining Average Daily Attendance (ADA)”** This is a new policy that removes restrictions on the school years for which ADA may be computed using technology instruction. This method remains a viable option for computing ADA. No changes.

**Policy 8150, “Open Enrollment”** This policy is updated to include student-teacher ratios. Discussion held. No further changes were made.

**Policy 8647, “Restraint and Seclusion”** Since this policy was last updated in 2014, the Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education released its *Dear Colleague Letter: Restraint and Seclusion of Students with Disabilities*, in 2016. We have updated this policy consistent with the most recent Dear Colleague Letter, and have included a reference to it in the legal references section. No changes.

Bill Martin moved and Lon Harrington seconded to approve the first readings of Policy 8115, “Technology Instruction and Determining Daily Attendance (ADA), Policy 8150, “Open Enrollment;” and Policy 8647, “Restraint and Seclusion.” All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

7. ADJOURN

Bill Martin moved and Marci VanOrden seconded to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Terisa Coombs  
Clerk

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Kent Miller  
Chairman

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September 16, 2020  
Date