

**Snake River School Board of Trustees**  
**Held at Snake River Junior High School**  
**1152 West Highway 39, Blackfoot, Idaho 83221**  
**Wednesday, October 21, 2020**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

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

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Lon Harrington opened the meeting with a prayer.

**3. ACTION ITEMS:**

**a. Approval of Agenda**

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

**b. Consent Agenda**

**Minutes:** Regular Meeting of September 16, 2020.

**Retirement/Resignations:** Susan Otterstrom, Moreland Librarian (25 years); Macy Carlson, Middle School Title I Parapro;

**New Hires:** Julie Crowther, Bus Driver; Isabel Hernandez, Migrant Liaison.

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

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

**4. PATRON FORUM**

There were no comments for the patron forum.

**5. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**a. Rockford Elementary Presentation:**

Principal Dave Dougal thanked the board for visiting Rockford Elementary this month. A presentation by Alisa Oberry and Machel Wheeler was given prior to the meeting during the tour.

**b. Special Education Presentation:**

Each year, Rose Larson, Special Education Director, gives the board an update on the Special Education program. The district received a letter with Results of the Annual Determination for Special Education from Sherri Ybarra, Superintendent of Public Instruction. Mrs. Larson discussed the results. She mentioned that the requirements of the report changed a couple of years ago. The district's overall score was 87.5%. In addition to record compliance, they have added student achievement and testing proficiency components as far as meeting state targets in mathematics and language arts. Last year students were struggling with math and reading so the Special Education staff have started a program called Cultivating Young Leaders to Grow Young Readers for preschool through fourth grade. They have also been working on instruction and achievement for students with significant disabilities. Alisa Oberry, teacher at Rockford, discussed the integration of Special Education students into the general education classroom and the success and growth that they have had. Mrs. Larson also discussed the Snake River Online Special Education Program. The board thanked Mrs. Larson and the Special Education teachers and staff.

**c. Superintendent Report: Superintendent Kress will discuss the following:**

**1. Covid-19 update:** Superintendent Kress updated the board on the status of Covid-19 in the district. Bingham County is listed in the moderate phase and the school district is still in the green phase. The district has seen cases and the administrators continue to do a good job communicating to families and students who have been exposed. Southeastern Idaho Public Health sends a report to Superintendent Kress about the cases in the district, which is about five days behind, and the secretaries are also keeping track of cases in their buildings and reporting it to him. Good information is coming from these confidential reports and it has helped Superintendent Kress track the cases and exposure daily. The teachers at the high school have been mandated to wear masks. Parents are keeping children home who have symptoms or positive tests and Superintendent Kress explained that this is key of success to keeping schools open. The bus drivers have been using electrostatic sprayers to sterilize the buses.

**2. The Governor's distribution of additional Covid-19 funds:** The district has received \$573,903 in Coronavirus Relief Fund Dollars. Superintendent Kress discussed the rules for the use of CRF Dollars and how the district plans to disburse these funds. The use of the funds needs to be dedicated by December 11, 2020.

**d. Proposed Resolutions for the 2021 Legislative Session:**

The ISBA Executive Board respectfully requests that trustees meet to discuss these Resolutions and decide how each district will vote prior to the Business Session of the Annual Convention in November. Each resolution was discussed and voted on to prepare for the ISBA convention. Trustee Harrington was designated as the business session attendee and will cast votes for the board.

e. **Upcoming Events:**

1. **Parent Teacher Conferences from October 21<sup>st</sup> through October 29<sup>th</sup>.** Parent Teacher Conferences will be held a little differently this year. Schools will be following Covid-19 safety protocols closely to protect staff, parents and community members.
2. **SREF Fall Extravaganza and Halloween Carnival, October 31<sup>st</sup> at the high school.** Superintendent Kress has been working with Mrs. Hepworth making sure that safety measures are in place and that there are masks and sanitizers available. He wants to make sure that the Halloween Carnival can happen in a safe environment.
3. **Election Day is November 3, 2020.** Moreland, Riverside, and Rockford Elementaries are voting locations within the district. Superintendent Kress has talked with each of the building principals and in an effort to protect staff and community members, Snake River students in grades Pre-K-4 will be learning at home that day. Details regarding home learning activities will be provided by teachers.
4. **ISBA Annual Convention is November 9-12, 2020 and will be held virtually.** Final convention arrangements were made.
5. **Next Board Meeting will be November 18, 2020 at Moreland Elementary.**

6. **ACTION ITEMS—POLICY READINGS  
FIRST READINGS:**

**Policy 6427, “Religion in Schools”** The U.S. Department of Education issued its updated Guidance on Constitutionally Protected Prayer and Religious Expression in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools on January 16, 2020. This policy is updated consistent with the new guidance. Legal references have also been updated. Discussion held.

**Policy 8140, “Homeless Student Education”** This form is updated to reflect all of the duties required of the homeless liaison, as set forth in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015. In addition, language has been added regarding district requirements to ensure access to secondary education support services, such as college and career counseling, and assistance with the FAFSA, for homeless and unaccompanied youth. Extensive discussion was held.

**Policy 8278, “Hazing Prohibition”** This policy is updated to clarify reporting requirements and to add legal references. The last bullet under Prohibitions was deleted. Otherwise, no further changes.

**Policy 8540, “Student Records”** This policy is updated to include optional language further defining "records." The examples of what constitutes "records" are taken from the 2017 Idaho Special Education Manual. We have also included health and medical information in the list of examples of personally identifiable information, and have included other technical corrections. No further changes were made.

**Lon Harrington moved and Marci VanOrden seconded to approve the first readings of Policy 6427, “Religion in Schools;” Policy 8140, “Homeless Student Education;” Policy 8278, “Hazing Prohibition;” and Policy 8540, “Student Records.” All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.**

7. **ADJOURN**

**Larin Mortimer moved and Lon Harrington seconded to adjourn.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

**Terisa Coombs**  
Clerk

**Kent Miller**  
Chairman

**November 18, 2020**  
Date