

**Snake River School Board of Trustees
Held at Snake River Middle School
1060 West 110 South, Blackfoot, Idaho 83221
Wednesday, March 17, 2021**

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, and Larin Mortimer. Lon Harrington joined via cell phone. Marci VanOrden arrived at 7:30 p.m. 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 Carol Hepworth and seconded by Larin Mortimer to approve the agenda as presented. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.

b. Consent Agenda

Minutes: Regular Meeting of February 10, 2021 and Special Meeting of February 24, 2021.

Retirement/Resignation: Jill Furniss, Riverside Third Grade Teacher (27 years); Audra Stokes, Jr. High Special Ed Parapro.

New Hire: Stephanie Knight, Moreland Preschool Teacher.

Budget, Payroll and Claims Payable for February 2021.

A motion was made by Larin Mortimer and seconded by Carol Hepworth to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with special thanks to Jill Furniss for all of the years of service she has given to the district. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.

4. PATRON FORUM

There were no comments.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

a. Middle School Presentation:

Principal Dean Bonney gave a brief presentation about Snake River Middle School. Mr. Bonney reminded the board that exactly one year ago today was the first day of remote learning because of Covid-19. He went through the history of this last year. One of the primary focuses at the beginning of this school year for the middle school was to improve remote learning capabilities and Mr. Bonney discussed what steps have been taken should the need arise to go back to remote learning. For those students who do not have the technology capability within their homes, Chromebooks and hot spots were made available. He believes that remote learning is a viable alternative when needed, but does not positively impact student learning in the same manner that face to face instruction and interaction in the classroom does. Mr. Bonney also discussed the concerns about ISAT Assessments. The ISAT Assessment was not done last year because students were out of school from March until the end of the year. This year since January, teachers at the middle school have focused on ELA and Math. Teachers and students are excited to see if their hard work will translate to greater success when taking this spring's ISAT. The board thanked Mr. Bonney and the staff at the middle school for everything that they have done to help students be successful.

Marci VanOrden arrived at 7:30 p.m.

b. Superintendent Report:

1. Covid-19 Update/Blended Learning Report:

Superintendent Kress updated the board on the status of Covid-19 in the district. This week, there have been no staff members with Covid but he stressed the importance of continuing to wear masks when possible, washing hands, and social distancing. The 1:1 initiative and Chromebooks have been really helpful for those students who do need to stay home.

2. Gymnasium Update:

Superintendent Kress updated the board on replacing the high school gymnasium bleachers and resurfacing the floors. Discussion was held. The project is set to begin the day after graduation with plans to have it finished before volleyball season begins in August.

6. ACTION ITEMS

a. Snake River Online High School:

Superintendent Kress discussed how Snake River Online K-8 has been successful in its first year. The majority of students in the K-8 online school want to continue and there are many more who would like to join in addition. Currently, there are 60 eighth graders enrolled in the online K-8 school. Superintendent Kress would like to expand Snake River Online to include grades 9-12. Lengthy discussion was held.

Marci VanOrden approved and Carol Hepworth seconded to approve expanding Snake River Online to include Grades 9-12. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

b. Supplemental Levy Canvass:

On March 15, 2021, the county election office presented the official canvass of the district's Supplemental Levy Election held March 9, 2021, to the Bingham County Commissioners (who act as a Board of Canvassers of Election). The commissioners approved the canvass as presented. Turnout numbers were low and the differences between advocating versus educating was discussed.

A motion was made by Larin Mortimer and seconded by Carol Hepworth to accept the official Bingham County Commissioners' canvass of March 15, 2021 regarding the district's Supplemental Levy Election held March 9, 2021. All board members present voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

c. Reschedule April Board Meeting:

Superintendent Kress will be out of town on April 21st, the date of the April board meeting at Snake River High School. He is requesting to move the date to the week before on April 14, 2021.

Carol Hepworth approved and Lon Harrington seconded to approve moving the board meeting scheduled on April 21, 2021 to April 14, 2021 at Snake River High School. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

d. Superintendent Evaluation and Contract:

Chairman Miller and Superintendent Kress were able to come up with four stretch goals. Discussion with the board took place about the following stretch goals and incentives.

1. Increased use of Advanced Opportunities, dual credits, CTE Certificates and a long-term goal of path to Associates Degree
2. District-wide Math improvement and Math curriculum adoption
3. Community Recreation/Weight Room Programs
4. Emergency Center developed at the High School

Discussion was also held about a 2% increase in salary and family health and dental benefits will be provided.

A motion was made by Marci VanOrden and seconded by Lon Harrington to approve a 2% increase in Superintendent Mark Kress's contract and to provide \$1000 a month towards family health and dental insurance. A roll call vote was taken: Larin Mortimer, aye; Lon Harrington, aye; Marci VanOrden, aye; and Carol Hepworth, aye; Kent Miller, aye. Motion passed 5-0.

7. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

a. Upcoming Events:

1. Spring Break is March 31 through April 4, 2021
2. Jr. SAT Day is April 13, 2021 (no school for Seniors, Sophomores, or Freshman)
3. Next Board Meeting is April 14, 2021 at Snake River High School
4. The Retirement Reception will be May 18, 2021 at the High School Cafeteria from 4:15 p.m. to 6 p.m.

8. POLICY READINGS:

Policy 8201, High School and Jr. High Extracurricular Academic Eligibility:

The Jr. High has aligned their daily schedule with the high school so this policy needs to be updated to reflect academic eligibility changes.

Carol Hepworth approved and Lon Harrington seconded to approve the second reading of Policy 8201, High School and Jr. High Extracurricular Academic Eligibility. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

The District is beginning the process of adopting ISBA policies. ISBA has recommended that the following three policies be adopted before moving on to others. Superintendent Kress explained the process.

Policy 1300, "District Policy" Sets forth policy on adoption and amendment of District Policy.

Policy 1310, "Administrative Procedures" This policy discusses administrative procedures. The superintendent shall develop such procedures as are necessary to ensure consistent implementation of policies adopted by the Board.

Policy 1313, "Conflicting Policies and Procedures" This policy sets forth the procedure when policies conflict with each other.

Marci VanOrden approved and Larin Mortimer seconded to waive the first reading and adopt Policy 1300, "District Policy," Policy 1310, "Administrative Procedures," and Policy 1313, "Conflicting Policies and Procedures." All board members voted aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Snake River Board of Trustees Minutes
March 17, 2021 (3)

9. ADJOURN

Lon Harrington moved and Carol Hepworth seconded to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

Terisa Coombs
Clerk

Kent Miller
Chairman

April 14, 2021
Date