

**Snake River School Board of Trustees  
Held at Snake River Community Library  
924 West Highway 39, Blackfoot, Idaho 83221  
Wednesday, September 20, 2023**

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Vice Chairman Lon Harrington called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Other board members present were Carol Hepworth, Larin Mortimer, and Toni Ibarra. Josh Sorensen was absent. Others attending were Superintendent Mark Kress, Business Manager Harmony Shuler, and Board Clerk Terisa Coombs.

**2. PRAYER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Lon Harrington 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 Minutes of August 9, 2023

**Resignations:** Michelle Cicotte, SRO K-8 Teacher; Sabrina Barnhart, Pre-K SpEd Parapro; James Abercrombie, Middle School Special Ed Parapro.

**New Hires/Payroll Status Changes:** Lisa Thilmont, SRO K-8 Teacher; Angelica Manthei, SRO K-8 Teacher; Janell Jarman, High School Special Ed Teacher; Whitney Warren, Kindergarten Classroom Aide.

**Payroll Status Changes:** Mitzi Hatch, AP Clerk; Vanessa Garcia, Special Education Teacher; Rebecca Young, SRO K-8 Teacher (by accepting new hire, she rescinds the year leave absence previously approved).

**Alternative Authorization:** Janell Jarman needs to add the Special Ed Teacher endorsement to her certificate and the district is requesting that an alternative authorization be approved to allow her to teach while she gets that endorsement.

**Budget for June 2023, Payroll and Claims Payable for August 2023**

**A motion was made by Larin Mortimer and seconded by Carol Hepworth to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.**

**c. Trip Requests**

Ray Carter, High School Principal, will present the 2023-2024 overnight and out-of-state trips. All trips that are overnight, outside of Districts IV, V, & VI, out of state, or beyond 250 miles one-way must be approved by the School Board in the September Board meeting. A list of these trips is included. IHSAA sponsored state tournaments and other season competitions are considered regular trips. Students must qualify for most of these trips. Also, Principal Scott Corgatelli from SROHS is requesting an out of state trip on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 to Lagoon for their end of the year trip.

**A motion was made by Carol Hepworth and seconded by Toni Ibarra to approve the regular, out-of-state, and overnight trips, and out-of-state trips beyond 250 miles for the 2023-2024 school year, as presented. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.**

**d. Securing Our Future Grant/School Safety Report**

Before the Securing Our Future Grant can be turned in to the State for their approval, the board must review and approve the Securing Our Future Grant Plan. The district can receive \$120,000. There is a chance that the projects listed in the plan will exceed that amount. The different projects were discussed.

**A motion was made by Larin Mortimer and seconded by Toni Ibarra to approve the Securing our Future Grant Plan as presented. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.**

**e. Continuous Improvement Plan**

The Continuous Improvement Plan was presented by Superintendent Kress. It requires review and a motion before submitting it to the State Board of Education October 1<sup>st</sup>. Superintendent Kress focused on the Continuous Improvement Goals which are school safety and improving safety standards and protocols; Increasing math proficiencies across all grade levels with a focus of offering Algebra as early as possible; increasing advanced opportunities, including more dual credit offerings as well as increasing CTE certificates and career training opportunities; and improving facilities by adding a community fitness center and an upgraded FFA facility. Discussion was held.

**Larin Mortimer moved and Carol Hepworth seconded to approve the Continuous Improvement Plan for the 2023-2024 school year as presented. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.**

**4. PATRON FORUM**

Fred Davis asked two questions: 1) When will ground be broken for the new fitness center? Superintendent Kress answered that he hopes by the spring of 2024. 2) When will we be getting more school resource officers? For now, Superintendent Kress said that we will have two and he hopes to add more but are no plans currently.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

a. Superintendent Report

1. Driver Ed Car: During the summer, one of the driver ed cars was involved in an accident and the district is waiting for the insurance to say what will happen with it. Today, Superintendent Kress purchased a 2016 Ford Fusion to take its place.
2. Trustee Election Update: Superintendent Kress updated the board about the trustee election process. Zone 2 and Zone 3 seats were up for re-election. Larin and Carol were the only candidates who turned in paperwork. They will be appointed as trustees in the October meeting and sworn in at the board meeting in January 2024.
3. Gate Prices: Superintendent Kress discussed the fact that gate prices will need to increase in the near future because of official pay increases. The possibility of implementing Venmo at the ticket gate was also discussed and Superintendent Kress will look into this with the business manager and accounts payable to see if this is possible.
4. Upcoming Events:
  1. Fall Region V Meeting is October 2, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.
  2. Harvest Break: September 22nd through October 8th, 2023 (Students return October 9<sup>th</sup>)
  3. Teacher Inservice will be October 13th with staff training on Narcan and CPR/First Aid
  4. The Financial Audit Report is planned to take place October 18<sup>th</sup>
  5. The SREF Halloween Carnival is October 28<sup>th</sup>.
  6. ISBA Annual Convention is November 15-17, 2023 in Boise

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Under Idaho Code 74-206 (1)(b) Personnel Issues 1(b) To consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, Carol Hepworth motioned and Larin Mortimer seconded to go into Executive Session. A roll call vote was taken: Lon Harrington, aye; Larin Mortimer, aye; Toni Ibarra, aye; and Carol Hepworth, aye. Motion passed 4-0.

The board went into Executive Session at 7:50 p.m. 74-206(1)(b) was discussed until 8:37 p.m.

At 8:37 p.m., Board Clerk Terisa Coombs opened the door and the board moved into regular session.

7. CLOSING INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. Next Board Meeting will be October 18, 2023 at Rockford Elementary at 7 p.m.

8. ADJOURN

Larin Mortimer moved and Toni Ibarra seconded to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Terisa Coombs  
Clerk

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Josh Sorensen  
Chairman

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October 18, 2023  
Date