

**Snake River School Board of Trustees
Held at Snake River Community Library
924 West Highway 39, Blackfoot, Idaho 83221
Wednesday, March 20, 2024**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

2. PRAYER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Toni Ibarra 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 4-0.

b. Consent Agenda

Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes of February 12, 2024 and Special Meeting Minutes of February 22, 2024.

Retirements: Rebecca Remsburg (28 years); Susan Johnson, (23 years)

Resignations: Stephanie Kreger, SRHS College & Career Advisor (End of the Year); Megan Lee, Moreland EL Parapro (End of Year).

New Hires: David Sotutu, SRO Treasure Valley Testing Proctor; Jamie Kerbs, SROHS Remote Educational Assistant;

Budget Report for October 2023; Payroll and Claims Payable for February 2024: The October budget report is not available at this time.

A motion was made by Lon Harrington and seconded by Toni Ibarra to table the October 2023 budget report but approve the rest of the consent agenda as presented. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.

c. 2024-2025 District Calendar

One of the board's responsibilities is to approve the school district calendar. Superintendent Kress presented the 2024-2025 school calendar and highlighted some of the proposed changes. Of note, the Presidential Election Day is November 5, 2024 and Bingham County Elections has asked if there is a possibility of not having school for grades K-4 on that day and this change is reflected on the updated calendar. He also discussed the role of attendance in K-12 funding and how strategic changes have been made including a full week of break during Thanksgiving week, adding a day at the beginning of the school year and at the end of the school year, and changing spring break from Wednesday-Thursday to Thursday-Monday in April.

Concerning the 2023-2024 district calendar, because of the May Primaries on May 21st, Moreland has requested that the last day of Kindergarten, which is on election day, be moved to May 15th and Kindergarten graduation be on May 14th. Superintendent Kress discussed this change.

Carol Hepworth moved and Lon Harrington seconded to approve the 2024-2025 school calendar, as presented. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.

d. Emergency Closure for March 4, 2024

On March 4, 2024 there was an emergency closure of all the schools in the district because of adverse weather conditions. A Certificate of Closure was sent to the state. Makeup days are not needed.

A motion was made by Lon Harrington and seconded by Toni Ibarra to approve the Emergency Closures of all the Snake River District schools on March 4, 2024 because of adverse weather conditions. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.

e. Farm Land Lease

Superintendent Kress met with the Standers about the farm land lease agreement and updated the board about the negotiation that took place. For the last several years, the contract has been \$145 per acre for 24 acres. After discussing the current rates, they agreed to increasing the amount to \$187.50 per acre for 24 acres.

Lon Harrington moved and Carol Hepworth seconded to approve the farm land lease agreement between the school district and Gaylen and Alan Stander in the amount of \$187.50 per acre for 24 acres. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.

f. High School Class Fee Hearing

Snake River High School is proposing to increase class fees because of the increased cost of materials for the 2024-2025 school year for the following classes: Band rental fee from \$80 to \$100 and Pottery and Ceramics from \$25 to \$50. The Notice of Fee Increase was posted in the Idaho State Journal on March 12 and March 15, 2024.

A motion was made by Lon Harrington and seconded by Toni Ibarra to approve the Snake River High School class fee increases as presented. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.

g. Secure Our Future Grant, Phase 2, and School Safety Report

The Secure Our Future Grant for Phase 2 plans include door access control and wireless communication. The board reviewed the final draft of the application after Superintendent Kress explained each project.

Lon Harrington moved and Carol Hepworth seconded to approve the projects included in Phase 2 of the Secure Our Future Grant. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.

h. Supplemental Levy Presentation

Superintendent Kress gave a levy presentation. Last year, the law changed that requires a district to state on the ballot where the money is going to be allocated. Superintendent Kress provided the list of where the money will be allocated should it pass. Also of note, this year during the legislative session, the March election date has been removed starting in 2025, which is when the district usually runs the supplemental levy. This leaves only May and November. The Resolution and Official Ballot for the amount of \$700,000 is due on March 22nd at the County Elections Office. The date of the election is May 21, 2024.

Chairman Sorensen read the following resolution:

RESOLUTION: WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 33-802(3), Idaho Code, as amended, the Board of Trustees of Snake River School District No. 52, Bingham County, State of Idaho, has determined there is a need for a supplemental levy in the amount of Seven Hundred Thousand and no/100 dollars (\$700,000) per year for two (2) years, for the purpose of paying all lawful expenses of maintaining and operating the District, as listed on the official ballot, for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2027.

Lon Harrington moved and Toni Ibarra seconded to approve the resolution for the supplemental levy in the amount of \$700,000 per year for two years beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2027. All board members voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.

4. PATRON FORUM

There were no comments in the Patron Forum.

5. INFORMATION ITEMS

a. Superintendent Report

- 1. Day on the Hill Report and Legislative Updates:** Trustee Harrington attended the ISBA Day on the Hill. Superintendent Kress updated the board about some of the House and Senate Bills that affect education.
- 2. Assistant Track (Javelin) Coach:** The IHSAA has added the Javelin as a track event in Idaho. There are students that are interested in this event. Because of this, an assistant track coach needs to be added to supervise the javelin event.
- 3. Purchasing Chromebooks:** Superintendent Kress discussed the purchase of new Chromebooks for next year. The purchase will be paid by designated technology money from the supplemental levy.
- 4. FFA Fundraiser:** FFA has raised \$35,000 at their annual fundraiser.
- 5. Senior Projects:** Superintendent Kress was very impressed with the senior projects this year. The presentation day was held on 3/15/22.
- 6. Pi Day:** Pi Day is always a fun time around the district and Superintendent discussed some of the activities.
- 7. Successful Reports:** CRDC and Federal Program Audit have been completed.
- 8. Safety Report:** Superintendent Kress recently took building tours at Ririe, Firth, and Madison to look at a couple of safety features that they had in their buildings. The district is currently working on completing applications for the RUSS and COPS grants. CTE grant is still waiting for HVAC and electrical bids but as soon as bids are obtained, the application will be submitted.

b. Upcoming Events

1. All Shook Up will be performed on March 21, 22, and 23 at 7 p.m. at the High School.
2. Spring Break will be March 29th through March 31st, Students return on April 1st.
3. Distinguished Young Women will be March 29st at 7 p.m. at the High School.
4. Kindergarten Registration will be April 3rd from 4:30-7:30 p.m.
5. Jr. SAT Day will be April 11th.

6. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Under Idaho Code 74-206 (1)(b) Personnel, Carol Hepworth motioned and Lon Harrington seconded to go into Executive Session. A roll call vote was taken: Lon Harrington, aye; Josh Sorensen, aye; and Carol Hepworth, aye. Motion passed 4-0.

The board went into Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. Item 74-206(1)(b) Personnel was discussed from 8:00 p.m. until 8:15 p.m.

The door was opened, the chairman recessed executive session, and returned to regular session at 8:15 p.m.

7. CLOSING INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. Next Board Meeting will be April 17, 2024 at Snake River High School at 7 p.m.**

8. ADJOURN

Lon Harrington moved and Carol Hepworth seconded to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

ATTEST:

Terisa Coombs
Clerk

Josh Sorensen
Chairman

April 17, 2024
Date