

Nord Country School

5554 California Street, Chico, CA 95973

Meeting of the Board of Directors - Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 6:00 pm

Regular Meeting Minutes

Board Members

Lexie Aceves, President
Richard Aguilera, Vice President
Roy Roney, Treasurer
Jillian Damon, Secretary
Janet Ellner, Co-Secretary
Tom Williams
Sheila Koester
Tom Enneking
Hilary Tricerri

1.0 Call to Order

1.1 Flag Salute: President Lexie Aceves called meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

1.2 Attendance: Board Members present: Roy Roney, Richard Aguilera, Sheila Koester, Lexie Aceves, Hilary Tricerri, Janet Ellner, Tom Enneking. Jillian Damon and Tom Williams were absent.

Guests: Lisa Speegle, Anna Enneking, Mike Vessels, and Kathy Dahlgren, Kelli Ruley (left at 6:15).

2.0 Changes/Deletions to Current Meeting Agenda:

Kelli Ruley requested that the Safety Report be moved to 4.1.

3.0 Public Comments on Items on or not on the Current Meeting Agenda

(Speakers are asked to please limit their comments to 5 minutes per speaker.)

Kelli announced that we won the first soft ball game of the season. In addition, she presented a possible strategy with the budget issue, and provided a handout with supporting details. The basic concept is to add 3 students in each of grades K-2, so that by the 7th year of increase, there would be an additional enrollment of 27 students. This would amount to a potential total revenue increase of \$221,400.

4.0 Reports and Presentations

4.1 Safety Report – Kelli Ruley

This month will be the first Code Red drill this year, and it will be during recess. Students will be advised in advance so they won't panic. Tom asked if it wouldn't be more useful to not tell students it was a practice. Kelli explained that it could create too much anxiety at this time. On another note, Kelli said there would be fencing up during construction.

4.2 Principal's Report – Kathy Dahlgren

Parent Surveys have gone out for all K-8 students. There is a contest for the class with the most surveys (anonymous) turned in. We have been accepted to El Dorado SELPA; Kathy will be going to a partners' meeting in May, and we will begin with them as our SELPA in July. A change in the name "detention" is being considered for the Middle School (e.g. "Study Time"). The idea is to make the connotation less derogatory.

4.3 Teacher's Report – Sheila Koester

Fourth Graders presented a Mission Tour that the whole school attended. Third Graders went to the Ecological Reserve. The Second Grade is learning how to make Google slides. First Graders are learning what the Pledge of Allegiance means. The Egg Drop is coming soon. The Middle School will not be doing the Egg Drop, but they will be doing an Egg Wash. Ag students visited

C Bar D and got chicks. (NCS chickens will have a new coop created by CSUC students.) Surprise, we got an unexpected baby lamb (born over spring break). Miss Sloan invites Board members to visit the farm. Eighth Grade Life Skills has practiced dining and table etiquette, as well as how to check tire pressure, basic cooking, writing a check and many other important life skills.

4.3 Facilities Report – Lisa Speegle

The first Cafeteria planning meeting will be tomorrow afternoon. On Monday, track construction begins. Lisa met with Sierra Landscapers to review the landscaping plans and figure out the best path to prevent students from damaging plants. They made some changes to the irrigation plans to save water. They're hoping to consolidate irrigation controls. Lisa asked for suggestions of native plants we could use. Tom suggested a fence (temporary or permanent) to help direct students.

4.4 Technology Report- Kathy Dahlgren

Some technology is aging and needs replacing, projectors in particular. Kathy is looking into another tech service provider since BCOE is expensive (e.g. they charge for transportation, and the clock starts in Oroville).

4.5 PTO Report- Anna Enneking

PTO has a balance of \$5,614.68. The snack fund is depleted, and members are looking for ways to encourage contributions. The bylaws are finalized. A concern is that the After-School Program is getting too large. The Book Fair will be held during Open House.

5.0 Consent Calendar

5.1 Consider Approval of Meeting Minutes - February 28, 2018 and March 7, 2018

5.2 Consider Approval of Financial Reports, Payments to Vendors, and Donations

5.3 Consider Approval of Fiscal Policies

2010 Budget Development, 2020 Fiscal Control, and 2030 Student Fees

5.4 Consider Approval of PTO, Art and Room 2 Fundraisers

5.5 Consider Approval of Tier 2 eRate Fund Purchases

The board has had a chance to review supporting documents for items on Consent Calendar.

Richard Aguilera made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Roy Roney seconded the motion.

The motion was voted on.

Lexie Aceves - Aye

Roy Roney- Aye

Sheila Koester - Aye

Richard Aguilera - Aye

Janet Ellner – Aye

Hilary Tricerri - Aye

Tom Enneking – Aye

Jillian Damon-absent

Tom Williams-absent

6.0 Discussion/Action Items

6.1 There was discussion regarding Impact of Increased Wage and Benefit Costs on the Budget. The Middle School brochure is done in an effort to seek increased enrollment. Investigation of health care options is ongoing. There are some problematic aspects involved with adding three students a year, such as the need for additional parking and staff, as well as the potential impact to the "small-size feel" of the school. Richard asked if the Parent Survey included any questions about class size or other budget issues. (No, it didn't) He also asked if there is anything in the charter about class size. Kathy explained that the Charter states that we try to keep class size at

22 for K-3 and 25 for 4th-8th, if the budget allows it. In answer to a question from Hilary about the defined benefit plan, Lisa said that we have to decide on benefits by July 1st .

6.2 Consider Approval of Material Change to Charter – Long-Term Independent Study Program

Some families have requested long term independent study, for various reasons. This would be a year-long, homeschool program. It would involve a part-time teacher, who would also do assessments, including the regular State testing. The teacher would be supported by the increased ADA.

Roy Roney motioned to have Kathy make the material changes to our charter that would allow her to pursue the possibility of a long term, independent study program at NCS.

Richard Aguilera seconded the motion.

The motion was voted on.

Lexie Aceves - Aye
Roy Roney- Aye
Sheila Koester - Aye
Richard Aguilera - Aye
Janet Ellner – Aye
Hilary Tricerri - Aye
Tom Enneking – Aye
Jillian Damon-absent
Tom Williams-absent

6.3 Consider Approval of the Classified Hourly, Certificated Teacher and Admin Salary Schedules

Lisa presented and explained comparative information about our own salary schedule and salary schedules from the other charter schools.

Richard Aguilera moved that we approve the wage/salary schedules.

Roy Roney seconded the motion.

There was some discussion about whether or not we had a quorum, since there would be three recusals. We did start the meeting with a quorum, so we were able to proceed with a vote.

The motion was voted on.

Lexie Aceves - Recused
Roy Roney- Aye
Sheila Koester - Recused
Richard Aguilera - Aye
Janet Ellner – Aye
Hilary Tricerri - Aye
Tom Enneking – Recused
Jillian Damon-absent
Tom Williams-absent

6.4 Discussion Regarding Open Board Positions for 2018/19 School Year

Roy and Lexie's positions are open. Tom Williams may not be eligible as a parent representative (if his son leaves next year). A letter of intent should be submitted before the April Board meeting, and candidates should present themselves to the Board at that meeting.

6.5 Consider Approval for Uses of Pie Auction Funds

6.5.1 10 Passenger Van for Field Trips/Sports

6.5.2 Campus-Wide Energy Management System

6.5.3 Phase Two of Fire Alarm System

6.5.3 Track and Field Landscaping.

The question of purchasing a van needs further discussion.

The thermostat needs to be manually controlled and is currently erratic. A campus-wide, automatic system would allow for energy savings.

Phase Two of the alarm system is not a necessity; the previous bugs have been worked out.

Landscaping would include adding plants, irrigation, removing weeds, amending the soil and planting (ideally native species).

Roy motioned that we approve 6.5.2 and 6.5.4 and table 6.5.1 and 6.5.3

Janet seconded the motion.

The motion was voted on.

Lexie Aceves - Aye

Roy Roney- Aye

Sheila Koester - Aye

Richard Aguilera - Aye

Janet Ellner – Aye

Hilary Tricerri - Aye

Tom Enneking – Aye

Jillian Damon-absent

Tom Williams-absent

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27