

MINERAL COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
751 A. STREET
Hawthorne, Nevada 89415
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, July 28, 2020

The Mineral County School District held a public meeting on July 28, 2020 beginning at 5:40 pm at the Mineral County School District.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Keith Neville, Schyler Hagen, Kathryn Castagnola, Tyler Viani

MEMBERS ABSENT: Candice Birchum

ADMINISTRATORS: Karen Watson, Superintendent; Stephanie Keuhey, Principal HES; Lance West, Principal SES

OTHERS PRESENT: Alyssa Burke, Amy Murray, Ann Kee, Amber Rhyness, Bonnie Keyes, Brooke Sterns, Breanna Hatfield, Cassie Hall, Catrinna Berginnis, Christopher Dragon, Christina Hurt, Courtney Isom, Christy Grant, Crystal Sasser, Christina Boyles, Curtis Schlepp, Darren Hamrey, David Ziegler, David Ives, Dawn McGhauey, Devin Canright, Diane Rodriguez, Esmerald Gutierrez, Erika Sanchez, Holly Pellet, Hope Blinco, JayDee Porras-Grant, Jazmin Serrato, Janis Horn, Juanita Diede, Jaime Barton, Jeremy Williams, Justin Banfield, Kari Banfield, Karry Larramendy, Kris Stinson, Kristen Reeves, Loretta Waggoner, Lindsey Ives, Merna West, Melissa Cardenas, Marty Waggoner, Melissa Dragon, Michele Hart, MaryJo Gemelke, Monica Keady, Maria Gurule, Melissa Cardenas, Phillip Jaramillo, Robert Cox, Robert Villarea, Sarah Dillard, Sean Rowe, Shanna McKenzie, Shari Berry, Shannon Gurule, Spring Blazewick, Stephanie Ziegler, Summer Kay, Tari Straw, Tom Gallegos, Toni Dodge, Tracy Larramendy, Will Gemelke, Will Stinson, Yareth Castillo, Yulisa Lopez

CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 pm.

1. Certification of Public Notice, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approval of a flexible agenda. (For Possible Action)
3. Person or Group Recognition - **NONE**
4. Presentations - **NONE**

ACTION ITEMS: (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

There will be an opportunity for public comment on each **Action Item** following Board discussion on the item and before the Board makes a motion on the item. You may request to speak by raising your hand during the Public Comment period or by completing a **Request to Address the MCSD Board** form prior to the Public Comment period. Those who submit the form will normally be called on **first**. Speaking time will be limited to a maximum of 3 minutes. The President may allow additional time to a given speaker as time allows and in his/her discretion.

1. **Recommendation:** Discussion and Possible Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between Mineral County School District (MCSD) and Mineral County Classroom Teacher's Association (MCCTA) regarding Gear Up and Safe School Professionals

Kathryn Castagnola made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Mineral County School District (MCSD) and Mineral County Classroom Teacher's Association (MCCTA) regarding Gear Up and Safe School Professionals. Keith Neville seconded the motion.

Kathryn Castagnola-Yes, Keith Neville-Yes, Schyler Hagen-Abstain, Tyler Viani-Yes. 4-0-1

2. **Recommendation:** Discussion and Possible Approval to move the 7th and 8th grade students back to the 6th grade hall in the Administrative Building for classes.

Monica Keady spoke about the plan that they came up with for the 7th and 8th grade to stay at the High school building. Darren Hamrey, Janis Horn talked about how their classes would run. Merna West will be teaching High School Math and Marty Waggoner will be teaching Junior High Math. Breanna Hatfield can't use the kitchen until it has been approved. Toni Dodge will be taking care of Special Ed and online classrooms. Kids with dual credits will be in her classroom.

Kathryn Castagnola's plan would be to move the 7th and 8th grade to the District Office. There is only 69 kids. 17 kids in 5 rooms. It would be half-day schedules. She would like to keep the Dream Team. There

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was a survey completed on this plan. The biggest concern would be to keep the kids safe and separated due to Covid-19.

Jeremy Williams asked questions about how this move was going to be facilitated. How is the district going to be able to financially move these kids?

Mellissa Cardenas talked about the plans they had to keep the kids safe.

Summer Kay discussed how the District office building needs many modifications to come up to code to be used for a school for these kids. They would have to go back to the Union Rep and talk about the bargaining unit because we do not have enough teachers for two schools.

Courtney Isom as a parent has concerns with her child being in the same building as the high school students.

Brooke Sterns was in the 7th grade when this move happened. She said it was a horrible thing to do to the 7th grade students. The kids felt out of place and did not feel safe. There were no safety measures that were put in place. The parents of these students voted against this move but it was still done.

Tyler Viani said we need to be more prepared. Do we have things in place for this kind of move? We have to be accountable. Tyler made a motion to deny this request.

3. Recommendation: Discussion and Possible Approval of the Re-Opening Plan for the Schools

Schyler Hagen made a motion to approve the Re-Opening Plan for the Schools. Tyler Viani seconded the motion. Kathryn Castagnola-Yes, Keith Neville-Yes, Schyler Hagen-Yes, Tyler Viani-Yes. 4-0-0

Karen discussed the three separate plans to come back to school following the pediatric guidelines.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT:

Lance West – Schurz Elementary is ready to go. He has the support of the tribe. There will be an AM and PM group.

Stephanie Keuhey – The Hawthorne Elementary has a strong plan. Kids will be going to school half a day. Plans in place if someone gets sick. The staff is providing information for the remote learning.

MaryJo Gemelke – Talked about video monitoring. Chatting with the kids while teaching is very hard. When is google training going to start?

Dawn McGhauey – Will there be an interim principal. Sean said the board could not speak about pending personnel matters. There are not enough subs for the classrooms. How are you going to keep the kids wearing their masks? How do the teacher plan on make sure the kids are separated. She would like it to be successful.

Melissa Cardenas – We will be sending out more information as soon as they go.

Sarah Dillard – Kudos to the high school teachers. Safety is still a huge concern. The plan will be ever changing.


Lindsey Ives – Would like more communication about the plans. Not a lot of parents are online to get the information. Need to send information on email/phone or newspaper.

David Ziegler – With the elementary only going half a day what are parents going to do with the kids the other half. Most parents work and do not have babysitters. Stephanie answered that the Boys and Girls Club would be open all day long to help accommodate these kids.

Jeremy Williams asked why qualified substitutes are not able to come back. Karen answered if people have a sub license to put in there application.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:52 PM

Respectfully submitted:


Kathryn Castagnola, Clerk