

Arapahoe Public School  
Board of Education – Regular Meeting  
School Library  
December 12th, 2016 7:00 pm

President Todd Watson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

President Todd Watson welcomed the visitors and announced that the Arapahoe Board of Education follows the rules of the Open Meetings Act which is posted.

The following members were present: Todd Watson, Dan Warner, Rod Whipple, Kelly Breinig, Dennis Roskop and Lisa Anderson.

The following member(s) were absent: None.

Also present was Dr. George Griffith, Superintendent, Bob Braithwait, Principal and Cassie Hilker, Board Secretary. Guest(s) included Tammie Middagh, Jay Spearman with Ameritas, Terry Haussler, Craig Hilker, Doug Schutz, Troy tenBensel, Drew tenBensel, Derek Walbridge and other community members.

A motion was made by Roskop and seconded by Anderson to approve the agenda. AYES: Warner, Whipple, Breinig, Roskop, Anderson and Watson. Motion carried 6-0.

President Watson asked for Public Comment. Craig Hilker expressed his concerns about the size of the gym at 1,000 seats and that having the ability to split the new gym is giving us three gyms, is that necessary? Griffith responded that it won't be two full gyms, it will allow for two volleyball matches to go on at the same time and it gives two full length basketball courts when all of the bleachers are put up, but not the full width. Hilker continued to ask why the need for two more gyms when the current gym will still be available. Watson responded that when the new gym is split there is no seating; it would be used only for practice. Hilker stated that the current gym and the new gym could be used for practices. Watson stated that this gym is the size and square footage that was designed when presented and it allows for hosting District and Conference events. Hilker asked about the requirements to host District and RPAC events. Watson didn't know exactly the requirements, but it is in the neighborhood of 900 to 1,000 seats. Hilker stated that he had contacted area schools and Southern Valley told him that in the last seven years they have filled their gym twice and questioned if we are building too big. Watson stated that there is a rule for hosting Districts from the NSAA. Hilker responded that there are other schools around that can host those larger events and he feels that we need a facility that can handle our needs. Doug Schutz asked how much money was set aside to construct the gymnasium. Watson stated that it was the second part of the bond, Proposition B. It includes the new gymnasium, updates to the weight room and some other renovations. Watson thought that the gymnasium was in the \$1.3 to \$1.5 million range and the rest of the money was going towards renovations. Doug went on to ask where the \$1.5 million of the Districts money is going to be used. Warner stated that it is going to be used toward the whole project. Schutz asked if they think they can build it for the estimates that have come in so far and Watson agreed. Griffith stated that the general layout that this diagram shows is the general footprint to continue with getting a geothermal study done. The architects have stated that the actual square footage could be less, but they need the footprint set so they can move forward. Terry Haussler asked about the use of the current gym when hosting events, will it be used like other schools and play games at the same time. Watson stated that hosted events would be held in the new competition gym. The current gym would be used for practice, JV and JH games maybe not Varsity. The new gym would be the competition gym. Griffith clarified that in the new gym those two cross courts would only be able to be used for practice because they are not the proper width for a game. Drew tenBensel asked if they cut the square footage down on the gym could that be added to classroom square footage. Watson stated that the size of the gym is no different than the very first drawing. In order to get the two courts that is how much room you have for seating. It would allow for three wrestling mats for a District wrestling meet. Griffith stated one set of bleachers would be out to run two volleyball matches in that gym, but all seats would have to be put up to have two basketball courts for practices. Derek Walbridge commented that he does like this new layout better than the original one with the bond, but with the original one there was one main entry point, where would that be on this new layout. Griffith stated that it is the south central entrance next to the offices. There will be a double door system, there will be a window for us to see who is coming in and they would have to be buzzed in the rest of the way. The remaining doors would be locked during the day.

## REPORTS

Braithwait reported that the Freshman-Sophomore Girls Tournament is tonight. The Elementary Concert was outstanding. The 7-12 Concert will take place tomorrow night at 7:00 pm. We are about done with the second quarter of the semester. It will be completed the 21<sup>st</sup> and they get out at 2:40 that day. Our elementary continues to work with Good Samaritan and its residents. We appreciate all of the people at Good Sam for what they do for

our students. Our elementary students also go to the public library monthly to check out books. We really appreciate Jennifer and the good people at the library working with our kids. The NSAA Mandated Moratorium is December 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>. No students are allowed to practice in our facilities at this time. Wrestlers will be at the Wauneta-Palisade Invite at 10:00 on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Girls and Boys Basketball will host Wauneta-Palisade the same day starting at 3:00. Teacher Work Day is scheduled for January 3<sup>rd</sup> and school resumes January 4<sup>th</sup>. I did attend the State Principal's Conference in Kearney the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. They had excellent information, especially the law section, and I am seriously thinking about the National Conference in July in Philadelphia.

Griffith reported that he is working on public relations ideas and will try what he calls a coffee and conversation with Dr. G at various locations in our communities. I will be promoting them as "C & C with Dr. G" and have one set up in Holbrook on January 12<sup>th</sup> at HoJo's starting at 8:00 am and in Arapahoe on January 17<sup>th</sup> at Muddy Creek starting at 9:00 am. A copy of the flier was included for the boards review. I also have a list of names that I am working on recruiting for an advisory committee. I currently have six individuals willing to serve on the committee and will be recruiting two staff members in addition to the community members. I would like to commend Mrs. Stephens and Mrs. Leising for the wonderful elementary Christmas program they directed. It was really enjoyable and I look forward to the JH/HS program tomorrow. I am getting teacher observations done at the high school to assist Mr. Braithwait and it allows me to see what is going on in more depth in the classrooms which has been fun. I also want to thank all staff members who have stepped up to help our custodial staff while Bruce has been out. I like how our staff really pulls together.

Board Member Reports – Watson commended and thanked all of the board members for attending the conference in Omaha. He went on to welcome Chad Carpenter to the board and thanked him for attending the conference in Omaha as well. He thanked everyone on the board, the school and the community for supporting the Board and myself. It has been an excellent experience and next time elections are up I hope people step up and take their opportunity to be on here. It is quite a learning experience. Anderson reported that at the State Conference she attended a break out session with some of the Senators and had previously emailed them a question about the school land in Furnas County. Unfortunately, the response was that the state senators don't have anything to do with the school land, there is a state agency that oversees it. She expressed that there are patrons in our District that don't understand why our school doesn't receive the lease money. The eastern ground has been sold, but the ground out here they are planning to keep. Supposedly, the state senators don't have a say on where the money goes and it gets allocated around the state. She is planning to talk to the local senator. Roskop reported that the entire board attended a pre-conference at the State Board of Education Conference. The pre-conference reviewed funding. They recognize the problems, but don't have any answers. They reviewed Kansas' solution and it is not a good one to follow. They will continue to move forward. Some boards are lobbying directly but have not been able to get anything out of sub-committee. We are on emails and are doing everything we can on our side by talking to senators. Every one of us on this board was at the pre-conference hoping for solutions, but didn't get any. If anyone has suggestions, let us know.

Board Committee Reports – Watson reported that the Building and Grounds Committee met and reviewed the design. Roskop reported that the Finance Committee met and reviewed payroll and everything looks fine. We finished off the QCPUF funds and have started paying some of the architect fees out of the Building Fund. Cassie has set up a spreadsheet to show the dollars spent and where they are coming from. Breinig reported that Negotiations will meet Wednesday morning.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

A motion was made by Breinig and seconded by Warner to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, which included minutes from previous meetings and financial reports. AYES: Whipple, Breinig, Roskop, Anderson, Watson and Warner. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Roskop and seconded by Whipple to approve claims including the General Fund, Employee Benefit Fund, Lunch Fund, Building Fund and QCPUF Fund totaling \$447,727.06. AYES: Breinig, Roskop, Anderson, Watson, Warner and Whipple but abstaining from claim number 28309 to ATC for \$349.61. Motion carried 6-0.

Watson stated that this is now option 28. This plan has better flow. They have come within a few hundred square feet of the original drawings. The architects will then move forward with their drawings and will prepare to take bids in March. Griffith addressed a question from a patron about the tables in the lunch room. We will only have to replace four tables and will continue to use what we have and the square footage of what we have today compared to the plan is similar. Watson stated that it is the recommendation of the committee to move forward with this footprint so that the architects can move forward. Griffith stated that the main thing is to get the geothermal analysis done. Anderson stated that she was unsure about the seating capacity of the gym. She stopped to look at Bertrand's gym and that is what she would like and it seats 1,000 people. There are eleven rows on the home side and seven rows on the visitors' side. She is comfortable with that. Warner stated that their gym is set the same

way allowing for cross court, full length practices. Watson stated that would allow for practices to be held when the other gym is set up for play practices, concerts.

A motion was made by Warner and seconded by Breinig to approve the final footprint for the building project. AYES: Roskop, Anderson, Watson, Warner, Whipple and Breinig. Motion carried 6-0.

Jay Spearman with Ameritas reported to the board that the interest rates started rising as we were entering the market. This resulted in issuing \$9,385,000 instead of the \$9,995,000. Contact had been made to Edward Jones in McCook and they did not turn in any orders. He then reviewed the fees associated with issuing the bonds, which totaled \$135,945.50. Ameritas did lower their fee approximately \$4,700 to offset the fees with hopes to make up the difference when issuing the second round of bonds. Average interest rate on the bonds for this issuance is 2.88% and when factoring all of the costs associated with issuing the bonds the average interest rate is 3.035%. The second issuance of bonds will be for \$3,280,000 and it is up to the District when to issue these bonds. At current interest rates, every month we wait saves approximately \$10,000 in interest expense. But, every tenth of a percent movement in the market will cost approximately \$57,000 in interest expense. An estimated average interest rate on the bonds for the second issuance is 3.72% and when factoring all of the costs associated with issuing the bonds the estimated average interest rate is 3.815%. Annual payments would be \$860,000 to \$865,000 or based upon current valuations a levy of approximately \$0.165. Griffith reported that the architects are expecting to go out for bids in March and start receiving them in April. Spearman and Watson agreed that the Federal Reserve will more than likely increase a quarter of a percent when they meet. The board could adopt a parameters resolution in January, which would be good for six months. This would allow the District to act as necessary without a board meeting. Griffith reported that an account has been set up with First State Bank to accept the bond funds.

Griffith advised the board that he has received interest from the board and a couple community members to be part of the Construction Manager at Risk Selection Committee. The interested board members were Dennis Roskop and Lisa Anderson. The board agreed that both Roskop and Anderson could be on the committee. Two community members interested in serving on the committee are Drew tenBensel and Troy tenBensel. Troy expressed more interest in serving on the advisory committee versus the selection committee. Drew agreed to serve on the selection committee. A motion was made by Roskop and seconded by Whipple to approve the Construction Manager at Risk Selection Committee which will consist of Board Members: Dennis Roskop and Lisa Anderson, Administrator: Dr. George Griffith, School Architect: TJ Schirmer with The Clark Enersen Partners, Person having special expertise relevant to selection of a construction manager: Doug Snyder, and Resident of the School District other than individual already included: Drew tenBensel. AYES: Anderson, Watson, Warner, Whipple, Breinig and Roskop. Motion carried 6-0.

Griffith clarified that this committee will select the Construction Management Firm that will oversee the entire construction / renovation project. Their fee is typically a percentage of the cost of the project that has already been included in cost estimates.

Griffith presented two bids on a 3D printer that would be used by robotics, science and ag classes. One bid was from Dynamism for \$4,037 and the other was from MakerBot for \$6,021. Both have the same size and capacity. Griffith recommended purchasing the 3D printer from Dynamism for \$4,037. Mr. Schaben researched both printers and also recommended the printer from Dynamism. Griffith reported that this purchase would be made from the General Fund. A motion was made by Roskop and seconded by Breinig to approve the purchase of a 3D printer from Dynamism for \$4,037. AYES: Watson, Warner, Whipple, Breinig, Roskop and Anderson. Motion carried 6-0.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Public Comment - Watson expressed his appreciation to the visitors for their comments. Griffith expressed his appreciation to those willing to serve on the advisory committee and if anyone thinks of any others to please let him know.

The Negotiations Committee is scheduled to have a meeting this week.

Watson thanked all members for completing their superintendent evaluations.

A motion was made by Whipple and seconded by Warner to enter in to executive session at 8:05 pm. AYES: Warner, Whipple, Breinig, Roskop, Anderson and Watson. Motion carried 6-0.

A motion was made by Roskop and seconded by Breinig to exit executive session at 8:30 pm. AYES: Whipple, Breinig, Roskop, Anderson, Watson and Warner. Motion carried 6-0.

Construction Manager at Risk Selection Committee Meeting, Friday, December 23, 2016 at a time yet to be determined in the Arapahoe Public School Distance Learning Room.

Regular Board Meeting, Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the Arapahoe Public School Library.

A motion was made by Watson and seconded by Whipple to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 pm. AYES: Breinig, Roskop, Anderson, Watson, Warner and Whipple. Motion carried 6-0.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Cassie Hilker, Board Secretary