

Arapahoe-Holbrook Public School
Board of Education – Regular Meeting
School Library
August 14th, 2017 7:00 pm

President Dennis Roskop called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

President Roskop announced that the Arapahoe Board of Education follows the rules of the Open Meetings Act which is posted.

The following members were present: Dan Warner, Dennis Roskop, Brad Schutz, and Lisa Anderson.

The following member(s) were absent: Chad Carpenter and Rod Whipple.

A motion was made by Warner and seconded by Anderson to excuse the absence of Chad Carpenter and Rod Whipple. AYES: Roskop, Schutz, Anderson, and Warner. Motion carried 4-0.

Also present was Dr. George Griffith, Superintendent, Bob Braithwait, Principal and Cassie Hilker, Board Secretary. Visitors were present.

A motion was made by Schutz and seconded by Warner to approve the agenda as presented. AYES: Anderson, Warner, Roskop, and Schutz. Motion carried 4-0.

President Roskop welcomed the visitors, thanked them for being there and asked for Public Comment. Tammie Middagh reported that she attended the Annual Partnership Meeting in July in Lincoln for the Teammates Mentoring Program. She got up to date on all of the new rules. Arapahoe was also recognized at that meeting for having a mentoring program for 10 years. She presented a certificate to the board. Next Monday they will be training 3 new mentors and about 35 will have mentor renewal training. The training will be held at the school, new mentors at 5:00 pm and mentor renewals at 6:00 pm. Roskop thanked Tammie for all that she does with that program; it is great for our school.

REPORTS

Braithwait reported that sports practices began last Monday. There are 30 out for football with a possibility of more, 16 out for volleyball and 10 out for cross country. Schutz asked if we were still D2. Braithwait confirmed that we are still D2 for football and D1 for volleyball and basketball. It is a 2 year cycle. Braithwait stated that they will probably move up next year. Everything will be decided at the end of November and the schedule will be put together in February. Our new staff members have all been paired up with a mentor on staff and will be attending an ESU 11 training for new staff members. Staff seems eager and excited about the new school year. The custodial staff has done a great job getting things ready considering all of the construction. Teachers have been outstanding. We just found out we are going to lose the art room until August 28th and within 30 minutes we had everything figured out. Everyone is really excited and accommodating. Musical practice has started for Moderately Modern Millie. Senja Stephens performed in Hairspray in Kearney and she did a fabulous job. Great representation of our school by one of our staff members. Rod and Chris Whipple have graciously offered to make all of our students shaved ice on the first day of school. We will have them set up out back and we are planning to have some fun that day. I have something else planned that day for our high school students, but it is a secret. Football and volleyball scrimmages are this Friday at 6:00 pm and 7:30 pm. Season openers are the 25th with Football at 3:00 pm and Volleyball at 5:00 pm. Football is playing against Axtell and Volleyball is playing against Hitchcock County. Cross Country opens up at Cambridge on the 1st of September. Fall MAPS testing starts September 5th for the elementary. Last year we had around 346 kids PK-12 and right now we are showing 352, but I would be surprised if we weren't closer to 370. Our smallest class has 18 students and that is 10th grade. Otherwise, all classes are 20 and above. The biggest class is the 8th grade with 32 students. We have 7 classes with 25 or more and 6 of those are in the elementary. Schutz asked what the staff was doing next Monday for the Eclipse. Braithwait reported that grades 5-12 staff will be traveling with the kids to view the Eclipse in Oconto. Schutz asked about transportation. Griffith and Braithwait reported that transportation is ready to go. Braithwait reported that they have a spot reserved at the park in Oconto. The kitchen will be providing sack lunches for all students. Warner asked about possible liability to the school. Griffith reported that he sent a letter home with all students. It stated that if you do not want your child to participate, keep them home and they will not be counted absent. Braithwait reported that there is an opt out form and everything was done through the school attorney. The glasses meet all safety requirements. Griffith stated that there is some level of liability to the school. Schutz asked what the plan is if it's raining. Griffith stated that they would not go if it is raining and he has been watching the weather and will continue to do so. Braithwait stated that Dan Schaben has been taking the lead on this project. The teachers are all on board and are working on things in their classrooms to prepare the students.

Dr. Griffith reported that we were awarded the America's Farmers Grow Rural Education Grant in the amount of \$10,000. This program is sponsored by the Monsanto Fund. I would like to thank all the farmers that made this grant an option. Mr. Schaben is excited to get started with this program. Funds will be used for the purchase of robotics related hardware and professional development for Mr. Schaben. We are going to call the class RoboMath. We were also awarded the Initial ReVision Grant from NDE to start the development of a plan to grow our Career and Technical Education Programs. Areas we plan to review are the Technical Sciences like programming and robotics, ag technology, health care, business and marketing and education. Career education is a K-12 process and will take a 3-5 year period to get it fully in place. It starts in the elementary with learning how to be a good citizen which will help them to be a good employee. Three out of the five years we will be able to apply for a \$50,000 grant to help with materials needed for any challenges we may have. The custodians and summer help have worked hard to get the building ready for school. There will be challenges and a great need for flexibility on the part of students, staff and patrons as we move through this school year. We included a map with our newsletter showing how the student drop off and bus drop off will work. The Arapahoe paper also included a written description of how the traffic is to flow. Between the map and the written description I hope people have at least a partial understanding of the planned traffic flow. The rain is good for the farmers and it is nice to see but it hampers the process of the construction related dirt work. We have had at least five official rain days and I am sure there will be more. Today was our staff's first official day back and it is nice to see everyone back. We had many required trainings and it will continue tomorrow. Of course, dedicated staff have been in and out all year to prepare for their students. I am looking forward to a busy but positive year. Roskop asked if Griffith could explain the drop off plan. Griffith stated that parents will come in the entrance by the bus barn, drive to the south end of the parking lot, drop off and exit out the east side of the parking lot. Roskop asked about what the plan was for those parents that will be parking and walking their children to their respective classrooms. Griffith stated that it is going to be congested, but they are going to make things flow as smoothly as possible. Braithwait reported that there is also drop off available in front of the elementary. Roskop thought the buses were dropping off in that area. Griffith confirmed that buses will be dropping off south of the elementary and parents are to drop off on the north side of the small gym. Roskop just wants to make sure everyone is on the same page as far as where staff is parking, drop off locations and so on. Griffith stated that he and Mr. Braithwait will be monitoring the drop off locations on Wednesday. Warner just wants to encourage everyone to go slow and be careful. Roskop's concern is that the staff and high school students are to park in the northeast parking lot and parents are also to use that parking lot to drop off and wants to make sure everyone is prepared for that. Braithwait and Griffith will be prepared. Schutz asked if there are any practices scheduled for before school. Griffith and Braithwait were not sure, but they can adjust practice times as needed. Anderson thought a beacon would be a good idea the night before. Griffith agreed.

Board Member Reports: None.

Board Committee Reports: Griffith stated that there are minutes included with the board materials from the various committee meetings. Schutz asked Griffith if he could summarize the transportation committee meeting. Griffith reported that the transportation committee met and came up with the plan to purchase two 4-wheel drive suburbans in the upcoming year. There will be a transfer to the transportation depreciation fund. He has prepared a rotation schedule for the vehicles, but needs to make some adjustments so that the District isn't hit with purchasing two buses in the same year. A better plan is to purchase a bus and a suburban. He does recommend limiting the bus life to 20 years due to safety advancements. Schutz asked about when bids would be presented at a board meeting. Griffith reported that he is planning to wait until the fleet pricing window is open. He also stated that Carpenter has received some bids from Faws and they are around \$40,000 - \$45,000. Roskop reported that the Finance Committee met before tonight's meeting. They discussed budget items and the budget workshop and how to get the money in the appropriate areas. There are two transfers included in the claims tonight. The first one is for \$100,000 to the bus depreciation fund and the other one is for \$100,000 to the lunch fund.

ACTION ITEMS

A motion was made by Schutz and seconded by Warner to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, which included minutes from previous meetings and financial reports. AYES: Anderson, Warner, Roskop, and Schutz. Motion carried 4-0.

A motion was made by Anderson and seconded by Schutz to approve claims including the General Fund, Equipment Depreciation Fund, Lunch Fund, Building Fund, and Student Fee Fund totaling \$954,155.70. AYES: Warner, Roskop, Schutz but abstaining from claim number 28959 to the Arapahoe Public Mirror for \$1,194.83, and Anderson. Motion carried 4-0.

Dr. Griffith presented the Final Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) that the attorney recommended removing a couple of exemptions and the \$100,000 allowance for sound upgrades to the existing gym and stage. This is an item that would have to be run through as a change order. The document being presented tonight has gotten the approval of our attorney, Clark Enersen and Hausmann. The contingency fee was decreased from 4% to 2.5%. The GMP has come in \$1.0638 million under the original GMP estimates. One issue that has come up is the asbestos that needs to be abated.

This cannot be done during the school year. It will take 6-7 weeks to complete, which means it will be done during the summer. The completion date must be moved to November 2018 for the existing elementary renovation. The new elementary wing and cafeteria should be complete prior to the start of school next year. The expectation is that the move for the high school students will occur over the 2018 Christmas break. There were far more asbestos areas than expected. B2 is putting together a document to be put out for bid that will include a start date of when school is out. Warner asked if there was any idea on the cost for the asbestos abatement. Griffith did not know, but he will request that information and share it with the board. A motion was made by Warner and seconded by Anderson that the Board of Education of the Arapahoe School District should and does hereby approve the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) proposal submitted by Hausmann Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$10,636,161.00 and further hereby authorizes and approves the GMP Amendment, a copy of which is on file with official School District records and as presented at this meeting, or with such changes as are approved by the President of the Board of Education, Superintendent, or a designee, to that certain standard form of agreement between the School District and Hausmann Construction, Inc., as the construction manager at risk, dated February 2017, for the additions and renovations project to the Arapahoe High School and Elementary School site facilities, and further hereby authorizes and directs the President of the Board of Education, or his designee for and on behalf of the School District, to sign, execute and deliver such GMP Agreement and any documents called for in such GMP Amendment or determined by them to be in the best interest of the School District, and to pay any necessary costs and expenses provided or required by the GMP Amendment. AYES: Roskop, Schutz, Anderson, and Warner. Motion carried 4-0.

Dr. Griffith provided a copy of the payment application to Hausmann Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$301,922.06. However, the item was included in the claims and has already been approved. Griffith stated that 10% is retained and will be requested later.

Dr. Griffith presented the Natural Gas Agreement. It is for 3 years and is a cooperative program through the NASB. We are already participating, this is just a renewal. Roskop stated that this is a program that NASB started a year ago and it has a number of schools that approve them to negotiate on their behalf. We approved it as a one year contract last year. A motion was made by Warner and seconded by Schutz to approve the natural gas agreement. Schutz asked if it was Griffith's recommendation to move forward with a three year period. Griffith confirmed that was his recommendation. AYES: Schutz, Anderson, Warner, and Roskop. Motion carried 4-0.

Dr. Griffith presented some changes to the Benefit Schedule for Classified Employees. He stated that he discovered there were more than a couple of 12 month staff members with family health insurance and his recommendation is to offer all 12 month employees family health insurance. This came to his attention when one of the grandfathered employee's asked about adding a dependent to their health insurance plan. As a grandfathered employee they are able to receive family health insurance. Griffith's idea behind this recommendation is that he likes to keep things equal among employees. The other recommended change is moving the Grade School Secretary position from a 10 month position to a 12 month position for her duties and to provide other duties for the District. Currently, we hire three additional custodians to help out during the summer. My thoughts are that this would reduce that. Anderson asked if the three summer custodians are already members of our staff. Griffith confirmed that they are already members of our staff. We actually have three that help with cleaning and two that help with landscaping. Anderson asked if those staff members want to have their summer jobs eliminated. Griffith stated that he is already looking at reducing the number of summer staff next year because the need won't be as great. We have gotten the inventory done this year and there won't be a whole lot of cleaning in the current high school. The time when we will need extra help will be during Christmas break during the move. We will not start the summer food program next summer due to the construction project, but plan to start it the following summer. That position will be available for them. I do rely a lot on what Cindy Huxoll tells me is necessary based on her experience. Warner asked if the Grade School Secretary is willing to take a change in role for summer work. Griffith agreed. Schutz expressed concern about if future hires would want that position since it includes custodial work during the summer. His other concerns are adding staff and payroll. Warner agreed. Schutz agrees with the concept of the grandfathered employees, but does not agree with expanding job descriptions and benefits. Griffith appreciated the input. Roskop asked about the start date of these contracts. Griffith stated that the only thing that would change would be the family benefits right now. He already has the grade school secretary scheduled to work next summer for inventory, but he will have to adjust it after that. Roskop stated that we approved a change to this schedule back in April and are now looking to make another change now. Griffith agreed. A motion was made by Warner and seconded by Schutz to table the proposed changes to the benefit schedule for classified staff. AYES: Anderson, Warner, Roskop, and Schutz. Motion carried 4-0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comment – None.

Special Board Budget Workshop, Tuesday, August 22nd, 2017 at 6:00 pm in the Arapahoe-Holbrook Public School Library.

Budget Hearing, Monday, September 11th, 2017 at 6:30 pm in the Arapahoe-Holbrook Public School Library.
Special Hearing To Set Final Tax Request, Monday, September 11th, 2017 at 6:45 pm in the Arapahoe-Holbrook Public School Library.
Regular Board Meeting, Monday, September 11th, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the Arapahoe-Holbrook Public School Library.

A motion was made by Warner and seconded by Schutz to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cassie Hilker, Board Secretary