

**MONTEZUMA-CORTEZ SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1
Tuesday, February 16, 2021
Virtual Zoom Meeting Platform**

MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Sherri Wright
Sheri Noyes
Jack Schuenemeyer
Tammy Hooten
Lance McDaniel
Chris Flaherty
Stacey Hall

Lori Haukeness - Superintendent
Carol Mehesy – Assistant Superintendent
Jeanette Allen – Director of Curriculum
Kyle Archibeque – Director of Finance

1. The meeting was called to order by President Sherri Wright.
2. The pledge to the American Flag was led by President Sherri Wright.
3. **Set the Agenda:**
Dr. Jack Schuenemeyer made a motion to set the agenda as presented. Mr. Lance McDaniel seconded the motion. Aye: Wright, Noyes, Schuenemeyer, Hooten, McDaniel, Flaherty, Hall. Nay: None. Motion carried.
4. **Approval of Minutes of the January 19, 2021 Regular and Executive Session Meetings, January 26, 2021 Work Session and the February 4, 2021 Special Board Meeting:**
Ms. Stacey Hall made a motion to approve the minutes for the January 19 regular and executive sessions, the January 26, 2021 work session and the special board meeting on February 4, 2021 with one correction. The motion was seconded by Ms. Tammy Hooten. Aye: Wright, Noyes, Schuenemeyer, Hooten, McDaniel, Flaherty, Hall. Nay: None. Motion carried.
5. **Celebration Reports:**
Ms. Haukeness reported that because Montezuma County has moved to Yellow on the COVID scale, we are able to allowed limited numbers of spectators into sport activities. The

COVID vaccine clinic for educational staff will be held on Saturday, March 20. Approximately 215 staff members have signed up to receive the vaccine. With the awarding of the RISE grant, we will be hiring for the coordinator position.

Board member Stacey Hall congratulated Whitney and Dan Rapp on the arrival of their new baby boy. She sent a thank you to Principal Pearson for having four 8th graders take part in the Superintendent Search Stakeholder meetings. The middle school basketball team took part in an invitational tournament and won the championship. Ty Blackmer has been signed on to play college basketball. Hannah Fish will participate in a blind audition for *The Voice*.

6. Superintendent's Report:

Ms. Haukeness referred to her written report sent to the board. Mr. Archibeque, Director of Finance, and she will have a budget work session prior to the next board meeting and will be asking for board direction with regards to finances. It was agreed that a special board meeting to address the budget would be set for March 16 at 6:00 p.m. prior to the regular board meeting for that month.

7. Staff Reports:

Jeanette Allen – She referred the board to her written report. She said the distribution of the hot spots to families in need was going well. The RISE grant will add sustainability during the next 18 months. This will be integrated with the HTI efforts.

Mr. McDaniel wished Ms. Allen well in her upcoming retirement and thanked her for all the work she has done for the district staff and students. The other board members also had words of praise for her and wished her well in retirement.

Carol Mehesy – She reported on the COVID vaccination clinic that will take place in February and March. The board members also wished her well in her upcoming resignation from the district. They praised her for the incredible work she has done.

Jamie Haukeness – Mr. Haukeness referred to his written report to the board. He reported that the HVAC work at Mesa Elementary has been completed. The district will receive a \$25,800 rebate from Empire Electric Company. This will make a total of \$96,000 in rebates received so far for the new HVAC systems installed.

The Manaugh Elementary boilers have been having issues. They are very old and he is obtaining bids for replacements. This will come before the board in March for approval. There is a need to replace the heating system at the mechanic's shop at the transportation department.

CDOT and the district continue to discuss remedies for the traffic concerns at Lewis/Arriola. The lockdown drills went well. Issues with the school safe radios are being addressed. There will be campus lights installed at Mesa and Manaugh Elementary schools. Kemper Elementary outdoor lighting needs are being studied.

Kyle Archibeque - Mr. Archibeque reviewed the various written reports sent to the board. He will be presenting a five-year plan soon. He reviewed budget time lines and explained the supplemental budget request that will come before the board later on the agenda.

Jim Parr – Mr. Parr reported on the progress for a new playground at both Lewis/Arriola Elementary School and Cortez Middle School. The completed grant application has been submitted to the Colorado Health Foundation and if awarded will be for \$700,000.

8. Board Requests/Reports

Ms. Tammy Hooten reported on work from the LRC committee. She stated that our state representatives and state senators need to hear from the rural areas concerning educational issues. The addresses to respond will be posted on our website.

a. Report on Superintendent Search

Ms. Wright reported on the ongoing superintendent search. Nine applications have been received to date. McPherson & Jacobson have completed all five of the stakeholder meetings and are in the process of completing the survey and the brochure.

b. School Land Dedication Fee Resolution

Ms. Wright and Dr. Schuenemeyer reported on a conversation with the school district's attorney. The lawyer stated this is a county issue. If anything is challenged or changed it needs to go to the county commissioners. The district does not have the authority to change it. Our attorney recommended that we bring our resolution up to date. She felt like the schools were not collecting enough fees. We are waiting on a new sample resolution from our attorney.

9. Citizens Address the Board *

Lynette Ward presented her concerns about sex education at our high school. She listed a number of questions and concerns she had.

Melvin Hicks was told if he wanted to pursue the plat fees, he would have to take it up with the county commissioners. He was advised of our attorney's opinion.

Other members of the audience were allowed to send chat messages to the board.

10. Action Items:

a. Consent Calendar

Ms. Tammy Hooten made a motion to accept the consent calendar as presented to the board. Mr. Chris Flaherty seconded the motion. Aye: Wright, Noyes, Schuenemeyer, Hooten, McDaniel, Flaherty. Ms. Hall abstained due to a conflict of interest. Nay: None. Motion carried.

b. Resolution in Support of Suspending State Assessments for the 2020-2021 School Year

Mr. Chris Flaherty moved to approve the Resolution in Support of Suspending State Assessments for the 2020-2021 School Year as read. Ms. Tammy Hooten seconded the motion. Aye: Wright, Noyes, Schuenemeyer, Hooten, McDaniel, Flaherty, Hall. Nay: None. Motion carried.

c. Approve MCHS Student Success Coordinator Position

Ms. Stacey Hall moved to approve the MCHS Student Success Coordinator Position as presented to the board. Ms. Sheri Noyes seconded the motion. Aye: Wright, Noyes, Schuenemeyer, Hooten, McDaniel, Flaherty, Hall. Nay: None. Motion carried.

d. Approve Correction to Transportation and Para Salary Schedules

It was noted that these were presented at the January meeting due to the increase in minimum wage. There were a few mathematical errors on these two and they have come back for approval of the changes.

Mr. Chris Flaherty moved to approve the corrections to the transportation and para salary schedules. Ms. Tammy Hooten seconded the motion. Aye: Wright, Noyes, Schuenemeyer, Hooten, McDaniel, Flaherty, Hall. Nay: None. Motion carried.

e. Supplemental Budget Johnson O'Malley \$30,000

Ms. Sheri Noyes made a motion to approve the supplemental budget for Johnson O'Malley funds in the amount of \$30,000. Ms. Stacey Hall seconded the motion. Aye: Wright, Noyes, Schuenemeyer, Hooten, McDaniel, Flaherty, Hall. Nay: None. Motion carried.

f. Capital Reserve Resolution - \$10,000

Ms. Stacey Hall made a motion to approve the capital reserve resolution in the amount of \$10,000 to provide outside lighting at school campuses. The motion was seconded by Ms. Tammy Hooten. Aye: Wright, Noyes, Schuenemeyer, Hooten, McDaniel, Flaherty, Hall. Nay: None. Motion carried.

g. Policy Adoption – First Reading

- a. GBGG – Staff Sick Leave
- b. GBGH - Sick Leave Bank
- c. GBGJ - Staff Bereavement Leave
- d. GBGL - Staff Victim Leave
- e. GBGM –Staff Discretionary Leave

After discussion, Dr. Jack Schuenemeyer made a motion to accept the policies listed as the First Reading. The motion was seconded by Ms. Tammy Hooten. Aye: Wright, Noyes, Schuenemeyer, Hooten, McDaniel, Flaherty, Hall. Nay: None. Motion carried.

11. Discussion Items:

a. Sick Leave Policies Update

Changes to all of the policies listed above were discussed. Ms. Hall asked for the 11 month contract people be considered when changes are made. The idea of increasing the payout for sick leave upon retirement from 60 to 80 days were discussed. Mr. Archibeque outlined the projected financial costs and pros and cons of a change. A consensus that 70 days should be considered. The idea of providing four (4) discretionary days was discussed. The board heard comments from Ms. Mehesy who is in charge of Human Resources. The policies will come back for a second reading at the March board meeting reflecting changes.

b. Update on Plat Fees:

Both Ms. Wright and Dr. Schuenemeyer reported on the conversation with the school district's attorney. Ms. Haukeness is waiting on an updated draft resolution from our attorney. This could be considered at the March board meeting. It could mean a considerable increase in fees collected. This is a county ruling and cannot be changed by the school district.

c. 2021 Proposed District Administration Plan:

Ms. Haukeness presented a draft plan for changes to the district administration plan and organizational chart for the 20-21 school year. The general consensus was for the newly hired superintendent to have a say in the hiring of the administrative positions that will become open in June due to retirements and resignations. Ms. Haukeness will refine the plan with her administrative staff and bring it back to the March meeting.

d. COVID Vaccination Plan – March 22:

Ms. Mehesy outlined the COVID vaccination plan for all district employees who have signed up to receive the vaccine. This will be held on February 20 with the booster being given on March 20. Mrs. Haukeness asked that all schools be closed on March 22 to allow for possible reactions to the booster shot that could result in multiple absences that day.

e. Primary Goals for Board to Work Toward:

The board briefly discussed the goals that each member had outlined during the recent board evaluation. It was decided they would rather work on all of the improvement goals presented and not limit it to two or three.

12. Items to Add to the Next Agenda

- Organizational chart
- RISE Plan
- Subdivision Plat Resolution
- Bids from Mr. Jamie Haukeness
- Second Reading of Sick Leave Related policies
- Budget Work Session

The board meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.


Secretary, Board of Education


President, Board of Education