

**MONTEZUMA-CORTEZ SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1**  
**Tuesday, February 22, 2022**  
**400 N. Elm Street, Cortez, CO 81321**

**MINUTES**  
**Board Meeting 6:00 PM**

**Board Attendance:**

Sheri Noyes, President, District F  
Sherri Wright, Vice-President, District C  
Jeanette Hart, Treasurer, Director District B  
Stacey Hall, Secretary, Director, District D  
Ed Rice, Director, District E  
Cody Wells, Director, District A  
Layne Frazier, Director District G

**Absent:**

Avery Wright, M-CHS Student Rep.  
Amita Crowley, M-CMS Student Rep.

**Administration Attendance:**

Jim Parr, Exe. Director of Academics  
Kyle Archibeque, Exe. Director of Finance  
Cynthia Eldredge, Exe. Director of Human Resources  
Debra Ramsey, Exe. Assistant  
Katie Nelson, Principal  
Whitney Rapp, Principal  
Robert Laymon, Principal  
Angela Sauk, Principal  
Drew Pearson, Principal  
Eric Chandler, Principal

**1. Call to order**

- a. The meeting was called to order by President Sheri Noyes at 6:00 PM.

**2. Pledge to Flag**

- a. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America was led by President Sheri Noyes.

**3. Set the Agenda**

Director Hall moved to set the agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Wells.  
Aye: Frazier, Hall, Hart, Noyes, Rice, Wells and Wright Nay: None. Motion carried.

**4. Student Presentation:**

There were no presentations, but the board received a verbal invite from Drew Pearson to attend M-CMS Community Night on May 10<sup>th</sup> and Mr. Layman gave a handout invite to Mesa's Read across America to ask the board to be guest readers on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. President Noyes asked Mrs. Ramsey to make special meeting agendas/notices for both events so the board could attend.

**5. Approval of Minutes for Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Executive Session and Regular Board Meeting, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Work Session Minutes, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Special Board minutes, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Executive Session and Regular Board minutes.**

Vice President Wright moved to approve the meeting minutes for Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Executive Session and Regular Board Meeting, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Work Session Minutes, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Special Board minutes, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Executive Session and Regular Board minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Rice.

Aye: Frazier, Hall, Hart, Noyes, Rice, Wells and Wright Nay: None. Motion carried.

## 6. Celebration Reports

### a. Wrapped in Support Report, Cyndi Haupt and Nicci Crowley (LOR)

A short presentation was shown with slides of pictures taken during the delivery of the blankets. Haupt and Crowley reported over 400 blankets and concession cards had been handed out to district employees. They thanked the board for showing up to assist and said the mayor had also come to help. They felt like there were a lot of great employees and love in the RE-1 district.

b. Director Hall reported that Mrs. Waltman's Adventure Group from the Middle School has been snow shoeing at Chicken Creek on Fridays. She wished to thank Mrs. Waltman for getting those kids involved. Also the Middle School play is coming and she wished the basketball team's good luck in their games tonight.

c. President Noyes reported that the Middle School Showcase was very nicely done the week prior.

d. Director Rice reported getting into buildings and that he had enjoyed the Futures Fair at the high school.

e. Mrs. Ward asked if she could give express appreciation for the hours of time spent by Mr. Parr on getting the new curriculum.

## 7. Staff Reports

### Cynthia Eldredge, Human Resources:

Cynthia Eldredge submitted her report to the board. Mrs. Eldredge's presenter, John Corbett, the District's Insurance Broker of Record, was unavailable as his flight was cancelled. She read from a report that John had forwarded to her on their progress since signing with RE-1 on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. USI has been meeting with our insurance vendors to identify contract redundancies. They have identified \$170,000.00 in hidden fees in our RX plan. They are renegotiating to remove our 6% broker commission with Delta Dental and moved our services from 80 coverage to 100 on preventative services. They are looking at American Fidelity and Copperpoint's rates and the district's our eMod. They had requested Sun Life remove the Broker commissions. They are building the district a USI member's mobile app, call center and benefits guide. CSDSIP's renewal packet was in her report but will not be finalized until her March report. Mrs. Eldredge wanted to compare it to USI's similar offering. We can expect higher rates since there was a large claim made recently.

Eldredge reported the Workforce Center's grant ends March 11<sup>th</sup>. The district has offered those employees positions. Her submitted report also highlighted administrative changes in the superintendent and assistant superintendent positions, Jaclyn Hall had included an update from the Health Services Dept., Lena Galloway had provided a brief Transportation update, and Ray Lopez updated the board on the maintenance dept..

Ray Lopez did speak to the board to report he had a new Administrative Assistant through internal promotion. The maintenance dept. is starting big projects with a short time frame. Mesa roof starts May 31<sup>st</sup> and goes 8 weeks. Supplies for the roof are already being delivered. Mesa floor will be go through abatement and demolition, before receiving new tile. Manaugh will go through abatement in the classrooms before receiving new carpet, then cleaning will be required. The M-CMS roof replacement will take 2 or 3 months as part of our 1.5 million dollar insurance claim (hail storms). Doing the whole roof will help keep the warranty on one claim in the future. M-CMS carpet in the hallways will require abatement as well. M-CMS HVAC needs mechanical engineering plan. Mr. Lopez said one consideration was to get rid of the boilers and have more of a heating /cooling set up. This would cover all areas; gym, admin side, band and choir rooms. Mr. Archibeque added that this may improve the pressure issue with the doors. Currently, the controls do not even all match up so this would also fix that problem. Beech Street received an engineer assessment, but will also require mechanical design. This boilers may be able to remain as long as we update controls. Updates are needed to centralize man hours maintaining the equipment. The transportation dept. received radiant heating from a capital reserve request, that is now up and running and should last 40 years. Custodial is stocked up on supplies and their machinery / equipment is being reviewed and updated. Mr. Lopez reported the custodial staff was doing an outstanding job in their building. The Panther Field Track assessment will be Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 AM. Pleasant View School was evaluated by a structural engineer for cracks and break-aways. Mr. Lopez said the finding was that the ground was settling and the soils are shrinking due to long term drought, which will make the cracks worse. Manaugh Elementary will be evaluated next week. Director Hall asked if it was possible to obtain ride on vacuums for the M-CMS staff that are similar to the ones at M-CHS. Also, she wanted to confirm where the payment for the HVAC at the M-CMS and Beech Street was coming from. Mr. Archibeque confirmed this was planned to come from the ESSER funds.

Director Rice asked about the softball scoreboard for next fall. Mr. Lopez reported the scoreboard is there but they are looking for power. The high school soccer field scoreboard didn't have power so the district purchased a solar set up for it and its working so that may be an option for softball as well.

Lena Galloway reported to the board that she and Steve Brace, the district's certified trainer, at Transportation, were working on the change in the federal mandate on required training for bus drivers. The certification will now go state to state and drivers will not be required to retest if they move to a new state. They are developing an opportunity for M-CSD RE-1 to be a regional testing and training site. Mr. Brace reported the training was over 700 pages long and included power point slides. Classroom training will also be required, as well as behind the wheel, then they ride with other drivers to learn how to be a school bus driver. This may take up to a month or more. Currently, the district has no new bus driver applicants. Once a driver is trained, it would be good if the district had a requirement to be under our employment for a certain time period. Galloway said we need to get our feet wet before we start offering this to other districts but she knows there is currently interest.

Mrs. Eldredge's final highlight was to mention the process the district has put in place to respond the multiple CORA requests coming in. It is taking up a substantial amount of time. She thanked Mrs. Ramsey for getting it organized.

#### **Kyle Archibeque, Finance:**

Mr. Archibeque submitted his report to the board. He highlighted that the ESSER III survey had been given and results were included. He said the board would begin to see request for supplemental budget items based on this \$9.7 million budget soon. The most common concerns were to address learning loss, followed by a need for more support staff and afterschool/summer school programs, continuing in-person learning as much as possible, retaining staff and enhancing district operations, and mental health supports were all priorities.

Also included in his report are survey results from the staff and community surveys for the School calendar for 2022-2023. The calendar option B: 147 day was hands down the most popular with both groups. Data showed 85.5% of staff had selected option B with over 200 surveyed and 61.5% of the community selected option B with over 350 surveys taken.

Mr. Archibeque reported there could be an increase in funding coming from the state. This was due to counties across the state receiving more local tax than they expected too, which effected our negative factor with the state. This will most likely result in a little more money per student over the next couple years. We may see Read Act requirements thrown on to this as well.

Mr. Archibeque closed by pointing out he would have some Capital reserve request and Supplement budget requests coming up later in the meeting.

#### **Jim Parr, Student Academic Services:**

Mr. Parr submitted his report to the board. He thanked Mrs. Ward for her support. He reported the community was in its final phase. The curriculum options are currently set up in the gym. There is a meeting tomorrow with staff and committee, then Thursday with community and committee. These meetings are to finalize the committee's recommendations to the District Accountability Committee (on March 7<sup>th</sup>) and then to the School Board for a vote on March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Schools are preparing for state testing. This year we are returning to full testing. Grades 3-8<sup>th</sup> will take CMAS Math and CMAS English Language Arts. Grades 5-11<sup>th</sup> will take CMA's Science and 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> will take the PSAT, while 11<sup>th</sup> grade takes the SAT. Our district testing date is set for April 13<sup>th</sup>. This wave of testing will restart the state accountability clock.

Mr. Parr reported the DAC had reviewed the Southwest Open School's Charter Renewal Application and it was approved overwhelmingly. Later in this meeting the board will vote to approve it. If the board approved it, then they put together a contract to sign, then it gets submitted to the state. This should have been in January.

Vice President Wright asked if our students had been tested in fall to see where they were coming in at. Mr. Parr reported that this last fall we did not have a slate of standardized tests, but we did use our interim tests. We are in conversations with different vendors about requiring one of the former platforms.

Ms. Wright asked if there would be a chance of a 6-8 curriculum beyond our current K-5 option. Mr. said that the last directive given was for K-5. Should the board want to go past that point the state no longer makes recommendations after elementary. Our vendors do tend to carry these types of offerings. A directive would be needed to move that direction.

a. **M-CHS – Cortez FFA Trip Request, Kady Meyer – N/A**

b. **M-CHS – Ski & Snowboard Club, Colin Noel**

Mr. Noel, M-CHS Counselor, spoke to the board about starting up a new club. He had done a similar program at the middle school a few years back. He said the insurance company preferred he get board approval. Director Hall said it was a huge club over 10 year ago that many students participated in. Mr. Noel stated that he will be working with SCYC who would be picking up the cost of transportation and helping with scholarships for student expenses. The board thanked Mr. Noel for making this opportunity happen for our students.

**8. Board Requests/Reports**

a. **Brad Miller of Miller Farmer Law**

President Noyes introduced Brad Miller. He spoke to the board about the presentation he had given at the board retreat and the services his company could provide. They have 4 attorneys on staff. He likes to build a relationship with clients and mentioned being able to attend meetings if needed. He said they like to help district's program solve issues. The firm was being considered as a secondary option to the district's attorney that is already in place.

Vice President Wright reported she had attended the rural roundtable table zoom today. She said they talked about rural districts having more votes, but that they were having difficulties getting them there. She said there is a rural education center stipend for teachers that the principals may want to tell their staff about. She reported the next training was March 30-31<sup>st</sup> on school finance. She reported having taken Tom Burris on a tour of the new high school while our student representative showed his daughter the school. She had also fielded questions on the professional Development on the draft calendars? Mr. Parr explained that it was for staff not students and that it was half days every other Friday. Vice President Wright then asked for a time and date to be set to hold interim superintendent candidate interviews. Mrs. Eldredge will contact the 2 and set something up for Saturday if possible and provide interview questions to the board along with a training video on interviewing. Debra Ramsey will put out an agenda.

President Noyes reported that at the BOCES meeting, they were made aware that Adrea Bogle would be leaving her position as executive director. A search will begin for their next director.

**9. Citizens Address the Board \* 1 Hour limit (3 minutes each / Must turn in a filled-out ticket)**

**Pete Montano, Community Member:** Asked the board to consider using questions from the public once they do their Superintendent's Interviews.

**MB McAfee, Community Member:** She suggested the board use diligence and care when selected the next Superintendent. It would be an opportunity for transparency. She gave a list of questions she thought may be helpful to the board.

**Caroline Ower, Community Member:** She expressed that after review of the new curriculum options she thought 3 of the 5 should be eliminated due to a focus on SEL (social emotional learning) and common core. They were more about SEL than academics.

**Laura DeWitt, Community Member:** She praised the work of the staff for working on big decisions. She asked that the board listen humbly to the advice given by professionals and tribal leaders. She asked questions about the district's interest in a second option law firm.

**Lynnette Ward, Parent:** She pointed out the amount of work that had been done in short time. She reminded the board that over 500 signatures had been given to them to get rid of the curriculum. She said there were still issues with advertisements for items that violated the students' rights in the halls at the middle school. She said every child had the right to feel safe at school.

**Angela Saylor, Community Member:** She was asked by the M-CMS Lunch bunch students to speak on their behalf. She said they felt left out of the decisions. She read off several responses from different students.

**10. Discussion Items:****a. Policy KHC & KHC-R Distribution/Posting of Promotional Literature**

President Noyes asked the other board members to read this policy before the next meeting. It had not been updated since 2012.

**11. Action Item:****a. To approve the Consent Calendar (see list)**

Vice President Wright moved to approve the Consent calendar as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Wells.

Aye: Frazier, Hall, Hart, Noyes, Rice, Wells and Wright Nay: None. Motion carried.

**b. Miller Farmer Law**

Director Wells moved that the board sign the letter of engagement with Miller Farmer Law. Director Hall seconded the motion. Hall pointed out that the board retreat was open to the public. She felt that having more than one perspective could be helpful to the board. Mr. Archibeque said having different group to turn to would be helpful to the district. Mrs. Ramsey told President Noyes that the board packet for this meeting that contained a copy of this letter of engagement had been posted online per the discussion at the last meeting.

Aye: Frazier, Hall, Hart, Noyes, Rice, Wells and Wright Nay: None. Motion carried.

**c. MOU Grand Canyon University**

Director Hall moved to approve the MOU with Grand Canyon University. This was seconded by Director Hart. Director Hall said this will be a good opportunity for a former student and for our staff.

Aye: Frazier, Hall, Hart, Noyes, Rice, Wells and Wright Nay: None. Motion carried.

**d. Southwest Open School Charter Renewal**

Vice President Wright moved to approve the Charter Renewal for Southwest Open School. Director Rice seconded the motion.

Aye: Frazier, Hall, Hart, Noyes, Rice, Wells and Wright Nay: None. Motion carried.

**e. Cortez FFA Field Trip**

Director Hart moved to approve the Cortez FFA Trip out of state. Director Rice seconded the motion.

Aye: Frazier, Hall, Hart, Noyes, Rice, Wells and Wright Nay: None. Motion carried.

**f. M-CHS Ski and Snowboard Club Agreement**

Vice President Wright moved to approve the Ski and Snowboard Club at M-CHS and their insurance agreement. Director Wells seconded the motion. Wright said this would be a great opportunity for the students and that Mr. Noel had done a great presentation.

Aye: Frazier, Hall, Hart, Noyes, Rice, Wells and Wright Nay: None. Motion carried.

**g. 2022-2023 School Calendar**

Vice President Wright moved to approve school calendar 2022-2023 option B of 147 days (4-days a week calendar) with the IC/ICA policy waived. Director Wells seconded the motion. Mr. Parr explained that the board could approve this calendar with the knowledge that they could use the March work session to give more direct input on this version and that DAC would see it as well. Then at the March regular board meeting the board could vote to approve this calendar.

Director Rice moved to amend to motion by adding that the district would commit to the 4 day a week calendar for 3 years. The amended motion was seconded by Sherri Wright.

Director Frazier was considered that 4 day weeks hurt specials (PE, music, library, etc.) but he felt that it was going to be a good retention tool for M-CSD Re-1. Principal Sauk said even a 5 day week is hard right now for specials. Wright said we need to take care of our support staff through these changes. Director Hall pointed out that the district was not doing this for finical savings this time, it is good for were the district is at this time. President Noyes reported that 2 other SJBOCES schools were considering the 4 day week. Wright reported that 160 Colorado Schools were already on a 4 day week. Mr. Parr thought it would be good for staff retention. Director Hart expressed that she supports a 5 day week.

Vote on Amended Motion:

Aye: Hall, Noyes, Rice, Wells and Wright Nay: Frazier and Hart, Motion carried.

Vote on original Motion:

Aye: Frazier, Hall, Noyes, Rice, Wells and Wright Nay: Hart, Motion carried.

President Noyes congratulated the districts work on the calendar survey and the preparation.

President Noyes called for a recess at 8:40 PM

The meeting begun again at 8:52 PM.

#### **h. Capital Reserve Request**

##### **i. Pleasant View and Manaugh Mechanical and Engineering Analysis \$15,000.00**

Director Hall moved to approve the Capital Reserve for Pleasant View and Manaugh Mechanical and Engineering Analysis, costing \$15,000. The motion was seconded by Director Hart. The request was read publicly by Director Hall. Mr. Archibeque said this was step two, to have a mechanical engineer evaluate the systems. Their quote was for \$12,300 but Mr. Archibeque added a little cushion in case we need to request more once we get the engineer here.

Aye: Frazier, Hall, Hart, Noyes, Rice, Wells, and Wright Nay: None. Motion carried.

##### **ii. M-CHS Cheer Mats \$6,300.00**

Vice President Wright moved to approve the Capital Reserve for M-CHS to purchase Cheer Mats costing \$6,300.00. MR. Rice seconded the motion. The request was read publicly by Director Hall. Mr. Archibeque reported that since the new high school had been built there has been an overlap in use of the Multi-Purpose Room between Wrestling and Cheer. M-CHS has not had separate mats for cheer, this would solve that issue.

Aye: Frazier, Hall, Hart, Noyes, Rice, Wells, and Wright Nay: None. Motion carried.

##### **iii. Mesa, Manaugh, and M-CMS Asbestos Abatement \$78,841.00**

Director Wells moved to approve the Capital Reserve for Mesa, Manaugh, and M-CMS Asbestos Abatement services at a cost of \$78,841.00. The motion was seconded by Vice President Wright. Director Hall read the request publicly. Mr. Lopez had explained this earlier in the meeting. Mr. Archibeque reported that the range of bids was from \$78,000 to \$200,000. The company with the lower bid is one the district has used them before, and they keep cost down by bringing in a 3<sup>rd</sup> party to clean the air.

Aye: Frazier, Hall, Hart, Noyes, Rice, Wells, and Wright Nay: None. Motion carried.

**i. Supplemental Budget Request**

- i. Title 1, part A, \$1,085.00
- ii. Title 2, Part A, \$1,276.00
- iii. Title 3, Part A, \$1,000.00
- iv. Title 4, Part A, \$59.00

Vice President Wright moved that all 4 Supplemental Budgets been approved including Title 1, part A, \$1,085.00, Title 2, Part A, \$1,276.00, Title 3, Part A, \$1,000.00, and Title 4, Part A, \$59.00. Director Hall seconded the motion and read them all publicly. Mr. Archibeque reported that these had originally been in the June budget but had overruns that he wanted to make sure the board was aware of the actual final amounts.

Aye: Frazier, Hall, Hart, Noyes, Rice, Wells, and Wright Nay: None. Motion carried.

**j. Policy Revisions- First Reading****a. KDB-E Public Request for Open Records Form**

Vice President Wright moved to accept this new policy exhibit KDB-E Public Request for Open Records Form for first reading. Director Hart Seconded the motion. The board thanked the admin team and Mrs. Ramsey for their work on this. There was a conversation about whether there should be a line added that only 1 request would be accepted per form.

Aye: Frazier, Hall, Hart, Noyes, Rice, Wells, and Wright Nay: None. Motion carried.

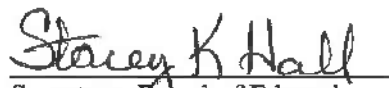
**k. Policy Revisions – Second Reading**

- a. AC Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity
- b. AC-E-1 Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity
- c. AC-R-1 Nondiscrimination/equal Opportunity
- d. ACE Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability
- e. ACE-E-1 Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability
- f. ACE-E-2 Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability
- g. ACE-R Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability
- h. CCA Organizational Chart
- i. IMB Teaching about Controversial / Sensitive Issues and Use of Controversial Materials
- j. IMB-R Teaching about Controversial / Sensitive Issues and Use of Controversial Materials
- k. EBCE School Closings and Cancellations
- l. GDO-E Support Staff Evaluation Form

Vice President Wright moved to approve the second reading of AC Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity, AC-E-1 Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity, AC-R-1 Nondiscrimination/equal Opportunity, ACE Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability, ACE-E-1 Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability, ACE-E-2 Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability, ACE-R Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability, CCA Organizational Chart, IMB Teaching about Controversial / Sensitive Issues and Use of Controversial Materials, IMB-R Teaching about Controversial / Sensitive Issues and Use of Controversial Materials, EBCE School Closings and Cancellations, and GDO-E Support Staff Evaluation Form. Director Hart seconded the motion.

Aye: Frazier, Hall, Hart, Noyes, Rice, Wells, and Wright Nay: None. Motion carried.

President Noyes adjourned the meeting at 9:14 PM.

  
Secretary, Board of Education

  
President, Board of Education