

Anderson School District #41
Regular School Board Meeting
November 11, 2021

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Anderson School District #41 was held via google meet, November 11, 2021, for considering business to come before the Board of Trustees.
Board Chair Warren Bauder called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Trustees Present Warren Bauder, Mary Burrows, Jaime June, Brandon Atkins and Kerri Norick

Trustees Absent

Staff Present Kristi Jacobs: Superintendent; Tanya Roberts: Business Manager; Karen Hedglin: Owner's Representative

Visitors Present Google meet attendees

Correspondence There was none.

Committee Reports

APC Report APC President, Elaine Uehlein reported the APC was conducting a fundraising campaign to purchase a new salad bar for the lunch room: "In Lieu of Lunch Campaign".
APC Treasurer, Kiersti Felska, has set up on-line fundraising platforms for the 7th and 8th grade class trips.
APC is also working on a Spring Fun Run to take place May 20th.

Class Size Committee Superintendent Jacobs reported the Class Size Committee met on Monday, October 18th. Warren Bauder, Jaime June, Jen Wold, Lolly Wagner, Liz Sullivan, Tanya Roberts, and myself are serving on the committee. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss our current target class sizes, optimal ANB for financial stability within the budget, having enrollment numbers reflect what is currently happening, and taking advantage of natural entry points of students. We also had a discussion of the impact of the new Hyalite Creek subdivision and any further developments in our district. For the last several years we have run at about 60% in district students and 40% out of district students. Out of district student tuition has a positive impact on our overall operating budget contributing over \$100,000 annually.

Tanya shared that our optimal ANB for financial stability is between 210-212 students. The previous target numbers had us starting at 199 as our base before you added our bubble classes, which help us get to that 210-212 ANB number. I shared a proposal to the committee of adding two students to our base target class size which would take that number from 199 to 201. The numbers guide us in adding out of district students, it is always a careful balance which is why we usually wait until August to add out of district students to classes.

On my proposal one student would be added to sixth grade bringing that number from 25 to 26 making it even with 7th and 8th. 6th grade is a natural entry point as students begin middle school in surrounding districts. The other place the committee decided to bring the number up by 1 is in 3rd grade from 22 to 23. This decision was made to again reflect a natural entry point where we will already be adding students. Plus the differential between accreditation size and Anderson

remains more constant amongst the grade levels with an addition here. This change is presented under a first reading of policy 2105 Grade Organization later on in the agenda.

The committee will meet again when we have further information on the timeline of the thirty home Hyalite Creek Subdivision or as a need arises.

**Public Participation on
Non-Agenda Items**

Trustee Warren Bauder reminded those in attendance that to avoid violations of individual rights of privacy, a member of the public wishing to address the Board during this time will not be allowed to make comments about any student, staff member, or member of the general public during his/her designated time to speak. In addition, the Board will not hear comments on contested cases or other adjudicative proceedings.

There was none.

Superintendent's Report:

BSD7 Update: BSD7 Board Chair Sandy Wilson reported on the Superintendent Search process that is underway, access to the monthly Superintendent newsletter, and the Bozeman high School renovations.
8th Grade Fundraising Report: 8th Grade student, Jett Boerger reported the Dreadful Drive-In fundraiser held on October 29th did very well and earned approximately \$13,000. He said the event was very fun and they learned a lot about working together.

Superintendent Calendar

APC-November 10th 12:30
Chris Burton Author 5th and 6th Grades 9:00am
Student Picture Day November 16th
Math Coaching K-5 November 16th
AASA SEL Cohort November 17th 1:30
Gallatin Valley Special Education Coop November 18th 1:30
Teacher Assistance Team November 19th
Thanksgiving Break November 24th-26th

Committee Meetings

The curriculum committee met to review the implementation of our new math curriculums and discuss how it is going. We also discussed that Mr. Olson is looking at a new health curriculum for grades K-8. We also discussed the new Social Standards and our process of updating our report cards to reflect these next school year. As you see from the schedule our K-5 teachers will be having math coaching on November 16th by Leianna Bertleson from Illustrative. The culture committee has been meeting and sent out an anonymous survey to assess how the staff is currently feeling. The committee is working on ways to support staff as they work hard during these unprecedented times.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences took place November 3rd and 4th in person, unless a parent wanted to be remote. This was a great opportunity for parents to learn about their child's progress this academic year.

Gallatin Madison Special Education Cooperative

Michelle Halberg, the director of the Gallatin Madison Special Education Cooperative, has announced her intent to retire as of June 30, 2022. The cooperative will be beginning the search process for a new director.

Building Reserve Funds

We are using our building reserve funds to do a few updates in the gym. The new scoreboard has been installed which is very exciting. We are also replacing lights that have gone out in the gym and adding a switch override in the gym so the lights can be turned off and not just on an occupancy sensor. We will plan to have the gym floor refinished this summer.

TEAMS/Accreditation Report

Tanya, Liz, and I completed the annual TEAMS report for OPI. This is the report they utilize to determine accreditation status. Accreditation is based upon licensing of teachers, instructional minutes per grade level, and successful use of PIR hours.

Emergency Connectivity Funding

Anderson School was a recipient of a grant from the Emergency Connectivity Fund of \$26,400. This money will be used to offset the cost of new Chromebooks for all of the staff and reimbursement of Chromebooks that were recently purchased as part of our annual maintenance project. A large thank you to Elliott for applying for the grant. I know the staff will be really excited about their new Chromebooks that will have more storage and power.

Old Business

Annual Agenda

December Agenda:

Policy Review

Superintendent Evaluation

New Business

Discussion/Report

Construction/Bond

Project Monthly Report Owner's Representative, Karen Hedglin presented the Construction/Bond Report:

- Punchlist outstanding items
 - Correct carpet for ramp and hallway outside library
 - Outfall structure at ditch
 - Replacement fence at kitchen equipment area
 - Audi issues at select classrooms
 - Final commissioning report
 - Admin room sign
- Scoreboard was installed- RME is providing a price to connect scoreboard to power properly, to re-tubing the gym, reinstalling the ceiling tiles, and installing a gym light switch.
- Warranty log tracking will begin once Punchlist is complete.

MDOT Speed Limit
Recommendation-
Cottonwood Road

Superintendent Jacobs reported that in your board packet you will see recommendations from the Department of Transportation regarding Cottonwood Road. This is in response to our request from last year which went through the county road department and onto the state. On Monday the Gallatin County road department had a meeting. They voted to write a letter in support of the recommendations in the report. This includes expanding our school zone 1000 feet to the south and 200 feet to the north. In the conversation the county stated they were going to discuss with the state having new traffic flashers installed that would allow us more control when they go on and off versus being dependent upon the county to turn them on and off.

There were no recommended changes to the speed limits on Cottonwood, but the reports do say that the intersections of 19th and Cottonwood and Pasha Lane and Cottonwood should have geometric improvements. Again, the road department was going to write a letter in favor of the state making these improvements. At the road department meeting I did mention the preliminary planning of the Hyalite Creek subdivision which would increase traffic at the 19th and Cottonwood

intersection. We will now wait to hear back from the state on their final plans and the timeline for implementation on these changes.

1st Reading Policy
Revision: 2105 & 2105P-
Grade Organization

Superintendent Jacobs reported that 2105 and 2105P are the policies associated with our grade level size that was discussed earlier in the class size committee. I am proposing a few changes in language that more line up with our practice in 2105P. Please note that these are target numbers not locked in stone. There are various factors that can occur that would cause a class to be under or over these targets. Policy 2105 proposes changes to class size target numbers by adding one additional student to third grade, so up to 23, and one additional student in sixth grade bringing it up to 26. This number reflects when there is one class in third grade. This year 3rd grade is a bubble so there are 12 in each. This proposed change takes advantage of natural student entry points and also helps keep a consistency of the difference between target numbers and accreditation. This also our base total at 201 without the bubble class. As I stated early annually our goal is to have ANB around a 210-212 number to help with financial stability for the district. By raising our base number to 201 this makes us more likely to hit that ANB on an annual basis.

On-site instruction
Update

Superintendent Jacobs reported it is incredibly exciting that 5-11 year olds now have the opportunity to be vaccinated should they so choose. I know we have some students who have received their first vaccination in the last few weeks. The health department is scheduling vaccines through clinics at Bozeman Health. One aspect of the current Delta variant we are seeing is that if one family member tests positive for COVID 19 then it seems to run through the entire family. In these cases this can cause students to be out much longer than if they are just a close contact. Currently we have two active cases within Anderson and we have students quarantined due to being a close contact to these active cases. We also have a few students quarantined due to out of school exposure. The numbers in the county are on a downward trend but we are still at a high transmission rate according to CDC guidance.

We are still conducting both symptomatic and surveillance testing. Julie is offering testing at the Little Red Schoolhouse on Tuesday and Thursday mornings when she is in town. We are lucky to have a parent volunteer, Kirsten Drake, who is a licensed physician's assistant, assisting with testings as well. We completed our first round of surveillance testing last week and have over 40 people signed up for surveillance testing. Our goal is to test 5% of students or staff or approximately 12 individuals each month. We choose who gets tested by a random number generator. The goal of surveillance testing is to help ensure we are not missing any cases within the school and as another safeguard to our in person learning model. All of our testing paperwork is now available on the website to make it easier for families to access. The symptomatology of COVID seems to present differently in many individuals, especially children. This makes our availability of testing even more important to help keep students in school.

We are not planning any music concerts for December. We hope that we will be able to have band concerts in the spring.

I want to finish by stating how hard our teachers are working overall and especially to accommodate the needs of students when they test positive or are quarantined due to a positive case. It takes a lot of effort to switch gears with students. With this in mind we are not providing distance learning for students who are home sick. If you are home sick it should be a rest day for that child and will be given due time for any needed make up work. It is also hard for teachers when students are headed on vacation and provide little notice to gather work for missed days. Bottom line, our teachers are working really hard and I ask that our community provide them a little bit of grace and patience.

YTD Budget Report Business Manager Roberts presented the 10/31/21 budget report.

Action

Approve 2021-22 Out
Out of District
Application

Superintendent Jacobs explained this application is for 6th grade where we have a space open. We have a family who applied and is interested in moving their child to Anderson midway through the school year. The 6th grade teacher has stated she is fine adding another student to her class. This will bring her class total up to 25.

Motion to approve the following 2021-22 Out of District Application:
6th Grade: 610042021:
Motion: Trustee Atkins
Seconded: Trustee Norick—passed unanimously.

MTSBA policy revision:
1420-Board Meeting
Procedures

Motion to approve the revised policy as presented:
Motion: Trustee Atkins
Seconded: Trustee Burrows—passed unanimously.

Food Service
Director Salary

Superintendent Jacobs stated as we are all aware we have what I consider the best school lunches in the valley thanks to our amazing Miss Sally. I am proposing a 10% salary raise effective as of November 1 to help her salary remain competitive with others within her field and salaries around the valley. Also, Sally is going above and beyond serving more meals than ever before out of our kitchen this school year due to the option of free lunch. Tanya and I have run budget numbers and this amount of a raise is doable. We will look at the overall cost of each school lunch for the 2022-2023 school year and see if adjustments need to be made to help our overall food service budget.

Motion to approve the salary increase as recommended:
Motion: Trustee Burrows
Seconded: Trustee Norick—passed unanimously.

Consideration of
Superintendent AASA
Conference attendance
in Nashville, TN

Motion to approve Superintendent AASA Conference attendance in Nashville, TN
February 17-19, 2022:
Motion: Trustee Norick

Seconded: Trustee Burrows—passed unanimously.

Consideration to apply
for Montana History
Foundation Grant

Superintendent Jacobs reported I am looking at applying for a Montana History Foundation grant to help support some much needed updates within the Little Red School house. The Montana History Foundation Grant supports organizations looking to preserve and protect historic legacies of communities across the state. This grant would help make the Little Red Schoolhouse be a usable facility for students. I would love to have this eventually be a public pre-kindergarten but there are a lot of steps that need to happen first. Karen Hedglin is helping me on the grant. We are asking for \$10,000 to help with some deferred maintenance. As part of the grant we are required to give 25% to the overall budget in finances or gift in time at a rate of \$25 an hour. I am planning that we will contribute \$2,500 to the grant out of our building reserve fund. This would give us a working budget of \$12,500 for targeted repairs to the Little Red Schoolhouse out of this grant. In chatting with Karen, we are identifying a variety of areas of need of the Little Red Schoolhouse including a bathroom upgrade, water filtration system, moving of the handicapped accessible ramp, ventilation, and lighting upgrades. She is working on a budget for me and then we will determine what we can focus on with the monies in this grant.

Motion to approve application for Montana History Foundation Grant:

Motion: Trustee June

Seconded: Trustee Atkins—passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the October 6, 2021 special meeting minutes, the October 14, 2021 regular meeting minutes; claim warrants 43897-43943; payroll warrants 5258-5261; 2021-22 Substitute Teacher list additions:

Motion: Trustee Burrows

Seconded: Trustee Atkins—passed unanimously.

Future Agenda Items

Superintendent Evaluation
Policy Review
8th Grade DC/NY Trip

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at 6:00 pm via google meet.

Adjournment

No objection to adjournment of meeting at 7:24 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
District Clerk

_____ Date
Board Chair