

Board of Education

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Board Work Session Minutes

December 6, 2022

Board Work Session Minutes

- A - Doug Levinson
- B - Kari Sholtes
- C - Andrea Haitz
- D - Will Jones
- E - Angela Lema

Board of Education
Mesa County Valley School District 51
Board Work Session: December 6, 2022
Adopted: January 17, 2023

	A	B	C	D	E		ACTION
						AGENDA ITEMS	
Present Absent	x x	x x	x x	x x	x x	<p>BOARD WORK SESSION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dr. Sholtes attended the meeting electronically. <p>1. Affordable Housing Committee Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mr. George Rau and Mr. Tom Parrish, co-chairmen of the Teacher/Staff Housing Standing Committee, introduced fellow committee members Ms. Ashley Chambers, City of Grand Junction Housing Manager, and Ms. Emily Powell, Executive Director of Housing Resources of Colorado. Mr. Parrish reported the members would be sharing information on the context of the housing situation in Mesa County. Ms. Chambers and Ms. Powell displayed graphics and shared information on what qualifies as affordable housing, projected housing units needed to fill the current and future needs and the medium household income and housing cost in the Grand Valley. The information highlighted how the lack of affordable housing is effecting the ability for companies to attract and retain qualified staff and has created a substantial increase in families facing homelessness. Committee members requested the District pay the estimated cost of \$10,000 to conduct an in-depth survey of District staff members to determine housing needs. They also requested the Board commit the District owned Hawthorne Building property, to serve as a location for future housing. Next steps, following commitment of the funding and the land, would be for the committee to put out Requests for Proposals, to review construction options and funding. The hope of the committee is to submit a Request for Proposal which would garner the construction of either rental units or home owned units or a combination of both, which would be agreeable to the Board. <p>2. Transportation Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mr. Clint Garcia, Chief Operations Officer, and Mr. Shane Anderson, Student Transportation of America District Manager, explained the District's current two-tiered transportation system and shared information on highlights so far this year, some challenge areas and solutions put in place. Information was shared on the types of criteria analyzed and used when planning busing routes, such as loading/unloading locations, natural or manmade hazards (railroad crossings, rivers/streams), speed limits, route distances, refueling, traffic flows, etc. Cost estimates were shown on the number of additional routes required and the cost increase per route if reducing the walking distance for students by one half mile and by one mile. Statistical information on the number of vehicles owned and operated by the District and Student Transportation of America, the number of busing hubs, types of fuel and fuel costs, was shared. The District is considered to be clean, in regards to transportation, due to the large number of vehicles powered by propane. Student Transportation of America and the District are continually looking at different ways to meet the challenges of student transportation including looking at electric vehicles. <p>[Recess 7:30 p.m. Resume 7:41 p.m.]</p>	6:05 p.m.

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						<p>3. Behavior Prevention Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mrs. Patti Virden, Student Services Executive Director, acknowledged two staff members, Mrs. Cathy Ebel, Social Emotional Learning & Behaviors Director, and Ms. Teresa Bandel-Schott, Special Education Director, for their work over the years to improve students' wellbeing. Mrs. Virden shared information on the Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) framework, used by the District, to improve a student's social and emotional learning. She noted how the framework ties into the District's Strategic Plan through professional development to ensure prepared and supported staff and improving communication and connections with families. Graphics displayed what interventions are available at each of the different tier levels. Mrs. Virden shared information on the amount of skilled staff available to assist teachers and students in the schools. She reported directors, principals and schools are working together to ensure student academic growth as well as social emotional learning. She reported on how the student data information center, Synergy, will be used to store specific action steps, interventions and goals, so growth can be measured. Information on the celebrations and areas of concerns staff are focusing on, was shared. <p>4. 2023-2024 Calendar Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mrs. Jennifer Marsh, Chief Academic Officer, reported this year's calendar was one of the easier ones to create. She noted the Frequently Asked Question document was updated and would be posted on the District website. She reported the Board would be asked to approve the submitted calendar for the 2022-2023 school year along with the calendars for the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years as allowed in policy. All three calendars were shared with the Board. ➤ Mr. Tim Couch, Mesa Valley Education President, explained the four-step process the committee used in creating the calendar. The steps include the story (history behind the calendar), sharing interests, options and solutions to create the best possible calendar. ➤ Mr. Jim Butterfield, Bookcliff Middle School Principal explained how the weekday, in which Christmas falls on, is an important factor in the development of a calendar, as the District works to ensure the first semester is completed prior to students leaving for the winter break. <p>5. Board Open Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ None at this time. <p><u>BUSINESS ITEMS</u></p>	
Present	x	x	x	x	x	A. Call to Order/Roll Call	9:00 p.m.
Absent						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dr. Sholtes attended the meeting electronically. 	
Motion					x	B. Agenda Approval	Approved
Second	x					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Motion to approve the agenda with the deletion of an executive session for discussion relating to collective bargaining. 	
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							

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						C. Executive Session	9:05 p.m.
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Executive session for the discussion of an individual student where public disclosure would adversely affect the person or persons involved under C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(h). ➤ Motion to move to executive session. ➤ Persons attending the executive session: Dr. Brian Hill, Ms. Tammy Eret, Mr. Jones, Mrs. Haitz, Ms. Lema, Mr. Levinson and Dr. Sholtes. Time spent discussing a student: 46 minutes ➤ Motion to return to open meeting. 	
Motion Second					x		
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							
Motion Second					x		
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mrs. Haitz reported the Board reviewed the hearing packet, including exhibits, the hearing officer's findings, Dr. Hill's expulsion letter, and the parent's notice of appeal. Aside from the appeal letter, the parent did not file any additional information for the Board to consider. After consideration of the information provided to the Board, the Board found the decision to expel was not made arbitrarily or capriciously, nor was the parent/student denied any statutory or constitutional right, power, privilege or immunity. The decision to expel was not made in excess of statutory jurisdiction, authority purposes, or limitations. The Board further found the decision was made in accordance with the procedures or procedural limitations of District policy and procedure, was based on the findings of fact that were not clearly erroneous on the whole record, the decision was supported by substantial evidence when the record is considered as a whole and was not otherwise contrary to law. Given the Board's findings after a review of the record presented on appeal, the Board voted unanimously to deny the expulsion appeal. 	
Motion Second	x				x		Motion to deny appeal approved
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							
Motion Second		x			x	Adjourn	9:54 p.m.
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							
						<hr/> Bridget Story, Assistant Secretary Board of Education	