

**CUTTEN SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**BOARD MINUTES**  
**August 10, 2020**  
**6:30 p.m.**  
Via Zoom Videoconference

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m.  
Board members in attendance: Becky Reece, Andy Sundquist, Mary DeWald  
and Verne Skjonsby  
Board members absent: Dennis Reinholtsen
- 2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION – None offered
- 3.0 CLOSED SESSION
  - 3.1 Conference with Labor Negotiator
- 4.0 RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION
  - 4.1 Report Out from Closed Session – No action taken
- 5.0 CONSENT AGENDA
  - 5.1 Motion by Becky Reece, second by Verne Skjonsby to approve the consent agenda. Motion by roll call vote carried 4-0.
- 6.0 VISITOR COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS – None offered
- 7.0 REPORTS
  - 7.1 Cutten Ridgewood PTA Report – Elaine Mu reported at the last meeting executive board member positions were filled. The PTA is still looking to fill the positions of auditor and earthquake chair. Preliminary Budget was approved, as well as the audit from the prior year. PTA is in the process of making adult masks for the schools. There will be no carnival this year, but the PTA is looking at the possibility of having a social distancing event. Elaine invited everyone to join the PTA, anyone can join and you won't be called to volunteer. Members just have to pay membership dues. If anyone is interested there is more information and a link on the PTA Facebook page.
  - 7.2 HBTA Report – Melissa Seymour reported that the members of the HBTA had a variety of feelings regarding the re-opening of school. The majority of members would like to start the year with distance learning, while some members want to get back to in-person teaching. Some members are worried about the safety of the hybrid model of opening. With the increase of COVID-19 cases in the county why are we considering opening? The district should follow the other school district's lead and open with distance learning. When considering the opening of school the board should consider the safety of the students, families and staff.
- 8.0 CORRESPONDENCE – None offered

9.0 INFORMATION/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

- 9.1 Reopening Survey and Community Meeting Report – Sue Ivey reported on the Reopening survey and Community Meeting held in the last week of July. At the time of the survey 179 families would like to return to school with the hybrid model, 45 families would choose distance learning for their children, and 43 families were undecided. If school was to start with the hybrid model most families would like their children in the a.m. cohort. There were 23 families that expressed transporting their children to school would be a hardship if they were not provided bus transportation. The largest numbers of students planning on distance learning were in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades. The 1<sup>st</sup> grade class is a large one, and these students choosing distance learning would make the cohorts smaller if the district decides to open with the hybrid model. The Community Meeting was just over two hours and answered most of the questions submitted. Of course the discussion raised more valid questions and there was a lot of good input from the community. Many community members acknowledged the tough situation that the district is in.
- 9.2 Consider Time Adjustment to Blended Learning Plan – Sue Ivey reported that after careful consideration she recommends to take 15 minutes of student time away from both the a.m. and p.m. cohorts of the Blended Learning Plan to allow teachers more time to greet and release their students. This would cause some additional distance learning time for students to get their full instructional time, but would be easily accommodated. Motion by Mary DeWald, second by Becky Reece, to adjust the student time by 15 minutes for the Blended Learning Plan. Motion carried by roll call vote 4-0.
- 9.3 Consideration of Cutten District Reopening plan for 2020-21 – Motion by Becky Reece, second by Verne Skjonsby to open the school year with distance learning. Discussion ensued with board members, parents and school staff voicing their opinions on opening school with distance learning versus opening the school with the Blended Learning Plan. Motion by Becky Reece, second by Verne Skjonsby, to open the school year with distance learning and to re-evaluate opening at the next board meeting scheduled for September 14<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried by roll call vote 3-1.

10.0 BOARD MEMBER & ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS/COMMUNICATION – Sue Ivey commented that she appreciated the respect showed by the families, staff and board members in the discussion of reopening the school.

11.0 ADJOURNMENT – Meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Ivey  
Secretary to the Board