

CUTTEN SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MINUTES
October 12, 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
Verne Skjonsby and Dennis Reinholtsen
- 2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEM – None offered
- 3.0 CLOSED SESSION – 6:38 p.m.
With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session:
CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR 9GC SECTION 54957.6)
Agency Negotiator: Susan Ivey
Organization representing Employees: Humboldt Bay Teachers Association
- 4.0 RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION – 7:08 p.m.
4.1 No reportable action was taken.
- 5.0 CONSENT AGENDA
5.1 Motion by Verne Skjonsby, second by Dennis Reinholtsen, to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 5-0.
- 6.0 VISITOR COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS
Joe Kencke asked why closed session was moved from the end of meetings to the beginning of meetings. Sue Ivey stated that closed sessions are sometimes necessary at the beginning because of possible action items later in the agenda. Often, it is easier to schedule legal counsel to join closed session when it is held earlier. Alesha Vader thanked the board for pushing the date of blended learning back to October 19th, to let the staff get fully ready for on-campus students.
- 7.0 REPORTS
7.1 Cutten-Ridgewood PTA Report – Elaine Mu reported that the Cutten-Ridgewood PTA now has more than 250 members. The Executive Board is still searching for an Auditor. The PTA is working on an online costume contest for Halloween. October 23rd is Apple for a Teacher Day, the PTA is looking into safe, pre-packaged items for the teachers. The sale of online spirit wear is in process. The next meeting is November 3rd, via Zoom, where the winners of the costume contest will be announced.
7.2 HBTA Report – Amy Chastain read a statement she prepared about what teachers are faced with during COVID-19. The teachers are problem solving in new ways, while focusing on keeping their students, themselves and their families safe, all with a smile on their faces. Amy stated that she wanted to give some perspective on what the teachers are going through and the toll it is taking on them.
- 8.0 CORRESPONDENCE
8.1 The district received a letter from HCOE regarding the approval of the 2020-21 Adopted Budget.

9.0 INFORMATION/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

- 9.1 Adoption of BP 4113.5, BP 4213.5, BP 4313.5, and BP 6157, Second Reading. Motion by Dennis Reinholtsen, second by Becky Reece to adopt the submitted board policies. Motion carried 5-0.
- 9.2 Hiring of Long-term Substitute – Sue Ivey recommended hiring a long-term substitute out of LLMF funds for the rest of the calendar year. It is difficult to find substitutes at this time and having one on-campus every day would be beneficial. If there was no need for a substitute that day, then the substitute could work with students to address learning loss and provide additional support. Motion by Becky Reece, second by Verne Skjonsby, to approve the hire of a long-term substitute. Motion carried 5-0.
- 9.3 Proposal Presented by Certificated Employee – Stacey Gabbert proposed the opening of an Employer Sponsored Daycare for Employees. She looked into an Employee Sponsored Daycare, but the cost of Liability Insurance was too high. The board requested a more detailed proposal in writing. Stacey agreed to prepare a report for the board for their consideration.
- 9.4 Cutten School District's 2020-21 Draft Initial Proposal for Bargaining. The board would like to open Article 2 *Association Dues*, Article 4 *Non-Discrimination*, Article 6 *Teaching Hours*, Article 7 *Leaves*, Article 9 *Salary Provisions* and Article 15 *Negotiations Process*.

10.0 SUPERINTENDENT/PRINCIPAL REPORT

- 10.1 Both Principals reported that the first Leadership Team meeting of the year was held. On behalf of the Team, Sue applied to participate in the California Rural Leadership Academy. As of now the District is short three aides, one at Ridgewood, and two at Cutten. The District is waiting to hire another because the bus drivers are helping with custodial work. The District is as ready as possible for the beginning of blended learning, floor signage is down, new air purifiers are in the classrooms, a new walkway is being built at Ridgewood, and furniture is being moved/re-arranged. We have met with Taylin Titus at the JPA and received the thumbs up. Mendes will be onsite on Friday to train custodial staff for cleaning and disinfecting. The District is keeping all student and families up to date with multiple methods of communication: letters, emails, texts, social media and the Remind app. Letters have gone out to all blended learning families as well as a description of "A Day in the Life of a Cutten-Ridgewood Student." Symptom checker forms were also included. The principals thanked the staff for all of their hard work.

11.0 BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/COMMUNICATION

- 11.1 Becky Reece thanked all the staff for learning new tricks and tools that help get through this pandemic. There is a light at the end of the tunnel. Sue Ivey thanked all the families for their patience. Dennis Reinholtsen acknowledged there will be a learning curve going back to blended learning. Becky Reece stated that parents have found a new appreciation for teachers after distance learning. Verne Skjonsby stated that if this is his last meeting he enjoyed working with everyone and will still keep an eye on the district.

12.0 ADJOURNMENT – Meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Ivey
Secretary to the Board