

DAYVILLE SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Board Meeting
October 8, 2024

1. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

- i. The Board of Directors of Dayville School District 16J Regular Board Meeting was called to order by Chair Casey Fretwell at 7:00 p.m. in the Dayville School Board Room. In addition to the Chair, those directors present were Babette Larson, Skip Inscore, Matt Hettinga, and Mani Martin. Also present were Superintendent Jose Melendez, and Business Manager Emma Winkelman.
- ii. Directors Absent were: None
- iii. Visitors present: Sandy Venier, Lindsay Clark, Cheyenne Clark, Mark Habliston (virtual), Brandon Thompson (virtual), Tiffnie Schmadeka (virtual)

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: *Director Mani Martin moved to approve the agenda with additions. Director Babette Larson seconded and the motion carried with all Directors present voting yes.*

- i. Add 3.3 Accept resignation of Justin Larson as middle school basketball coach & 4.1 City of Dayville report on vacating of road

3. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

- i. **Director Mani Martin moved to approve the consent agenda. Director Babette Larson seconded and the motion carried with all Directors present voting yes.**
 - i. Babette asked one question about the \$300 repairs and maintenance paid to the rental and Emma and Jose stated it was due to the rental not being left in the best condition.

4. REPORTS

- i. Cheyenne reported that Mike came into one of their council meetings and presented to the council that they just needed a resolution to vacate the road and then the city learned from the League of Oregon Cities they actually have to adopt an ordinance and it depends on who is petitioning for it to be vacated. It's a bit more of a process than originally thought. For the school to vacate it we would need to get signatures from everyone it effects and bring that forward. Cheyenne has emailed asking what if the City is the one petitioning for it? She is waiting to hear back, but a hearing will be needed either way and it will be at least a 20 day waiting period. When Cheyenne knows more, she will let us know. The board thanked her for the update.
- ii. Mr. Melendez gave his report and started by passing out a slightly updated Superintendent Report.
 - i. Skip asked if there's a reason why recognition of visitors is at the end and not at the beginning of the meeting. Casey said one reason is that most questions can be answered if people listen to the meeting then many times public comment ends up not being necessary. Emma noted that it can be wherever they want it on the agenda, and they could have two, one at the beginning and one at the end. After minor discussion no change was deemed necessary. Later, during executive session, this was brought up again and it was decided that after the consent agenda, we will list "Visitor Presentations" which will pertain to items not on the agenda, and then regular "Public Comment" will stay on the agenda as is. Anyone can still request an agenda item through Mr. Melendez or Emma as well.

- ii. Mr. Melendez stated how he's been driving the morning route and he's been enjoying it.
- iii. He has been in contact with Sandy Vanier about a small piece of property we own in Wheeler County adjacent to his property – it's just under one acre, it housed a school once upon a time, but it's unknown when exactly that school started and ended. Sandy would like to purchase that property if possible. Jose has also contacted Mike Springer regarding getting a survey of the property and he gave a quote of \$3,000 to survey it. Matt - It must be the old Birch Creek school? Yes according to Sandy. Casey – if we decide to sell it we have to have a survey for \$3,000. Sandy stated it must be a nuisance – its an asset from the school that isn't in use and probably isn't generating any revenue for us. He has a couple of drawings that he provided to the board on general location. It was donated to the school by Martin Durr way back. Virginia Humphreys gave Sandy the information he has about the school. Babette asked how we knew we need to survey. Emma stated that information came from Jody from prior years discussion when this has been brought up in the past. Emma stated that if they decide they want to sell, we will contact legal (OSBA) and the Wheeler County Assessor to find out more details. Sandy brought up the idea that would a donation be a way to go about it? He would be open to horse trading as well. Casey stated that we are in agreement that we'd like him to have it without any financial responsibility of our own. We will do our due diligence in figuring out the rest of the rules and what we would have to do. By next meeting we will know more. He's not in any big hurry. Skip said he would like to have Matt go out and take some pictures and get as many stories as he can from Virginia H about the old school so we can have a record of that there was once a school there.
- iv. Mr. Melendez said that next was the student survey feedback and the staff decided they should further prove the student interest. Ms. Clark volunteered to do a paper & pencil survey. Lindsay passed out the survey that we are using. They only got 5 responses from PK – senior classes so far. It's really geared at those who don't participate in sports. They would want a program M-TH from 3-4:30, and they would not need transportation. There may be some grants that require transportation but Jose stated that under integrated guidance we may not have to provide it. The driver is more the issue than paying for it. Mark stated that compliance wise yes we could do it, but budget wise he's not sure yet. The paper copy of this survey was handed out this morning so hopefully we'll get a few more responses to go off of. Her thought is that regardless of how many surveys they get back she would like to do a program. Casey asked what she is thinking of doing? Her initial thought is cheerleading and to cheer for home basketball games (2xs a week), and then the other 2 days a week would be lego/stem/science. We could start as early as the 21st, or we could start the 1st week of November and she would keep it going until March (because of peewee basketball). It's interim between soccer & peewee basketball. The interest survey also pointed out archery. She's happy to get the program going, but she's not an expert in all the things they want to do, such as archery, so she wouldn't be able to teach some things. Sydney would be willing to come in to do a music unit for a week or two – and Lindsay could work with people in the community to get volunteers to teach since we don't have a budget for this as of now. Skip said he's totally supportive, but he said his only concern was are we expanding the day too long for these little kids?

The program would have snack and homework time/homework club. She said they do great with things like soccer, so she hopes that they can find activities that keep them just as engaged. This is sort of the pilot program – but whoever has interest can be involved, but we expect the biggest participating ages to be PK – 3rd because they aren't in sports. Skip stated that adding lego type things into the regular curriculum he thinks is a good idea. Lindsay said there are kits you can buy but they're \$300 for 2 students. Skip stated he thinks that there's money out there from the community for educational things like this too and he thinks we could get a lot donated. Emma stated that she will keep this all in mind when we go over IG budgets next week – we will see what we can fit in. Mani asked if there was an extra-curricular transportation line? No, just general fund transportation function. Emma asked if Lindsay could put together a budget for us to go off of and she said yes.

- v. Mr. Melendez stated that Mr. Knapp is going to do a Jr/Sr guided tour of the Boise State and OIT Klamath Falls campuses. We have quite a few students interested in the medical fields, so these schools will be great for them to visit. It's not overnight, it's just there and back. They will take one of the white busses. Everyone is a fan of that. Skip said that one of the things he asks Mr. Knapp is will there be a job fair / trade school fair / college fair? Emma told about the one they have in John Day. Mark said there is a big on in Bend November 15th and there's talk of taking kids from the county there.
 - vi. Missoula Children's Theater has been scheduled for the week of April 7th through the 11th after much discussion by the staff. This is a 5 day commitment and Friday is not a regular session day for us, but everyone is in agreement that we will use the in-service day for Missoula. We will probably end up using recorded music, which isn't the preferred way, but we may not be able to find a pianist. We do have to house the two directors at our cost as well. They do have rules that they must have separate quarters. Skip asked if they can stay with families – be hosted? Skip volunteered to host one or both. Mr. Melendez will find out.
 - vii. The other tidbit on his report is the tree trimming which he finally got word back on prices – this was the only company that responded. Jose was pleasantly surprised by the amounts because tree work is expensive. One dead tree at the Superintendent house, low limbs just trimming way back of the rest. Mani brought up the elm tree and could we stump them? Could people volunteer their time to cut down the elms? Jose will ask how much it would be to add the elms to the bid. Getting students to help clean up was something Mani and Skip thought would be a good idea. Skip would like to know the name of the company because there may be more work for them here in Dayville.
- iii. Miles was not present so Mr. Melendez gave his report which included the update on staff house, so the certificate of occupancy will be pushed out and claiming the grant money will be pushed out as well. Joel Coombs is getting the district a reimbursement check for the second coat of paint. He will do the modular downspouts in the next couple of weekends. We had ODE & Robert come through our building last week to do a facilities safety check. This was a scheduled thing and we will get our assessment from them on our overall school safety in a couple of weeks. Fields tree service gave the quote for the tree trimming. Brad Armstrong was the only bidder and the only company that could get us scheduled before January 1. Irrigation season is over and water systems have been winterized. Babette asked if we need to give Miles an extra shout out

for covering while Debbie has been out. Mr. Melendez stated what a champion this man is! A lot of comments from our staff and the work he has done – how clean and sanitized the school has been. We tried very hard to get a sub for Debbie but nobody was found. Debbie is back now, so we are back to usual business. Skip said that when he was in Korea students and teachers cleaned their own classrooms. Some of our staff if not all of them said give us the materials and have it in the classroom and at the end of the day they'll help clean up a bit.

- iv. AD report – Tiffnie gave her report which included MS has their last game Oct 30th, and end of year banquet will hopefully be the next week but nothing is set in stone yet, with basketball starting November 18th. Last year started MS earlier so only 1 game per week. We just posted MS basketball coach because Mr. Larson is now at HS level. HS volleyball has their games Tues Oct 22nd – hopefully we'll be part of District tournament (in Jordan Valley this year). We have moved to a rotation form for the volleyball tournament between JV, Crane, PC, and Adrian because they are the four gyms big enough to house a district volleyball. FB last game Oct 18, and they have a crossover game that will be October 25th and end of year banquet before basketball starts. High School first basketball also November 18th. For the HS fall banquet we will get the co-op meeting scheduled before it as well.
- v. Emma gave her report which included going over the numbers of revenues, expenses, and cash on hand. Mr. Inscore asked if we can have a comparative of the prior month, and Emma answered absolutely, she'll add that in for next time. Emma gave an audit update – field work is pretty much complete. Quarter one reporting is happening, and finalizing of 24-25 grant budgets.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- i. Division 22 Standards 23-24 Compliance Report
 - i. Mr. Melendez did review last year's report while going over this one. This is a big one and an absolute pain, especially if you're new in the state of Oregon. He had to read most of the OR's to be sure we are meeting these standards. We are in good shape.
 - 1. Skip – are you either in compliance or out of compliance? Yes – there's a couple of areas waived but other than that, yes.
 - 2. There were a couple new items on the report this year. Our four day schedule makes it really tight on the minutes. The waiver for the fire was mentioned. Mani asked why the waiver is such a huge deal when we could've added back those days in Fridays? Mr. Melendez stated he could've went to the staff and asked what's their will, but it's just tough with scheduling. He doesn't have a doubt that our staff would say yes let's make up some of the days. He asked if he even posed the question to his staff and he stated he did not. Mani stated that asking that question seems like less of a stressor on the Superintendent than doing the waiver. Skip said he thinks he'll get two answers – High School will say we have to be here for sports anyway, and elementary might not want to make them up.
 - 3. Another new one is menstrual dignity rule, we are covered there with supplies being offered in every bathroom.
 - 4. We are in compliance with every single standard.
 - 5. He is required to present it to the board, and submit it, and then post it on the website by November 15th.
 - ii. Integrated Guidance 23-24 Annual Report

1. Mr. Melendez gave our mandatory yearly report – which used to be only SIA, now includes all initiatives of Integrated Guidance. SIA is our biggest pot of money. He went over our main areas of spending which were our SPED teacher, Counseling services, and field trips and other electives.
2. Mark Habliston went over the allowable ways to spend the funding, the IG goals and 5 outcomes.
 - a. Who formulated the IG goals? Davida, with information from needs assessment where staff and community members were involved. Goals are more generic to give us more room to spend on different things, and with any turnover, requires less work to change.
 - b. Mr. Melendez gave kudos to Mark at being so gifted in coming up with the language.
 - c. Went over the two reporting questions
 - d. What's the possibility of losing this funding? This is all in statute. It's funded by the CAT tax, so unless statute changes, the funding will be there.
 - e. It is expected that in the next biennium more initiatives will be added to this.

6. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

- i. Lindsay wanted to talk to them about the idea of her therapy dog coming into the classroom. She is the handler of Shadow who is a certified and registered therapy dog. He's really good to read to because unlike humans he won't tell kids they're doing something wrong. He is great for struggling readers. He will help students gain fluency in their reading because he doesn't judge. He can be used to teach responsibility, and also as an incentive. She passed out a packet of paper on the benefits of therapy dogs in schools. The board would need to approve his presence. She's not in any rush, she offered to bring him to the next meeting so they can meet him. She cited our animals in district facilities policy. Matt's question – he thinks its really cool – but can it be a distraction to some kids? Or once he's there for a few days the novelty wears off? She explained that he is more part of the classroom, especially if he's there all the time. Her next step would be to check with the parents in her classroom to make sure they're all ok with it. She did include a list that the students came up with of pros & cons. Babette asked what they have to do to become certified – 100 hours of training in obedience and classroom. Emma said how cool this is and she knows Mark will be getting in touch with her because he's trying to get a county-wide therapy dog for our schools. Lindsay mentioned that some might say she just wants to bring her dog to school, but that's not the case, she also has a Jack Russel that she would never bring to school. She has seen her dog help a lot of students. Skip asked if we contacted Spray and asked them if there was any instance they didn't like – yes, he barked at a janitor when she left him in her classroom before he was neutered. She has a kennel that he could go in and stay or she would put him in the car when she can't be with him. She would get him acquainted with all staff. The issue of doggie mess on campus is already a sensitive one as we've had community dogs leaving messes on our campus. He does shed a little too, but she is happy to clean up and she keeps a vacuum in her room. Again, kids could help clean up and learn that responsibility of cleaning up after pets. He becomes part of the class. Casey asked if she's open to a trial period? See how it goes, and if it doesn't go well, we could stop doing it with no hard feelings? Absolutely, she is happy to do a trial period. Mr. Melendez is very supportive of this and Lindsay came to him first and they agreed to bring it to the board. All

board members were in consensus of moving forward with a trial run on having the therapy dog in the classroom and moving forward. She will keep in contact through Mr. Melendez.

7. ACTION ITEMS

- i. Approve out of state field trip to BSU for Seniors (and Juniors). Jose gave a little more background and how the kids chose BSU to go to.
- ii. **Director Mani Martin moved to approve the out of state field trip. Director Babette Larson seconded and the motion carried with all Directors present voting yes.**

8. Director Comments

- i. No director comments.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Casey Fretwell adjourned the meeting at 10:50pm as there were no other items on the agenda.