

Salmon School District #291
Board of Trustees
Regular Board Minutes
August 17, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Chuck Overacker at 6:01 p.m.

Present were, Chairman Chuck Overacker, Vice-Chair Juniper MacFarlane, Trustee Richard Natelson, Trustee Kellen Miller, and Trustee Tammy Dahle. A Quorum was present. Also present were Superintendent Chris Born and Director of Finance, Planning and Program Evaluation, Eileen Holden, and Board Clerk Chaylin Olson.

Regular Session

Chairman Chuck Overacker led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Input

There was no public input.

Action Items

Approve Agenda

Trustee MacFarlane motioned to approve the agenda for the August 17, 2020 meeting. Trustee Natelson seconded. Passed 5/0.

Consent Agenda

1. Meeting Minutes for July 20, August 3, and August 12, 2020
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Accounts Payable July 2020
4. Personnel Recommendations

Trustee Natelson motioned to approve the consent agenda. Trustee Miller seconded. Passed 5/0.

New Business

Proposed Reopening Plan

Superintendent Born explained there had been an increase in COVID cases in Lemhi County. He proposed postponing the first day of school until the 14th of September. The school district could make up the 6 days on Fridays or possibly by shortening some breaks. The Board expressed their concern for sports. Superintendent Born explained they would continue with the sports schedule.

Trustee Dahle expressed her concern for the mixed message they may be sending by postponing school but allowing gatherings at sports.

Trustee MacFarlane expressed her concern with pushing school back. She explained that she was worried if they pushed school back, they would be starting a cycle of pushing it back more and she did not want that.

Trustee Miller told the Board that he was concerned with postponing school because he was not sure it would make a difference. He explained that he had not seen very many community members following the mask mandate so it did not give him hope that the number of COVID cases would go down.

Trustee Natelson motioned to postpone the first day of school until September 14th. Trustee Miller seconded.

Chairman Overacker explained that he thought it could be a risk due to Lemhi County having more COVID cases on the 14th than they do now. But he told the other Board Members that he thought the teachers needed to plan on starting school and assume it may be online. He told the Board he wanted everyone to be prepared to teach online.

Passed 5/0.

The Board discussed sports and stated that they were not as worried about football spectators since it was an outdoor sport. They were more worried about Volleyball and other indoor sports. The Board discussed the option of changing the reopening plan by allowing spectators to attend sporting events under the yellow level.

Superintendent Born explained to the Board that they could require spectators to wear masks. He told them Salmon School District was not the only one facing these issues. Most other schools are coming up with plans along the lines of what Salmon has. Superintendent Born explained that other schools were facing the same issues, so parents are aware.

Trustee MacFarlane motioned to change the reopening plan to under yellow, allow sports spectators with mandated face coverings for events. Trustee Miller seconded.

Trustee Natelson explained that the Boards number one goal was to get the students back to school and he agreed with the prior discussion of allowing spectators and sporting events being a mixed message.

Superintendent Born suggested working with KSRA to broadcast all of the games as they did for graduation.

Failed 1/4 with Overacker approving.

Possible Approval of Special Services Contract

MacFarlane and Natelson excused their selves.

Director Holden explained the SLP/PT/OT proposals included in the packed. She recommended the Board use Steele Memorial for the services.

Trustee Miller motioned to accept the Steele Memorial special services contract for the 2020-21 school year. Seconded by Trustee Dahle. Passed 3/0.

Trustee MacFarlane and Trustee Natelson returned to the meeting.

ISBA Convention

Superintendent Born explained to the Board that the ISBA Conference would be virtual this year. He suggested that the Board table the decision of how they would like to attend.

With Superintendent Born's recommendation Trustee MacFarlane motioned to Table the decision on how they would attend the ISBA Conference. Trustee Natelson seconded. Passed 5/0.

Possible School Board Goals/Continuous Improvement Plan

Director Holden explained that she had to have the Continuous Improvement Plan submitted by October first. Trustee MacFarlane proposed increasing student engagement and learning by using alternate learning methods. She told the other Board members she though now was more important than ever to increase student engagement. She also suggested working on varying ways to deliver education and wanted to emphasize communication on the website and other community outlets. Trustee MacFarlane also wanted to include educational attendance rather than physical attendance as a goal.

Trustee MacFarlane motioned to update the Continuous Improvement Plan as discussed previously and asked Director Holden to make those changes to be presented at the next meeting. Trustee Dahle seconded. Passed 5/0.

Proposed Board Policy Changes: 1000's (Second Reading)

Trustee Natelson motioned to approve the second reading of the 1000's policies. Trustee Miller seconded the motion. Passed 5/0.

Proposed Board Policy Changes: 2000's (First Reading)

Superintendent Born discussed all of the changes to the 2000's.

Trustee Natelson motioned to approve the first reading of the 2000's policies. Trustee MacFarlane seconded. Passed 5/0.

Information Items

Pioneer Elementary Administrators Report

Principal Jill Patton explained that the numbers for Kindergarten had been shifting. She told the Board that there are close to ten students looking at enrolling online. She explained that she had been in contact with several parents and had been reassuring them that if online schooling did not work for their students that the Pioneer Elementary would be more than happy to take them.

Salmon Junior Senior High School Administrators Report

Russ Bradshaw reported that Salmon Junior Senior High School had received a certificate to reward them for not having anyone ejected from a game in 2019-2020.

He told the Board that he would be meeting with a committee of teachers to work on a plan for if/when they must teach online, they will be prepared.

Principal Bradshaw told the Board that Ashley Tarkalson had released the registration schedule earlier in the day. He also told the Board that Vape Detectors had been installed in all the bathrooms and that there were all new cameras up and running in the school.

Director of Finance, Planning, and Program Evaluation Report

Director Holden reported that the District Office had ordered face shields, masks, hand sanitizer, and gloves for all staff. She told the Board that they had gotten two new drinking fountains. There is the regular drinking part and a water bottle filler. She told them that she would be ordering a couple more since these seemed to work well with their current plumbing.

Director Holden told the Board that in the music classroom there will be plexiglass stands. She reported that John Anderson had also ordered face shields for each student in his class. She explained that her and Superintendent Born had been talking to teachers about concerns. One of the main ones was students setting their backpacks on desks. So, students will be required to keep their bags on the ground.

Director Holden told the Board that she had submitted the Blended Learning Grant and if they receive it, they will be able to purchase a device for each student at the Pioneer.

Director Holden reported that the Auditor would normally come to the District Office but this year he was doing a virtual audit. It was scheduled for the 20th of August, but the District Office staff was able to submit everything in the prior week.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Born reported that the State Dept. of Ed had dispersed some COVID supplies but it was not a lot. He reported that an outdoor freezer at the high school had malfunctioned and they had lost almost \$9000 worth of food. He told them that he was not sure how much insurance would reimburse them.

Superintendent Born reported that the IASA conference was not what it had been in the past. He told them that a lot of people stayed at home and watched virtually. Good information was still gathered at it. Superintendent Born told the Board to be prepared to start talking about a new mascot for Salmon School District. He told them that he had talked to the lawyer and she recommended they start considering an animal sometime over the fall/early spring.

Trustee Dahle motioned to schedule a Special Board meeting for August 31st at 6:00 p.m. in the Salmon Junior Senior High School Media Center. Trustee Miller seconded. Passed 5/0.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Chuck Overacker, Chairman

Date

Chaylin Olson, Board Clerk

Date