

BOE Meeting Highlights

Board of Education Meeting November 11, 2020

The Board of Education encourages the public to attend the meetings held on the second Wednesday of each month. There is an opportunity at the beginning of each meeting for input from the public. After that the Board conducts the School District's business, including the Superintendent's and Principals' Reports, position appointments, and issues to act upon.

Public Participation

- There were no public comments.

Superintendent's Report-Tim Keteri

- The district saved a lot of money by switching from AT&T to Charter.
- The attendance report is posted to the website ([here](#)). The in session attendance has been phenomenal, in the 90% range which has never been better. It is a testament that the kids want to be here.
- The 2011 bond can be refinanced to save the taxpayers money.
- Lamers billed at 75% during the virtual closure. They don't pay the drivers during the time, its mainly to cover the leases of the buses. The district does pay for gas so saved money on that during the closure. The contract does have that weather related cancellations are not paid, but there isn't anything about Covid. The Board acknowledged the Lamers does a great job and instructed Mr. Keteri to negotiate what he thinks best with Lamers.
- He recommends the hiring of Natalie Anderson as the part time 3rd grade teacher.
- The district has had over 20 consecutive days without a covid case!
- There have been challenges with masking but the teachers are here to teach kids and masking is a side issue that will be here for the foreseeable future. They are working with kids on having mask breaks and wearing them diligently in common areas. He noted that no student has been disrespectful when having a conversation about the issue. The district has gotten calls from the Health department about not being aggressive enough. The staff is doing the best they can while focusing on teaching. Every day not in session needs 3 days to make up so we want to be in school as much as possible.
- Steve Nicholas asked about a new charter school being put together. Mr. Keteri said it is in the application process and will probably be a K-5 school opening in fall 2021. Some students may leave but he feels the district does a good job of recognizing and

adapting to the needs of the community they serve and is hopeful that students would stay in district.

Principal's Report-Kim Harris, South Range Elementary

- This year was the first year in 25 years that there could not be a Fire Prevention Day. The kindergarten and first grades got to go to the South Range Fire Hall and see the trucks and fire fighters. The kids and teachers said it went very well.
- The Upper EI had their end of the quarter fun day for all students who had all assignments turned in and did not receive a brown slip.
- The staff had an inservice with professionals from the ISD about Tier 2 and 3 interventions that went well.
- Parent/Teacher conferences will be viz phone or Zoom tomorrow.
- She shared the October 'Jets of the Month'.
- When the 3rd grade half time position was posted, Mr. Heltunen applied. They decided to combine both of the 3rd grades based on their small sizes and have two half time positions of Mr. Heltunen and Mrs. Natalie Anderson whom she recommends.

Principal's and Athletic Report-Steve Lishinski, Jeffers High School

- Parent/Teacher conferences were today over phone. The building was a lot quieter than normal.
- Tomorrow they will have a teacher inservice.
- Ms. Raether would like to remind everyone the Travel Club is selling facemasks. Student Senate would like to sell apparel this spring to raise money for events and prizes for students.
- Mrs. Pera will be taking the High School Bowl team to Marquette in December. The show had a little make over and now has 3 member teams instead of 4.
- He feels the staff and students are in a better spot after getting into more of a routine and being able to focus on teaching.
- Winter sports are starting up. There are not enough girls for a JV basketball team.
- Congrats to Mr. Kilpela and the Cross Country team for taking 2nd place at U.P. Finals after overtaking the team they were chasing all year.

Action Items

- The Board discussed several action items.

Submitted by Valerie Dobson, South Range Elementary