

BOARD BRIEF

Platte County School District #1 Board of Trustees held their regular meeting January 16, 2017
in the District Board Room in Wheatland, Wyoming

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Greg Meyer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and invited those in attendance to join in the Pledge of Allegiance. Other Trustees in attendance were Beth Hendon, Travis Lockman, Tricia Sagner, Dustin Kafka, Doug Wiggins and Bob Catchpole. Administrators in attendance were Superintendent Dennis Fischer, Business Manager Joel McDaniel, and SPED Director Shannon Brow. Principals in attendance were Tom Waring, Stanetta Twiford, Vicki Begin, Cory Dziowgo, Sharon Swanson, and WHS Associate Principal Josh Sandlian. Others in attendance were Melissa Peasley, Joel McKee, Bobijo Cordingly, Jodie Fitzwater, Carly Robertson, Joel McKee, John McPhee, Ruanne Miller, Joe Scott, Ophelia Scott, Amanda and Richard Hernandez, M.K. Burnett and Peggy Suko.

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Wiggins moved for approval of the agenda as amended with additional bills, Lockman seconded, motion passed.

- A. **MINUTES** – Minutes of December 12, 2016 regular meeting are enclosed for board approval.
- B. **CLAIMS** – Claims to date for the month with additional bills are in Google Drive.

III. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA: The consent agenda is used for those items on the agenda, which usually do not require discussion or explanation as to the reason for board action. At the request of any individual school board member, an item shall be removed from the consent agenda and placed on the regular agenda for discussion. Sagner moved for approval of the consent agenda, Catchpole seconded, motion passed.

IV. POSITIVE HAPPENINGS: **Jodie Fitzwater**, Libbey/WMS PE Instructor, presented the benefits of pedometers being utilized in grades K-8. Bobijo Cordingly, WMS student, and Carly Robertson, Libbey student, helped demonstrate how the pedometers incorporate technology into a regular fitness regime. The pedometers monitor and evaluate their activity levels ranging from moderate to a vigorous physical activity level. Ms. Fitzwater is pleased with the results that have been gained since she started utilizing the pedometers. **Beth Hendon**, Board Vice-Chair, acknowledged Board Members Bob Catchpole and Doug Wiggins for completing Wyoming School Board Association's continuing education classes to benefit their service on our PCSD#1 Board. Ms. Hendon presented certificates and Superintendent Fischer shared words of gratitude for their dedication and commitment to PCSD#1. Ms. Hendon has recently been selected as the District 10 representative for the state of Wyoming which includes Glenrock, Converse County #1, and Platte Counties 1 & 2. **Josh Sandlian**, WHS Associate Principal, presented Ophelia Scott, our second Peak High School graduate, with her diploma. Ophelia's family was present to help share in this gratifying event.

V. VISITOR'S COMMENTS: None.

VI. ITEMS ON WHICH BOARD DISCUSSION AND ACTION ARE REQUESTED:

A. Old Business:

1. None.

B. New Business:

i. District Business

1. Approval of Financing for District Vehicle

PCSD#1 is in the process of purchasing a 2017 Chevy Suburban for the 2016-17 school year. This vehicle will be used by the transportation department for transporting students as needed. The administration recommended accepting Platte Valley Bank's bid. Three other bids were received. This amount of money has been budgeted in this year's general fund and will be 100% reimbursed by the state over the next two years. Catchpole moved for approval, Lockman seconded, motion passed.

2. Auditors report for Fiscal Year 2016

John McPhee of Lovelett, Skogen, & Associates, certified public accountants of Casper, was on hand to review the results of the 2015-16 school year audit. Business Mgr. Joel McDaniel was on hand to answer additional questions. The administration recommended acceptance of the results of these findings. Wiggins moved for approval, Hendon seconded, motion passed.

ii. Personnel

1. Review of Superintendent Contract status per Policy CBB

Per Board Policy CBB, the Superintendent's contract will be acted on at the regular meeting in January each year. Hendon motioned to extend the Superintendent's contract until June 30, 2019, Kafka seconded, motion passed.

2. Approval of extra-duty contract for Matt Hazen as Head Track Coach

The administration recommended approval of an extra-duty contract for Matt Hazen to serve as the WHS Head Track Coach for the spring of 2017. Lockman moved for approval, Catchpole seconded, motion passed.

3. Approval of extra-duty contract for Joe Wilson as Assistant Track Coach

The administration recommended approval of an extra-duty contract for Joe Wilson to serve as the WHS Assistant Track Coach. Wiggins moved for approval, Catchpole seconded, motion passed.

iii. District Policy Review

1. Approval of Policy KK (Visitors to the Schools) on Second Reading

The administration recommended the acceptance of changes to School Board Policy KK on second reading. This policy establishes the district's philosophy of encouraging visitors to schools, but defines that it will result in little to no disruption to our student's learning. Hendon moved for approval, Sagner seconded, motion passed.

VII. ITEMS OF INFORMATION AND/OR DISCUSSION ONLY:

a. Reports:

- i. Parks & Rec Agenda & Minutes for January
- ii. L & G Policy 2.12(Board/Supt Relations) for January – 3 Board Members have completed for January
- iii. National School Board Annual Conference March 25-27, 2017 in Denver CO; <http://www.nsba.org/conference>
4 board members have registered and signed up for classes – NSBA brochure in Google Drive
- iv. Enrollment – We are up by 20 for the month of January; statistics include Peak High School numbers.
- v. 2017 WSBA Legislative Forum & Reception on Sunday, Feb 12th at Cheyenne Little America; 4 Board Members have expressed interested in attending; Vicki will finalize count. Please click on the following link for details;
http://wsba-wy.org/_pdf/2017/Jan/2017LegislativeForumFlier.pdf

VIII. ADVANCED PLANNING

- a. Next Board of Trustees Meeting will be Monday, February 20, 2017 @7:00 pm in Wheatland.
- b. Next Board of Trustees Work Session will be Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 6:00 pm in Wheatland.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Wiggins motioned to adjourn out of the regular meeting and into Executive Session to discuss personnel items with no action being taken, Lockman seconded, motion passed. Regular meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm; Executive Session ended at 9:28 pm.

X. GOOD THINGS HAPPENING/PUBLIC FORUM:

Vicki Begin, West Principal, reported that during the past month there was one student that was nominated for the Taco John's student of the week (names and pictures are posted in the front hall at West Elementary). Our student for the week of 1/9/17 is Adam Conrey: Adam is a student in Mr. Nichols' class. Adam has recently made great improvements with his behavior and work ethic in the classroom. Adam has come to realize that distractions affect those around him and himself. He has made a conscious effort to make sure he does not hinder his classmates learning as well as his own. As a result of his improved behavior, he has taken his learning to a whole new level. His new found focus and maturity has allowed him to learn and master content that well exceeds third grade. Adam is also considered a teacher in our classroom because he does not hesitate to help others with their learning or teach them new concepts he has mastered. Prior to Christmas, our 4th grade students made Christmas cards to send to U.S. Military troops. This opportunity was brought to the school by Sydney Burek who is with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Wheatland. West was excited to recently receive a set of nine books written by Kenneth Thomasma. The books were donated to our school library by CH Brown. West is very appreciative of the support provided to their school this year. 5th grade students worked together prior to Christmas to produce a story book. The Libbey art program was \$372. The feedback Mrs. Young received from parents about the project was very positive!

Frank Jesse, WHS Principal, reported that Captain Tim Finley of the U.S Air Force was the keynote speaker for the Veteran's Day program. He traveled from central Kansas to Wheatland and refused any compensation for speaking or for his travel expenses. The message he shared was truly inspirational. WHS made a donation of \$300.00 in his name to his charity of choice, Heroes and Horses. The attached PDF is the thank you card from Heroes and Horses. Now that WHS is in second semester they have modified their PEAK time. They have implemented a 20 minute reading time with 10 minute discussion of the reading. Students were placed into groups based on their reading level and reading interest. Over Christmas break nearly \$3,000 worth of books was delivered and distributed to faculty. So far we have had nothing but positive comments about the program. The following students have been selected and will be performing at the WMEA All State Music Conference: All State Band - Coleton Morgan and Hannah Nelson; All State Choir - Amelia Winter; All State Orchestra - Dacotah Morgan.

Tom Waring, Chugwater Principal, reported that students in the Digital Media Design classes at Chugwater and Glendo went on a "photo safari" Dec 19, as part of the comprehensive final project for first semester. The route for this journey was Sybille Canyon to Laramie to Cheyenne and back to Chugwater on the Iron Mountain Road. Students took pictures at the Sybille Research Station where the friendly elk cooperated by posing and resulting in good photos. Students were applying the guidelines of photo composition: Simplicity, Lines, Rule of Thirds, Framing and Avoiding Mergers. Students selected photos from their collection to illustrate each of the guidelines, and explained how this selected photo was an example of the guideline. Thanks to Ms. Twiford and Mr. Waring for supporting the students on this trip and a special thanks to Doyle who drove us safely in bad weather. After finishing finals, many students took a break from the regular routine by participating in the "Hour of Code," sponsored by code.org. The program introduces computer programming (STEM) and allows the students to choose from a variety of coding activities that are related to familiar movies or games, such as *Frozen*, *Angry Birds*, and *Minecraft*. Even though the official Hour of Code took place earlier in Dec, students (and even adults) can learn coding on the website throughout the entire year. Another plus is that students' work is saved for them when they sign in with their Google accounts. Good things are happening at Chugwater's Elementary Reading Cafe! Twice a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, students K-2 and alternately, students 3rd-5th gather in the Reading Cafe at lunchtime to enjoy two favorite pastimes; reading and eating! This privilege is earned by exhibiting positive behavior during lunchtime on other days during the week. During student's time at the cafe, K-2nd will listen to a story on tape with an accompanying book or have a story read to them while they eat. Once they are done eating, they are free to explore other books to look at, read and/or check out. The older students have time to search different genres they find interesting or they may bring their own book if they're reading something too good to put down! The Reading Cafe is a fun way to encourage both positive behavior and a love of reading! The Chugwater 2nd and 3rd grade class were excited to learn that their DonorsChoose.org project has been fully funded by the Mountain West Conference and College Football Playoff Foundation Extra Yard for Teachers program. The class had submitted a request for 4 wobble chairs for their classroom at a total of almost \$400. These will be used as the class moves into a flexible seating style classroom. We are very excited to see these at work in our room!! On Jan 11, Ed Cox, Ron Birkle, Joe Shelton, and Lloyd Koerwitz from the Wheatland VFW came to present uniforms from different branches of the Armed Forces and share some of their own stories from their time of service and even stories from Mr. Birkle's father who served under General Patton. Between these four men they have served in World War II, Vietnam, Korea, and Desert Storm. They have over 10 overseas deployments. After sharing their stories and answering a number of questions from students, they took the time to teach the students how to properly handle and fold the US flag. We thank these men for their brave service.

Cory Dziowgo, WMS Principal, reported the Wheatland Middle School has been moving right along with the second semester. They have their upcoming science fair on Wednesday January 18th. They will be hosting the district science fair at WMS and they would welcome any visitors to see their great projects. Students will then move on to the Regional Science Fair in the upcoming weeks. The Boys' Basketball team have been hitting the maple and getting some games under their belts. They have approximately 26 players out for both 7th and 8th grade. The kids are enjoying the season and looking forward to a great season. With the end of the year nearing, the WMS Student Council have been discussing what they could do for some fun with their students and staff. The Student Council has been bringing some ideas to Mr. Dziowgo for various activities to end the year such as main events and dances. Also over Christmas break our water bottle filling stations are in each of the hallways through the hard work of the Student Council. With the new quarter starting back up, the Arduino class is getting right back into the action. They first start off with their hour of code lessons. They will then start working on their hex bugs, which are going to be made out of old phones, and onto the Arduino showcase project, showing off their building and programming skills they have learned over the two quarters. The middle school drama play this year is Hamlet Hears a Who; a Seussified version of Hamlet. There are fifteen middle school students participating in the play. The drama play will be on February 10th, 2017.

Stanetta Twiford, Glendo Principal, reported that Jennifer Eller did an outstanding job hosting the Little 6 Tournament Friday and Saturday, Jan 13th & 14th, in Glendo and Wheatland. Thanks, Josh, for your help! Also, the custodians at all three (GHS, WHS, WMS) venues were exceptionally helpful and it was appreciated. All last week Glendo School was eating the fresh, delicious lettuce from the FFA. Kevin Teten, Glendo Voc Ag Teacher, shared the first bright red tomato. K-5 had the pleasure of learning how to paint a layered picture on canvas from Glendo Bus Driver Kathy Hamar. The students then presented their paintings to their parents for Christmas.

Sharon Swanson, Libbey Principal, reported that 2017 is off to a great start. Libbey recently held their 2nd quarter assembly; giving out awards to students who put forth a great deal of effort, allowing them to be successful in school. Libbey MAP testing will begin Tuesday, Jan 17. "I Love Reading Month" is scheduled for February, and Book Fair will be the week of February 6, and Reading night will be held on February 7. This month is always very busy at Libbey with many activities to promote the benefits and enjoyment of reading. A book has been picked out for the reading challenge. Libbey always looks forward to volunteers coming in to read to the students! Students of the Week are: Raelyn Goff and Maggie Hicks.