

DAC/BOARD BUDGET WORK SESSION

May 4, 2015

The Board of Education and the District Accountability Committee conducted their Preliminary Budget Work Session with Finance Manager Terry Scharg.

Board President Craig Holmes called the work session to order at 6:32 p.m.

Scharg presented the major revenue and expenditure changes reflected in the 2015/2016 Budget. Board members and DAC members asked questions and interacted during the presentation.

Board President Craig Holmes adjourned the work session at 6: 58 p.m.

BOARD MEETING OF THE GILPIN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION

May 4, 2015

President Craig Holmes called the meeting of the Gilpin County Board of Education to order at 7:01 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL: Armstrong – present; Boulter – present; Holmes – present; Ramsey – present; Taylor - present.

Board Vice President Brook Ramsey read the mission statement.

Ramsey (m); Armstrong (s): APPROVE the agenda, as amended.

Armstrong – aye; Boulter – aye; Holmes – aye; Ramsey – aye; Taylor - aye

CARRIED

During Congratulations and Celebrations Dr. MacKenzie celebrated the Jr. Sr. Prom which was held on May 2, 2015, at Invesco Field in Denver. There were forty students who attended. It was well done and everyone had a great time. Thirty-eight of those students participated in the After Prom program. It was also very well done. There were fantastic prizes and give- a-ways. It was a safe Prom weekend.

Board Member Steve Boulter thanked and congratulated Ramsey for heading up the After Prom Committee. He stated that she was very instrumental in making it all happen. He also thanked the many other people who were in involved as well.

During *Public Participation* Montessori Parents Scott Murphy, Jenny Halsted and Kris Icenogle along with former Montessori Teacher Rebecca Bredehoeft were present to express their concern and

disappointment with the decision not to renew Montessori Teacher Julia Miller's contract for 2015/2015 school year.

Murphy stated that he had two students in the Montessori program, one in kindergarten and one in 5th grade and speaking from his experience Miller had a positive effect on his son who struggles with ADHD. A big focus this year was to work on the quality of his work and not the quantity. That seemed to really make a big difference in his school environment as well as his home environment. He stated that his son is more comfortable speaking with Miller than he is with speaking to the school psychologist. Miller really has a great rapport with her students. Murphy encouraged the District to provide more support for first year teachers so that they can advance their knowledge which, in turn, would hopefully mean the District can retain more of the first year teachers.

Halsted stated that Miller had been a great teacher to her daughter. She also stated that the first year teachers really need to get the support they need to become better teachers. Halsted added her thank you to the Board for all that they do for the school and students.

Icenogle stated that speaking on behalf of the Montessori Parent Community they feel they should have been a part of the decision as they are the ones who work most closely with the Montessori teachers. She also stated that the parents will not be able to be part of the hiring if a new teacher is selected because summer vacation will be here. They would have liked to have been asked for their input and council.

Bredehoft stated that she highly recommends Miller for the Montessori position and thinks she did a great job when she worked with her in her former classroom. She also supported the idea that all first year teachers should get the support they need to succeed.

Ramsey (m); Armstrong (s): APPROVE the minutes of the April 20, 2015, board meeting as amended.

There were two corrections.

Armstrong – aye; Boulter – aye; Holmes – aye; Ramsey – aye; Taylor - aye

CARRIED

Ramsey (m); Armstrong (s): APPROVE the Preliminary Budget for the 2015 – 2016 School Year as presented.

Armstrong – aye; Boulter – aye; Holmes – aye; Ramsey – aye; Taylor - aye

CARRIED

Ramsey (m); Armstrong (s): ACCEPT the Recommendation to Non-Renew the Teaching Contract for Montessori Grade 4 & 5 Teacher Julia Miller.

Dr. MacKenzie stated that Miller has been invited to reapply for the position for the next school year and she will be considered as a serious candidate. He stated that it is very important to the Montessori Program and for the success of the students to see what other candidates may be available for the position.

Armstrong – aye; Boulter – aye; Holmes – aye; Ramsey – aye; Taylor - aye

CARRIED

Ramsey (m); Armstrong (s): ACCEPT the Recommendation to Non-Renew the Teaching Contract for K-12 Technology Teacher Debi Bochmann.

Dr. MacKenzie stated that Bochmann has also been invited to reapply for the position, but it is necessary to see what other technology candidates might be available.

Armstrong – aye; Boulter – aye; Holmes – aye; Ramsey – aye; Taylor - aye

CARRIED

Ramsey (m); Armstrong (s): ACCEPT the Resignation of 5th Grade Teacher Angela Austin-MacKenzie.

Armstrong – aye; Boulter – aye; Holmes – aye; Ramsey – aye; Taylor - aye

CARRIED

Armstrong (m); Boulter (s): APPROVE the 2015-2016 School Year Fee Schedule as presented.

Armstrong – aye; Boulter – aye; Holmes – aye; Ramsey – aye; Taylor - aye

CARRIED

Dr. MacKenzie stated that there was a list of upcoming events in May provided for the Board members in their packets as requested.

During the discussion on the 360 Survey Board Member Armstrong provided the group with a sample survey she received from Randy Black at Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB). She stated that it is just a preliminary overview to take home and look at. There is a lot of discussion that needs to take place to create some framework for the survey.

Ramsey stated that she had researched different companies who can do the survey for the District and their pricing. She is also going to talk with Sunny Vincent to see what can be done to do the survey in-house.

During the *Superintendent's Report* Dr. MacKenzie shared with the Board notes on the Montessori program review that was completed by Betsy Hoke on April 7th, 8th, & 9th. He explained that Hoke spent three days observing and evaluating the Montessori teachers and program. She met with each individual teacher and provided commendations and suggestions for each of them and then for the program as a whole. He stated that it was a very good experience for the teachers. Hoke offered some good suggestions.

There were no items presented for the next agenda.

Holmes adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Craig Holmes, President

Brook Ramsey, Vice President