

**West Jefferson School District #253
Terreton, Idaho 83450
Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 18, 2018**

BOARD MEMBERS: Tanis Cherry – Chairman
 Willy Schmitt – Vice Chairman
 Bruce Smith – Clerk
 Burt Allen – Treasurer
 Nedra Perkins- Board Member

SUPERINTENDENT: Dwight Richins

BUSINESS MANAGER: Patti Bingham

5:00 P.M. Executive Session

- I. Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(a) To consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, wherein the respective qualities of individuals are to be evaluated in order to fill a particular vacancy or need, (b) To consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student.

At 5:30 P.M. Mr. Willy Schmitt moved to go into executive session per Idaho Code 74-206(a): To consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, wherein the respective qualities of individuals are to be evaluated in order to fill a particular vacancy or need. (b) To consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against a public officer, employee, staff member, or individual agent, or public school student. Mr. Burt Allen seconded the motion. Roll call vote – Mr. Allen (AYE), Mrs. Cherry (AYE), Mr. Schmitt (AYE), Mrs. Perkins (AYE), All in favor, motion passes.

- II. I, Tanis Cherry, Chairman of the West Jefferson School Board of Education, certify and swear that the purpose of the above Closed Executive Session was concerning Idaho Code 74-206 (a): To consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, wherein the respective qualities of individuals are to be evaluated in order to fill a particular vacancy or need. (b) To consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student.

Tanis Cherry- Chairman

At 6:35 pm. Mr. Willy Schmitt made motion to leave executive session and begin Regular Board Meeting. Mrs. Nedra Perkins seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passes.

**Regular Board Meeting
January 18, 2018 6:30 p.m.**

In attendance: Willy Schmitt, Tanis Cherry, Nedra Perkins, Bruce Smith, Dwight Richins, Patti Bingham, Mary Blackham, Jeff Haroldsen, Merrilee Haroldsen, Mitch Bitter, Lindsey Bitter

I. CALL TO ORDER- Tanis Cherry

II. OPENING CEREMONIES

- a. Welcome to Visitors: Tanis Cherry
- b. Pledge-of-Allegiance: Willy Schmitt
- c. Prayer: By Invitation: Nedra Perkins

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Willy Schmitt made motion to adopt the agenda. Mr. Bruce Smith seconded the motion. All in favor - Passed

IV. CONSENT AGENDA TAB 3:

Hire: Lacey Stoddart- Part-time Para, Dana Anderson – Substitute, Maria Gonzalez – part-time Custodian

Nedra Perkins made note that the Payroll report was missing from the packet. She also asked about the school psychiatrist payment. Patti Bingham explained that we contract with a psychiatrist when services are needed. Nedra would like to know when, and what, professional development is taking place.

Bruce Smith offered the use of his backhoe for projects. Dwight will let Larry know.

Tanis Cherry asked about the coal storage costs. She also wondered why some of the high school clubs are in the red. Patti and Dwight explained that the daily in and out changes. The bottom line on the school reports is what they need to look at.

Mrs. Nedra Perkins made motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Mr. Burt Allen seconded the motion. All in favor, Passed

V. REPORT/ INFORMATION AGENDA

- a. Patron Input- None
- b. Board Member Input-
 - Bruce Smith looked at the bleachers that either need to be repaired to meet safety code, or replaced. He thinks that the bleachers could be repaired at little cost and work. Bruce offered to help take out the trees behind the ALC building.
 - Nedra Perkins asked the Hamer Lions Club if they would fund the removal of the trees at Hamer School. They agreed to this and have asked Ben Young to help. He will take the

wood as payment. After the trees are down, the branches will need to be cleaned up. The board suggested that a scout group could do this as a service project. Nedra brought a letter to the editor, written by Andi Elliot, about the Rigby High School Honor Roll. She is curious how many honor students West Jefferson has. She also asked if the thank you notes had been sent to those that helped with the Hay Fundraiser. Mr. Richins told the board that the notes have been mailed.

- Willy Schmitt told the board about the Ed Foundation committee meeting. The foundation awarded funding for various projects. Willy cleared up miscommunication dealing with the Jared Sullivan Scholarship. For the record, the 2015-2016 school year scholarship recipient was Hadley Sullivan.
- Tanis Cherry told the board that the new sink in the Terreton Elementary is very nice. She would also like to have those that volunteer their time at the grade schools recognized. Jeff Haroldsen will work on compiling a list of volunteers. Tanis asked about the status of the District Policy Review. Mr. Richins explained that it is in the beginning stages. Tanis attended Mr. Hadley's leadership class. He is doing a great job helping the students take responsibility and leadership.

c. Superintendent Report-

- Mr. Richins reported that the Safety Committee is making progress on the safety plan. There is some training in April that they have applied for a scholarship to attend. There is also some training in Pocatello in February to help plan safety procedures at activities in case of emergency. There is a need for four more defibrillators. This would put one in each building. The proposals for the Idaho Education Budgets are available to the public. If they pass, Mr. Richins estimates that in order to stay on the same payment schedule for teachers, \$10,000 will need to come from the district funds. The supplemental Levy will be held in November 2018. Mike Pincock is getting bids for Diesel fuel purchase. Bruce Smith would like to purchase local if possible.

VI. PROPOSALS:

a. PA System

Mr. Richins told the board that Jody Weekes has three bids for the PA system. Bruce Smith asked about the phone app. Tanis Cherry volunteered to research this. Mr. Richins has assigned Mr. Weekes to update the district's website and to make it user friendly for the disabled population.

b. School report- Mr. Haroldsen

Mr. Haroldsen reported to the board that good things are happening at Terreton Elementary/Jr. High.

- 1) The lock down drill went much better than previous lock downs. They are continually working to make it more efficient.
- 2) The school/community orchestra is growing.

- 3) There has been a movement to bring soccer to the students. It will be club soccer, not paid for or organized by the district. So far over 100 kids have signed up. Jon Reyna is helping organize this.
- 4) A guitar class will be offered next tri in the Jr. High.
- 5) Mr. Paul Orr is doing a great job coaching the Jr. High boys basketball team.
- 6) Mr. Haroldsen plans to bring a math facts program to the school. It will run through the summer to help students retain their math facts.
- 7) The curriculum adoption is coming soon. A committee has been looking at options. Nedra Perkins and Bruce Smith need to be involved in the committee.

c. Gifted and talented

Mr. Haroldsen explained that we don't have a true Gifted and Talented program. There is training in Boise that he would like to send two teachers to. At this time, Brianna Tuckett is planning a proposal, for the board, to attend Space Camp for 6th-8th grade students with high scores. The committee is in the process of deciding what criteria will be used to qualify students for the gifted and talented programs. Mrs. Sheena Hawker has been asked to have a 3rd-4th grade and a 5th-6th grade class. They are still working out the details for this. Mr. Haroldsen told the board that he is part of a principal mentorship group and will be watching closely how other school/districts run their gifted and talented programs.

d. Calendar – Harvest Break

Mr. Richins told the board that the calendar committee has come up with three calendar options for the grade school only: 1. Leave the calendar alone, 2. Have a 1 week break, and 3. Have no break at all. The Jr. and High Schools would not change. Mr. Richins had Mike Pincock figure the costs involved to bus students for 2 weeks. He thought it would be around \$20,000. There are other costs to consider-lunchroom, classified personnel, etc. It was suggested by patron Lindsey Bitter to ask the farmers how many students they hired during spud harvest in order to get a true picture of the need for harvest break. The board discussed many different scenarios. They asked Mr. Richins to have the committee draw up calendar proposals for 1. No harvest break for **any** students with start later/end sooner dates, 2. Harvest Break for 1 week for **all** students with start later/end sooner dates, 3. No change. The board would also like to have the committee poll the elementary student's parents, to get a feel for the need for a break at that time. Mr. Richins will post the question about the need for Harvest Break on Facebook.

e. Game admission

Board discussed what age is considered a Senior Citizen. Mr. Richins will check with other districts to see what their policies are.

f. Hamer Cottage meeting

The board needs to set a date for a meeting with the Hamer patrons to discuss the fate of the Hamer School. Mr. Haroldsen was asked what his recommendation

would be. He reported that in doing the scoring research for the gifted and talented program, the scores for the 5th graders from Hamer were, on an average, lower than those of Terreton students. He attributed this to the lower numbers of students in the classes at Hamer. There are many younger students from Hamer coming to Terreton Elementary with their older siblings. Mr. Haroldsen explained that there is the need for peer interaction, and social skills are learned in classes with both boys and girls right along with the academics. Bruce Smith is concerned for the safety of the students at Hamer. It is standing alone on I-15. I-15 is known as a drug corridor. It would be very easy for a person to pull off at Hamer, and the students would be unprotected from harm. He wants to know the feelings of the Hamer parents, and the facts on the costs to maintain Hamer. His question is when, and at what point, does the district close Hamer. Willy is concerned that if the school is closed, the patrons would vote no on the levies. Nedra is going to be gone and would like to have time to prepare for a meeting. She asked that the topic be postponed until the February meeting. The board members agreed to plan the Cottage Meeting at the February board meeting. The ultimate question to consider is what is best for the kids?

g. Drug and Alcohol Testing and Policy

Tanis Cherry has been working on the policy. The board needs to make a decision as to drug testing or not, before the Policy revision can go any further. Mr. Richins recommended that the board adopt a random drug testing policy on all students in extra-curricular athletic activities. He told the board that the district needs the tools to help the students. Question was asked why just athletic activities, and not all students? That is the law. Willy will talk to our representatives at the Day on the Hill about this.

Mr. Willy Schmitt made motion to move to the Action Agenda VIIb, the go ahead to develop a policy for random drug testing, starting with the 2018-2019 school year. Mr. Bruce Smith seconded. All in favor – passed.

VII. ACTION AGENDA:

a. Work Meeting

Board Work Meeting scheduled for January 29, 2018 at 9:00 am.

The board will work on Calendar proposals, drug testing policy, PA System bids and Fuel bids.

b. Drug Testing Policy

Mr. Willy Schmitt made motion to approve drawing up a random drug testing policy to begin with the 2018-2019 school year. Mr. Burt seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Bruce-aye, Nedra – Aye, Burt – Aye, Willy – Aye, Tanis- Aye. All in favor- Passed

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:50 pm. Mr. Bruce Smith made motion to adjourn the Regular board meeting and to reenter Executive session. Mrs. Nedra Perkins seconded the motion. All in favor - Passed

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- February 15, 2018 Board Meeting
- February 19 – 20, 2018 Day on the Hill in Boise

Clerk of the Board

Chairman of the Board

Date