

Panorama Community School District April Regular School Board Meeting

Date: 4/8/2013
Time: 6:05 pm
Location: Panorama District Board Room

Call to Order

The Panorama Community School District Board of Education met in a regular session on April 8th, 2013 in the district board room located at the middle/high school. The regular session was called to order by Bryce Wilke, President, at 6:05pm.

Attendees

Board Members Present:

Board Members Scott Fredrickson, Tom Arganbright, Tina Thornberry, Robert Meinecke and Bryce Wilke were present.

Administrators Present:

Kathryn Elliott (Superintendent), Mary Breyfogle (School Improvement Coordinator), Cory Heiman (Elementary Principal), Mark Johnston (MS/HS Principal) and Sarah Young (Business Manager/Board Secretary) were present.

Others:

Ronda Hafner, Gordon Castile, Jim Gibson, Karwyn Gibson, Melissa Leo-Rizzuti, Jaime Waddle, Brandon Waddle, Deb Westergaard, Scott Calmer, Kris Jarnagin, Liz Labath, Deb Arganbright, Ronda Hafner, Jim Hummel, Tony Cosentino, Tom Block, Brad Halterman, Dani Perrigo, Ginger Lindstrom, Emily Wells, Luke Wells, Brian Johnson, John Seeman, Holly Mills, Kelly Riesselman, Patty Meinecke, Tami Kuta, Laurie Behrends, Shane Arp, Evan Babcock

Public Forum

Speaker Name: Scott Calmer

Mr. Calmer was present to discuss his concern with the proposed budget cut option of eliminating the grounds-keeping contract currently held with his personal business. Mr. Calmer was concerned that the district would not be able to complete the entire grounds with just one person and one mower. Mr. Calmer did not think the district would save \$16,000.00 by eliminating this contract.

Speaker Name: Jim Gibson

Mr. Gibson was present to discuss his concern with the proposed budget cut option of reducing next year's 2nd grade class to two sections. Mr. Gibson said that he understood the financial situation of the district, but asked the board to consider the consequences for the students in that classroom if it were reduced to two sections.

Speaker Name: Jim Hummel

Mr. Hummel was present to discuss his concern about the all of the budget cuts being considered. Mr. Hummel was concerned that the district would not be able to provide the necessary services to the students. Mr. Hummel also explained that he had done extensive research on the web and in the newspaper and that this information did not support the need for additional cuts.

Speaker Name: Ginger Lindstrom

Ms. Lindstrom was present to discuss her concern with the proposed budget cut of eliminating an administrator position. She asked the board to consider her comments in a letter she previously sent to them individually.

Speaker Name: Dani Perrigo

Mrs. Perrigo was present to discuss her concern with the proposed budget cut option of reducing next year's 2nd grade class to two sections. Mrs. Perrigo explained that it is in the lower grades where students build the foundation that will be used throughout their educational career. Mrs. Perrigo felt that reducing this class to two sections could have a negative impact to student learning.

Agenda

Changes to Agenda (if any): None

T. Arganbright motioned to approve the agenda as amended.

S. Fredrickson seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Items

S. Fredrickson motioned to approve the consent items.

R. Meinecke seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Items:

Consent items included the minutes of the March 11th regular board meeting and the March 26th special meeting, the financial report and the bills/VISA report as presented. The board also accepted the following resignations:

- Deb Scott – Special Education Teacher
- Bart Maere – Custodian
- Dan Pollock – Math Teacher, Assistant Football Coach & Assistant Basketball Coach
- Lyle Alumbaugh – Assistant Wrestling Coach
- Jake Calmer – Junior High Wrestling Coach
- Sarah Young – Junior High Volleyball Coach
- Deb Maxwell – Volleyball/Basketball Scorer

The board also approved a contract in the amount of \$35,228.00 for Robyn Ploeger who will be the new math teacher in the secondary school next year.

Reports

NASA Trip

Teacher Deb Arganbright, along with a group of 6 students, shared with the board their experiences at the NASA Space Settlement Design Camp they attended in Houston, TX from March 14th—18th. The following students attended the camp and each explained the different areas they were assigned to:

- Adam Dooley – Marketing
- Colby Woodvine – Operations
- Allison Bump – Marketing
- Breanna Parker – Operations
- Brenna Hafner – Marketing
- Hunter Simmons – Automation Design
- Cassidy Brede – Human Design (not present)

The students all agreed that this camp was a great way to meet new people and to gain some valuable contacts. They also said they were able to use the skills they learned in school and apply them in a real life experience.

Mark Johnston, MS/HS Principal

- Students Collin Woodvine and Nic Nelson came in 1st place in a recent TSA (Technology Student Association) competition relating to problem solving. James Roberts is the TSA sponsor.
- The student council has organized a volunteer group to assist with the Regional Special Olympics on April 9th. Kylee Boettcher is the high school student council sponsor.
- Graduation will be held Sunday May 19th at 1:00. Board Member Tina Thornberry agreed to pass out the diplomas during the ceremony.

Cory Heiman, Elementary Principal

- The PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions & Support) team met in March to discuss student expectations and to prepare for implementation of the program next school year. Additional training will be provided once the program is implemented.

Mary Breyfogle, School Improvement Coordinator

- Preschool staff met with Head Start to discuss the partnership with the school and how to best move forward. Head Start staff commented that they are appreciative of the cooperation and forward thinking of Panorama Schools.

Discussion/Information Topics

Site & Equity Visit Reports

Ms. Elliott reviewed the final report that was received from Iowa Department of Education in regard to the Site Visit and Equity Visit.

Athletic Event Ratings

Ms. Elliott reviewed the ratings received from the Iowa Boys High School Athletic Association which showed the ratings of Panorama's coaches, athletes and fans as compared to the state averages.

Track Renovation Process

Ms. Elliott provided an update on the track renovation which will take place in the summer of 2014 using PPEL funds. She reported that she would bring 2 or 3 different companies to the board in June to present information on the project.

Upcoming Dates

- Regular Board Meeting – May 6th, 2013

Action Items

Ratify Teacher Master Contract for 2013-14

T. Thornberry motioned to ratify the 2013-14 Master Contract between the Panorama Education Association and the Panorama Community School District as presented with a total package increase of 3.25%.

R. Meinecke seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Fundraising Request

T. Arganbright motioned to approve the fundraising as presented for the high school football team.

T. Thornberry seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Gym Floor Refinishing Proposal

T. Arganbright motioned to approve the high school gym floor refinishing proposal as presented in the amount of \$14,986 to be funded out of PPEL.

S. Fredrickson seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Special Education Committee

R. Meinecke motioned to approve the Special Education Committee as presented.

T. Arganbright seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

2013-14 Budget Options

Ms. Elliott commented that she is reconsidering the reduction of the elementary teaching position after hearing public concerns. In addition, there had been several move-in students that have increased the size of that grade since the budget options were presented.

Board member Tina Thornberry commented that when she became a member of the board, she did it because she wanted to help the kids. She added that it is not about the parents, it is about the kids. She realizes now that she is not really helping the kids, but overseeing the finances instead. She commented that the only thing she has heard from her constituents was that they did not want to pay more property taxes. Therefore, she suggested that the board make no budget cuts and raise property taxes instead.

Ms. Elliott explained that raising property taxes would not help because even if you have excess cash, you cannot spend it without the authority of the state to do so. The issue with the district's financial situation is about the spending authority approved by the state which is why she has been encouraging the public to contact their legislatures in support of providing adequate funding to schools.

Action Items, continued

2013-14 Budget Options, continued

S. Fredrickson motioned to approve all of the budget reduction areas as presented with the exception of the elementary teaching position and the sports shuttle bus. The elementary teaching position and sports shuttle bus will not be cut.

T. Arganbright seconded.

Vote:

Scott Fredrickson : Aye

Tom Arganbright: Aye

Tina Thornberry: Nay

Robert Meinecke: Aye

Bryce Wilke Nay

Motion carried by a vote of 3-2.

Mower Bids

S. Fredrickson motioned to approve the purchase of a front deck mower in the amount of \$13,000 using PPEL funds.

T. Arganbright seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

S. Fredrickson motioned to approve the purchase of a walk-behind mower in the amount of \$4,300 using PPEL funds.

T. Arganbright seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

The next regular board meeting will be on 5/13/2013 at 6:30pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Sarah Young,
Secretary

Board President

Board Secretary

Date

Date