

**LOCKWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT #26  
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
REGULAR MEETING 6:00 P.M.**

**WORK SESSION with 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students – 5:00**

Any person present who wishes to address the board or raise any question about public school district matters or governing policies may do so under public participation. **No discussion of personnel or individual students is permitted at this time.** A limit of three minutes is placed on each speaker. Persons who want more time may make arrangements to be placed on a future agenda. The public is also reminded that they may provide input on all motions being considered by the board at this meeting.

NOTE TO OUR GUESTS: VISITORS WISHING TO RECORD THIS MEETING ELECTRONICALLY MAY DO SO PROVIDING THE RECORDING DOES NOT DISRUPT THE ORDERLY CONDUCT OF THIS MEETING.

1. Call to Order  
Pledge to the Flag  
Welcome
2. Individuals, Delegations, Correspondence
  - A. Public Comment
  - B. PTA Report
  - C. Relations Teams
  - D. Correspondence
3. District Reports
  - A. Facilities Report
  - B. Technology Report
  - C. Elementary Principal Report
  - D. Middle School Principal Report
  - E. Superintendent's Report
4. Trustee Reports
  - A. SD2 Trustee Update
  - B. MCEL Review
5. Items for Action
  - A. Consent Agenda
    1. Approve Minutes of October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Meetings
    2. Approve Bills and Wages for October 2016 – Student Activities September and October
    3. Hire Coaches
    4. Hire Substitutes
    5. Hire Classified
  - B. Discuss Budget Projections for 2017-18
  - C. Establish a Negotiations Committee
  - D. Family Night Policy – 3341 – First Reading
  - E. Approve Kindergarten Readiness Program for Spring 2017
  - F. Approve Contract for Counseling Services
  - G. Trustee Resignation
  - H. Approve Out of District Students
  - I. Set Date for Christmas Luncheon
  - J. Establish Position on TEDD
6. Adjourn

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING IS DECEMBER 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 AT 6:00 PM**

## Superintendent's Agenda Report – Action Items

### 5. Items for Action

#### A. Consent Agenda

All of the items 1-5 can be approved with one motion and vote. Any trustee can pull an item from the consent agenda at any meeting if they want to discuss that item further. I recommend that we approve the consent agenda.

##### 1. Approve Minutes of October 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting

##### 2. Approve Bills and Wages for October 2016 – Student Activities September and October

We are approving two months worth of Student Activity transactions.

##### 3. Hire Coaches

I recommend the Board approve the attached list of Coaches and Sponsors. All hires are contingent on background checks.

##### 4. Hire Substitutes

I recommend the Board approve the attached list of Substitutes. All hires are contingent on background checks.

##### 5. Hire Classified

I recommend the Board approve the attached list of classified employees. All hires are contingent on background checks.

#### B. Discuss Budget Projections for 2017-18

Laurie and I will have preliminary budget projections to go over with you. We are projecting a shortfall of almost \$300,000 from this year's budget.

#### C. Establish a Negotiations Committee

We have pending negotiations with both the Teachers' Association and the Paras' Association this spring. I would like to take some proactive steps to work with union leadership to limit the disruptiveness of this process on the district as a whole. I'm asking that the board form a committee that can advise me as to how to take action.

#### D. Family Night Policy – 3341 – First Reading

I recommend that the board approve the first reading of this policy.

#### E. Approve Kindergarten Readiness Program for Spring 2017

I recommend that the board approve the Kindergarten Readiness program for this spring. Once approved, we will begin advertising the position and reaching out to parents of potential students.

#### F. Approve Contract for Counseling Services

We have the opportunity to add Drug and Alcohol Counseling to the services we offer our students. Similar to CSCT, Medicaid and private insurance will primarily fund this program with no monetary cost to the district. We provide an office space, phone, Internet and access to students. We have a significant need for this service at this time; many students are dealing with family or personal issues. Mrs. Morris will initially be available on a part time basis with the ability to add more time if needed. She will be based in the Middle School but will also be available to students in the elementary grades as well. I recommend that the board approve of this agreement.

#### G. Trustee Resignation

Trustee Gomez has submitted a letter of resignation as she is moving out of the area. I would ask that the board accept her resignation and declare the seat vacant. I will post the vacancy and we should be able to appoint a candidate to the board in December.

#### H. Approve Out of District Students

I recommend that the Board approve EK (1<sup>st</sup>), BK (6<sup>th</sup>) and KK (7<sup>th</sup>) to finish the current school year as non-resident students.

#### I. Set Date for Christmas Luncheon

Last year the date was December 11<sup>th</sup>, the corresponding date this year would be December 9<sup>th</sup> or we could move it to Friday the 16<sup>th</sup>, after the December board meeting.

#### J. Establish Position on TEDD

We have been discussing the possible Lockwood TEDD for over a year now. Lockwood Schools have not committed to support or oppose the economic development tool as of yet. I would like to continue to discuss where individual trustees stand on the subject. At this point, I do not have a strong recommendation but am leaning towards opposition. I see the positives and understand the negatives. I like that we will have say on the growth in this designated area and have become quite disenfranchised with the tax abatement tool. My biggest concern is the ability to extend the life of the TEDD beyond the 15 years by bonding, something that I believe will be necessary in this case. Asking us to forego any taxable value increases for 25 plus years is just too much.

**LOCKWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT #26**  
**YELLOWSTONE COUNTY, BILLINGS, MT**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

**Call To Order**

**November 8, 2016**

Chair Tim Sather called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 6:07 p.m. by leading those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following trustees and officers were present: Trustees Tim Sather, Joe Borgstrom, Susanne Vinton, Scott Kiekoover, Kat Luhman, Teresa Stroebe, Superintendent Tobin Novasio and District Clerk Laurie Noonkester. Trustee Michelle Gomez was absent from the meeting.

All guests are asked to sign in upon arrival.

Mr. Sather welcomed visitors and advised the following:

Any person present who wishes to address the board or raise any question about public school district matters or governing policies may do so under public participation. No discussion of personnel or individual students is permitted at this time. A limit of three minutes is placed on each speaker. Persons who want more time may make arrangements to be placed on a future agenda. Visitors wishing to record this meeting electronically may do so, providing the recording does not disrupt the orderly conduct of the meeting. As a courtesy, all cell phones should be turned off. The public is also reminded that they may provide input on all motions being considered by the board at this meeting.

**INDIVIDUALS, RECOGNITION, ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE**

Public Comment: None were submitted.

PTA Report: PTA Member Sue Robertson provided an update on the signage and brick layers. Maintenance issues were noted and the finishing touches still needing completion. Mrs. Robertson presented the school a check for \$3,000 for maintenance of the Lion's Lair. PTA President Whitney DiFronzo reported on the holiday giving program.

Relations Team: K-5 Teacher Greta Hendrickson provided a video presentation of the activities sponsored by the K-5 Relations Team.

Middle School Teacher Aaron Smith listed those members of the Middle School Relations Team and provided a list of activities they have and plan to host. Mr. Smith explained MS Team had given the staff a True Colors Personality Quiz during an event and provided the same quiz to the Trustees and audience to complete.

Correspondence: None

## **DISTRICT REPORTS**

- A. Facilities- Manager Marc Dearing had nothing further to add to his written report. He fielded questions from the Trustees.
- B. Technology- Coordinator Darlene Hess had nothing further to add to her written report but offered to answer questions.
- C. Elementary Principal's Report- K-5 Principal Mike Bowman had nothing further to add to his written report.
- D. Middle School Principal's Report- Middle School Principal Gordon Klasna had nothing further to add to his written report
- E. Superintendent- Superintendent Tobin Novasio reviewed points of his written report adding a conference call with McCracken regarding the K-12 expansion bill which will be labeled LC496 and will be carried by Duane Ankney. Mr. Novasio highlighted some of the issues discussed namely, division of assets and funding components that could be experienced during the planning and building phases of new high school district.  
Mr. Novasio also reported that he has not received a response from Yellowstone County Commissioner Jim Reno regarding his recent erroneous public comments on the taxes received by the school district.  
Mr. Novasio reviewed a slide show presentation he has prepared for the Educator for the Day 2016-17 that will be shown to those attending.  
Trustee Teresa Stroebe noted Superintendent Novasio was selected as MCEL Superintendent of the Year.

## **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

- A. SD2 Trustee Update- SD2 High School Trustee Gordon Klasna provided quick comments on recent happenings. Chairman Sather commented that the recent meeting with SD#2 was helpful.
- B. MCEL Review- Trustee Teresa Stroebe noted that unfortunately there are no longer K-8 representatives on the MTSBA board. Kat Luhman commented she feels that the MTSBA membership has shifted focus of the K-12 expansion issue to be more of a local control issue for those communities who are experiencing growth. Trustee Tim Sather commented on the interesting class he attended on grading processes. Mr. Klasna commented the class Mr. Novasio and Mrs. Gopp presented during MCEL was exceptionally done and was well attended.

## **ITEMS FOR ACTION**

Chairman Tim Sather asked the Agenda Item J be heard before Agenda Item B. There were no objections to this agenda adjustment.

A. Consent Agenda Items

1. Approval of the October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of October 2016 Bills and Wages- (Student Activities Sept. & Oct.)
3. Hire Coaches
4. Hire Substitutes
5. Hire Classified Staff

Chair Tim Sather asked if there were any objections to the consent agenda items as presented. Hearing none, the above agenda items were approved as presented.

(Agenda Item J was heard before Item B with Trustee Susanne Vinton exiting the meeting upon casting her vote on Item J.)

B. Discuss Budget Projections for 2017-18 (Item Heard after Agenda Item J)

Business Manager Laurie Noonkester provided preliminary budget projection shortfalls for the 2017-18 school year. Superintendent Novasio included levy history to the discussion.

Discussion was held.

No action was taken.

C. Establish a Negotiations Committee

Superintendent Novasio explained pending negotiations with both the Teacher's Union and Paraprofessional's Union would require a board committee be formed so groundwork could begin now.

Negotiations Research Committee members are Joe Borgstrom and Teresa Stroebe.

D. Family Night Policy – 3341 First Reading

Superintendent Novasio recommended the Trustees approve the policy for the first reading.

Trustee Joe Borgstrom moved to approve policy 3341 for the first reading. Teresa Stroebe seconded the motion.

Trustees Tim Sather, Kat Luhman, Scott Kiekoover, Joe Borgstrom, Teresa Stroebe and voted yes; the motion passed unanimously.

E. Approve Kindergarten Readiness Program for Spring of 2017.

Superintendent Novasio recommended the Trustees approve the program due to the proven and cost effective results. Should the Trustees approve the program hiring and enrollment process can begin immediately.

Trustee Scott Kiekover moved to approve the Kindergarten Readiness Program for Spring of 2017. Teresa Stroebe seconded the motion.

Trustees Tim Sather, Kat Luhman, Scott Kiekover, Joe Borgstrom and Teresa Stroebe voted yes; the motion passed unanimously.

F. Approve Contract for Counseling Services

Superintendent Novasio explained the district has been presented the opportunity to add Drug and Alcohol Counseling services for the students. Similar to CSCT, Medicaid and private insurance will primarily fund this program with no monetary cost to the district. The district will have to provide an office space, phone, internet and access to students. He further explained there is a significant need for this service at this time as many students are dealing with family or personal issues. Mrs. Morris will initially be available on a part time basis with the ability to add more time if needed. She will be based in the Middle School but will also be available to students in the elementary grades as well. Mr. Novasio recommended that the board approve of this agreement.

Sicily Morris explained her services and credentials/experience in counseling field. Ms. Morris fielded questions from the Trustees.

Discussion was held.

Trustee Teresa Stroebe moved to approve the Counseling Services Contract for the remainder of the school year. Joe Borgstrom seconded the motion.

Trustees Tim Sather, Kat Luhman, Scott Kiekover, Joe Borgstrom and Teresa Stroebe voted yes; the motion passed unanimously.

G. Trustee Resignation

Chairman Tim Sather noted that Trustee Michelle Gomez has submitted her letter of resignation and has moved from the district. Ms. Gomez's vacant seat can be filled by appointment in December.

Trustee Teresa Stroebe moved to accept Trustee Michelle Gomez's resignation. Joe Borgstrom seconded the motion.

Trustees Tim Sather, Kat Luhman, Scott Kiekover, Joe Borgstrom and Teresa Stroebe voted yes; the motion passed unanimously.

H. Approve Out of District Students

Superintendent Novasio recommended the Trustee approve students EK (1<sup>st</sup>), BK (6<sup>th</sup>) and KK (7<sup>th</sup>) to finish the current school year as non-resident students.

Trustee Joe Borgstrom moved to approve attendance to the students as listed for out of district attendance for the remainder of the school year. Kat Luhman seconded the motion.

Trustees Tim Sather, Kat Luhman, Scott Kiekover, Joe Borgstrom, and Teresa Stroebe voted yes; the motion passed unanimously.

I. Set Date for Christmas Luncheon

Superintendent Novasio noted last year the luncheon date was December 11<sup>th</sup> with the corresponding date this year of December 9<sup>th</sup>.

The date of December 9<sup>th</sup> was set for the Annual Christmas Luncheon.  
Trustees Teresa Stroebe and Kat Luhman volunteered for the Luncheon Committee.

J. Establish Position on TEDD (Item Heard after Agenda Item A)

Superintendent Novasio explained the Trustees have been discussing the possibility of a Lockwood TEDD for over a year now, and have not committed to support or oppose the economic development tool as of yet. He suggests continued discussion on where individual trustees stand on the subject should be held. Mr. Novasio continued, he personally does not have a strong recommendation but is leaning towards opposition due in most part to his concern of ability to extend the life of the TEDD beyond the 15 years by bonding projects. Extended project bonding is something he believes necessary to the success of the TEDD which would mean the school district would forego any taxable value increases for 25 plus years.

Discussion was held.

Big Sky Economic Development Executive Director Steve Arveschoug began by stating he and his team is at the meeting to answer questions and to provide information to the Trustees.

Audience Member Peter Freivalds asked if the TEDD area could be increased. Mr. Arveschoug responded yes; the law does allow for that but the Yellowstone County Commissioners would need to approve any expansion by holding public meetings.

Trustee Kat Luhman asked if other types of businesses who are not industry based such as restaurants and hotels could benefit from the TEDD. Mr. Arveschoug noted they could not. Ms. Luhman expressed her concerns that a community that would only entice industrial growth would seem very lopsided and not address growth needs for the community as a whole. Mr. Arveschoug explained the concept of value added industry and how tax distribution works within the TEDD.

Trustee Scott Kiekover noted his concerns over the lack of beautification plans along the highways and is apprehensive additional industrial properties will contribute to the blight along the interstate.

Audience member Woody Woods explained there is a growth policy in place for the TEDD and should address the appearance concerns of industrial blight as mentioned by Mr. Kiekover. Mr. Woods argued that without the growth policy within the TEDD he is certain industrial growth will happen but without infrastructure and growth policy guidelines.

Peter Freivalds continued his remarks by reading a prepared statement reminding the Trustees of their first responsibility; which is to ensure the school district is funded properly. Mr. Freivalds stated he believes the TEDD will prevent large retail stores and restaurants from coming in to the area which is sorely needed for a healthy and well rounded community. Mr. Freivalds is strongly opposed to the TEDD.

Trustee Susanne Vinton clarified the notion the school district would be giving up revenue should the TEDD be approved, simply because there is no revenue gained from the area now.

Chairman Tim Sather reviewed his list of pros and cons regarding the TEDD issue.

Trustees Tim Sather and Scott Kiekover both suggested take a stance on the issue either way is not in the scope of their duties as School Board Trustees.

Trustee Joe Borgstrom made a motion for the Board to formally not support the TEDD. Scott seconded the motion.

Further discussion was held.

Trustee Susanne Vinton thanked the TEDD team for their efforts to educate the trustees on a complicated matter.

Trustee Joe Borgstrom voted yes; Tim Sather, Kat Luhman, Scott Kiekover Susanne Vinton and Teresa Stroebe voted no; the motion failed with a 1 to 5 vote.

Trustee Susanne Vinton moved for the Board to decline response in regard to the TEDD. Kat seconded the motion.

Trustee Susanne Vinton amended her motion to send a letter to the Yellowstone County Commissioners declining to take any position on the TEDD. Kat Luhman seconded the motion.

Trustees Tim Sather, Kat Luhman, Scott Kiekover, Joe Borgstrom, and Susanne Vinton voted yes; Trustee Teresa Stroebe voted no; the motion passed with a 5 to 1 vote.



**ADJOURN**

The next Regular Meeting will be on Tuesday, December 13, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. in the Lockwood School District Board Room.

Trustee Teresa Stroebe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 p.m. Joe Borgstrom seconded the motion.

Trustees Tim Sather, Kat Luhman, Scott Kiekover, Joe Borgstrom and Teresa Stroebe voted yes; the motion passed unanimously.

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Tim Sather, Chairperson

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Laurie Noonkester, District Clerk