

BOE Meeting Highlights

Board of Education Meeting August 10, 2016

The Board of Education encourages the public to attend the meetings held on the second Wednesday of each month. There is an opportunity at the beginning of each meeting for input from the public. After that the Board conducts the School District's business, including the Superintendent's and Principals' Reports, position appointments, and issues to act upon.

Here are some highlights from the meeting held on August 10. The next meeting will be held Wednesday, September 14, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. in the Jeffers Media Center.

Public Participation

- Terri Komarzec, parent of JHS students, made a suggestion that the ½ marathon be changed to a 10K to get more participants since the ½ doesn't have a lot of participants.

Superintendent's Report-Tim Keteri

- Charley Heltunen, 3rd grade teacher at SRE, turned in a letter of resignation. He was a great teacher that was fun and motivating to students.
- To replace the position, they recommend Kellie Pitrone. She has 17 years experience of teaching 1st-4th grade. They have someone in mind for the part time art/technology teacher at SRE but are waiting to hear back.
- There are new evaluation tools for teachers.
- Negotiations with the teaching staff will be August 25th.
- At the upcoming election there are 5 people who put in for the 2 six year terms, Chad Snell, Bruce Heltunen, George Eakin, Jason Coffey, and John Asiala. For the four year term the only person is Eric Mattila.
- The Foundation is supporting the schools in many ways this year. They purchased Scholastic News for the elementary, a program called 'Handwriting without Tears' for 1st and Kindergarten, a writing program for Cheryl Ruohonen's classes, a math program for Jen Pera's classes, sponsoring the Jeffers 5K, and gave \$10,000 for JHS CTE students.
- Both SRE and JHS enrollment numbers are up. One thing to be aware of is this year's senior class is unusually large and will have a big drop when they graduate.
- The pool is on course to be filled and used this year.
- Lunch prices to be approved are 35 cents for milk, \$2 for elementary lunch, \$2.25 for high school, and \$3.25 for adults.
- Still waiting to hear back from the Post Office to make a decision about the building.

Principal's Report-Kim Harris, South Range Elementary

- Beginning of the year stuff has begun, such as working out bussing.
- Next Monday and Tuesday is packet pickup for parents.

- The AmeriCorps worker will be Kristi Heinonen. She has big shoes to fill, as Christina Gardner was absolutely phenomenal. Kristi will do a good job as she has been a long term sub and is familiar with the school and students.
- Fourth Grade orientation is August 29 at 6:30. The Kindergarten Experience day is August 30 at 6:30.
- The handbook to be approved doesn't have any policy changes.
- The enrollment is at 235.

Principal's and Athletic Report-Steve Lishinski, Jeffers High School

- Different teachers have been doing professional development this summer.
- Mr. Jon Kilpela thanked the Board and school for his time here. He is settled in in Finland.
- Ms. Raether, English teacher at JHS, would like the term paper requirement to have 3 different options. One is the normal 10 page research paper, two is a 5-7 page paper and a 5-7 minute presentation, and three is a 3-5 page paper and a 10 minute presentation.
- August 31st is 7th grades orientation, "Jump Into Jeffers". There is also the 9th grade orientation.
- Class schedule pick up is next Monday and Tuesday.
- The handbook has a few changes, such as course offerings.
- The athletic handbook has a few changes such as adding vaping to a substance use violation and changing penalties.
- New coaches are Sean Connors as Junior High Girls Basketball Coach and Softball volunteer Coach, Tony Hebert as JV Girls Basketball Coach, and Justin Scott as Hockey Coach.
- The first home Jeffers game is a Cross Country meet on August 30th.

The Board discussed action items.

Submitted by Valerie Dobson, South Range Elementary