

BOE Meeting Highlights

Board of Education Meeting September 10, 2014

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 September 10. The [next meeting](#) will be held Wednesday, October 8, 2014 at 6:30 P.M. in the Jeffers Media Center.

Public participation

- There were no public comments.

Superintendent's Report-Tim Keteri

- Gretchen Bergan, SRE Special Education teacher will now be retiring in September instead of taking a year leave of absence.
- Ken Kangas, JHS Social Studies teacher, is out for medical reasons. He was hoping to be able to teach a few classes but will be unable. Chuck Palosaari is doing some of his classes and David Hokenson is a part time sub for the others.
- Steve Aho, former SRE third grade teacher who has taken up a Special Education Director position at another district, was formally thanked for his years of service to the Adams District. He was instrumental in the "[Hei Suomi](#)" program, Camp Nesbit, and the children all loved him.
- Luckily the district was able to quickly find someone qualified to fill Mr. Aho's position of part time third grade and part time Special Education teacher, Joann Feeley. Principal Kim Harris and Special Ed Director Steve Lishinski say she is doing a great job and the kids really like her.
- The Sustainable Food Initiative is coming along great. It's a program to bring farm fresh food to students. Jeffers recently had their first lunch using all local, fresh food. The students even got to help with the process. It went over very well. There will be an upcoming community tasting that will show parents different ways to present vegetables, among other ideas. This program is being funded by an endowment from the [Keweenaw Foundation](#).
- The Trades Building project is coming along. The Foundation has over \$370,000 towards it. The district can work towards the students becoming CTE certified in trades, which is what is offered now. He suggests that an advisory council for the program is set up to determine the course it should go. They will set up a mission statement and objective and develop a curriculum following the state standards

but providing what the community wants and what would best serve the students in life after graduating.

Principal's Report-Mike Benda, Jeffers High School

- At their teacher inservice, the staff focused on inquiry based instruction which asks students essential questions. It's not about what you tell students, it's what you ask them.
- Another thing the staff is focusing on is posting the student learning outcome. Each lesson, the teacher will have what the student will learn during the lesson posted somewhere visible. It's shown this aids learning and helps people stay focused. This should also be posted to teacher websites so students and parents can access it.
- A group of students will be going to a job fair in October that includes representatives from industries including trades, painting, pipe fitters, and sheet metal.

Action Items

- Gretchen Bergan's 1 year absence was rescinded and her retirement accepted.
- Joann Feely was approved as the SRE third grade/Special Education teacher.

-Valerie Dobson, SRES