

BOE Meeting Highlights

Board of Education Meeting April 14, 2021

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.

Public Participation

- Sara Pennala, parent of JHS students that are currently learning virtually, isn't happy with the amount of contact her students get from the school, which is a weekly email.
- Russ Larson, parent of SRE and JHS students, asked for the policy for next year to be made public before next school year so parents can decide their plans for children. He doesn't like that teachers are addressing kids instead of parents about decisions, such as masks, that the parents are making for kids.
- Matt Randell, parent of SRE students, echoed Mr. Larson in wanting to know what will be expected next year including remote teachers, as his student who is in a class with a virtual teacher finds it difficult.

Superintendent's Report-Tim Keteri

- Next year they do not expect to have to lay off anyone, but will be able to shuffle around staff. Some of it hinges on the kindergarten numbers which will be more solid after kindergarten registration on Friday.
- The Foundation is excited about a donation for scholarships. They also upped the amount of scholarship money this year for the larger class.
- The district has funding this year with Covid money that is just a one-time funding that can only be used in certain areas. Some that are being funded include the ventilation system at SRE and technology updates.
- The MiOsha fine was resolved and reduced.
- The district has struggled like every other district with all of the challenges this year has brought, but he feels like there are many positives. The district has been mostly in session and reaching students. There are restrictions the district has to abide by and they are doing their best to serve the community. He acknowledged that the district isn't doing the best with virtual students because the district and teachers are not set up to teach virtually but in person. If restrictions continue as is, the district will have to do something different.

Principal's Report-Kim Harris, South Range Elementary

- Kindergarten round up is on Friday. There are 23 kids signed up already which is higher than normal. They always get more in the fall and she knows some parents are waiting to see what next year will look like.
- Mrs. Destrampe, social studies teacher, had some students that won awards in a writing contest.
- Reading month and the Book Fair went well. The library made over a \$2,000 profit for new books.
- Elementary basketball is ongoing. Thanks to Ms. Lehto for stepping up to coach both girls and the boys this year.
- She has a few teachers up for probationary and tenure status that she is happy to recommend.

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

- Mrs. Pera, science and math teacher, will be going to Chicago for a Teacher-Researcher retreat in July.
- Ms. Bertucci, English teacher, is doing a new book, The Book Thief, with her English 8 students. She would also like to do a can drive at the end of the month for the Costa Rica trip.
- Mrs. Raffaelli, music director, had students play in the virtual Solo & Ensemble. They did well.
- State and national testing is starting this week.
- He will be attending NMU Mock Interviews with upcoming education graduates.
- The 4th quarter has begun and graduation will be here before he knows it.
- He has several teachers he recommends for tenure and probationary status.
- For athletics, Jeffers will remain in Class C. Divisions are to be determined.
- Junior High volleyball is almost done.
- Elementary basketball is ongoing.
- Spring sports have begun practicing except for golf which will be soon. There won't be a softball team due to low numbers. April 30th is the first spring game with baseball.
- Testing for student athletes have started due to a Health Department order.

Action Items

- The Board discussed several action items.

Submitted by Valerie Dobson, South Range Elementary