



Payette River Regional Technical Academy

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BOARD MINUTES

September 12, 2017

3:30 P.M. – BOARD MEETING

PR²TA Room M-6

721 W 12th Street, Suite A

Emmett, ID 83617

Board of Trustees – Present:

Steven Thayn – Board Chair
Susan Jenkins – Vice Board Chair
Nancy Jo Ness – Secretary
David White – Board Director
Michelle DaveLaar – Board Director

Administration – Present:

Patrick Goff – Superintendent/Principal
Shelly Obermeyer – Vice Principal/CTE Director
Tirzah Adams – Business Manager
Francis Frisbee – Secretary/Receptionist

Guests

Jay Hummel – Administrator of Patriot Center/Assistant Superintendent E.S.D.
Matthew Brown – Executive Director of Gem Center

CALL TO ORDER at 3:36 p.m.:

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Agenda Adjustments – ***Chair Thayn asked for any adjustments to the Agenda.***
- Approval of Agenda – ***Vice Chair Jenkins moved, Director White seconded that we approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.***
- Approval of Minutes – The minutes from the August 8 meeting reviewed. ***Vice Chair Jenkins moved, Director White seconded that we approve the August 8 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.***
- Bills – Vice Principal Obermeyer asked for permission to email the list of bills to the Board for approval. With Tirzah starting two days before the meeting, they were not completely ready. Discussion followed: Vice Chair Jenkins reported that Treasurer Ted Zipf was recovering from surgery and would be home from rehabilitation on Thursday evening. She offered to take the checks to him for his signature on Friday. Discussion followed on how to get Board approval once Treasurer Zipf was able to review and sign them. Chair Thayn suggested a motion that Board approve them pending Treasurer Zipf's review and approval. Secretary Ness stated that she was uncomfortable approving bills without seeing a list. Others agreed. Vice Principal Obermeyer asked if the Board would approve the payment for building rent today. Chair Thayn asked Tirzah when she would have the list



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completed. Tirzah will have bills completed, checks printed and the list to Board Members on Friday. Chair Thayn suggested a phone meeting to approve them. Vice Chair Jenkins reported that she could set up a Level 3 conference call to accommodate a phone meeting if the Board was agreeable. ***Secretary Ness moved, Director DaveLaar seconded that the building rent check be approved today, Vice Chair Jenkins deliver the bills and checks to Treasurer Zipf for his approval and signature on Friday, the Board look over the list of bills and that a conference call be scheduled tentatively for the 20th for Board approval of the bills. Motion passed unanimously.***

ACTION ITEMS:

- No Action Items

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Guest Jay Hummel reported that there was a Pathways Committee meeting scheduled for next week. First priority is members from Middle Schools, High School, Black Canyon and PR2TA bring data from existing programs. What is the baseline for the present state of our schools? We build the vision together and implement it throughout the District. Jay believes that E.S.D. and P.R.2T.A.'s visions need to be closer together in order for this to work. That the vision to create an atmosphere beginning in Middle School and continuing through High School which propels students forward, gives strong encouragement to be completers and keeps them on a competitive schedule. Currently we allow them to regress (sophomore or junior taking freshman classes), should not allow that. Director White commented how vitally important Counseling is to any vision related to changing and improving programs for the students. He feels very strongly that counseling is key to the vision. Director Ness feels that the academic must mesh with the CTE. She asked if we had looked at standardized testing. Wondered how the PR2TA students are doing. Results of tests must be clearly documented which will help in making a case with both teachers and administrators. What kids are we trying to target specifically and why? Principal Goff stated that the current system is fractured. The goal should be to have students go on to be productive members of society rather than a drain. Stop treating CTE as an elective. View CTE as a viable choice in a career path. Director DaveLaar wondered how we lose the parental involvement at the High School level and how we can orchestrate keeping parents involved all the way through. Further discussion of this topic included several ideas including building the structure, the importance of the role of the counselor(s), all of the schools share the same vision in order for it to work effectively and suggestions for class structure as the student progresses through high school. The Pathway committee meeting will be on the 21st at 11:30. At this time, the committee is comprised of the Principals from each school.
- Chair Thayn requested a report next month as to how the Pathway Committee meeting goes, progress and plans.
- Discussion on implementation of a program at the Middle School level. The Middle School needs learning pods to access curriculum. There is access for funds to use specifically for Middle Schools through a Carl Perkins grant. Director Ness suggested



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forming a committee comprised of two people from PR2TA and two from Emmett School District. Develop the program, implement the program and measure it.

- Chair Thayn directed that an item on the October Agenda to include a discussion on hiring a counselor.

REPORTS:

- Admin Report/Pat Goff :
 - The Freshman Wheel going well. Between 27-30 freshmen this year.
 - The carts are set up for Ag, Auto and Culinary.
 - Director Ness asked status on server installation. S.I./P. Goff reported that it is moving along. Target date for completion is Thanksgiving. He would like to see it sooner but Thanksgiving is realistic. The data indicates support for 250 work-stations but most likely 235.
 - S.I./P. Goff showed an excerpt from Kevin Fleming's video presentation discussing the pathways to student success. He attended the summit and said the man was a phenomenal speaker and has a unique "out of the box" approach to education. PR2TA purchased his book "Redefining The Goal" for every teacher. Chair Thayn asked S.I./P. Goff to email each of the Board Members the presentation. How does Kevin Fleming view CT? S.I./P. Goff reported that his presentation is all about sparking the students interest, encouraging them to find their path and understanding that paths can be vastly different for each student. He feels that CT is critical to the overall success of the plan. His opinion is that CT and Academia need to marry in order for the plan to succeed. S.I./P. Goff suggests that there are ways to marry items that will better prepare students to succeed. Our goal is to create an atmosphere where the result of education nets us an individual that is a productive member of society rather than a drain. CTE should feed in to middle school thus getting students started earlier in choosing a path. What is the next step?
 - Vice Chair Jenkins asked S.I./P. Goff about Professional Development and Zoom. Making progress. Big screens and systems installed over the summer break. Use of Office 365, certified trainer comes with program free of charge. Vice Chair Jenkins would like to attend that training.
 - Need to plan for the growth of PR2TA.
 - S.I./P. Goff revisited PR2TA processing our own payroll and benefits package. He and Pauline Newman did some research on payroll and know 2M has payroll capabilities. One of the questions was why PR2TA checks still show ESD rather than PR2TA. Chair Thayn will check on that. S.I./P. Goff has Jennifer Petrie's agreement talk to PR2TA about Health Benefits and the possibility of managing it. Discussion of examples of conflict with PR2TA employees pay, benefits and other concerns that ESD does not address. These concerns are not of a technological nature but rather an unwillingness on the part of ESD administrative staff to cooperate with PR2TA staff. If PR2TA is going to manage benefits, insurance and process payroll, a formal letter must be drafted. The letter to ESD should explain our wish to make an amendment to the present contract and list the



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items we wish to manage in-house. It should state clearly that PR2TA does not wish to change the fee structure of the present contract and agrees to continue paying the contracted amount for services.

- ESD/Michelle Davelaar
 - A special board meeting was held August 31, 2017. We had quite a nice turnout from the community.
 - Discussed the chain of command for school districts.
 - At the top board of Trustees
 - Then, the board attorney and the superintendent
 - Discussed how the board should handle matters brought to them from the public
 - If the board were to get involved with a personnel matter and it skipped the prior steps, they would not be able to be impartial during a 33513 hearing to terminate an individual. The board is the jury so they can't be biased.
 - Discussed the public records law and that only items such as Name, Title and Salary can be released.
 - Discussed the process if the community wants to communicate with the board about the performance of the Superintendent. If it is in regards to the superintendent, many boards put together an independent committee or an investigator to gather information.
 - If a board member receives a concern regarding superintendent, you can call an executive session to let the individuals speak and you should contact the board's lawyer.
 - If someone brings it to you as an individual, take it to the board to decide if there needs to be an investigation.
 - Board accepted Michael Schroeder's resignation from all 3 his positions.
 - ISBA Convention: We will have 4 board members attending the ISBA convention Nov 8-10. Jody Harris, Michelle Davelaar, Lysie Vickery and Tim Fleming.
 - Elevator Project: The elevator is nearing completion at the middle school. This is very exciting.

This portion - ESD report - of the minutes copied verbatim from M.D. notes for the meeting

INFORMATION ITEMS

- October Meeting – Time change from 3:30 to 4:00pm
- October meeting will include a budget review from Consultant Jim Correia.
- All Board Members received in invite to attend Advisory Meeting on October 5th at 7:00am in PR2TA room M6.

ADJOURN at 6:26p.m.: Chair Thayn adjourned with no opposition.