

**HOONAH CITY SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

December 21, 2017

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Heidi Jewell, Dillon Styers, Jamie Erickson, and Robert Hutton. Grace Villarreal's absence was excused.

SUPERINTENDENT/PRINCIPAL: Ralph Watkins

OTHERS PRESENT: Kelli Deitering, Recording Secretary, Amy Stevenson, Business Manager, Sheryl Ross, Special Education, Jeremiah Byers, Head of Maintenance, Valerie Houston, Harold Houston, Veronica Dalton, Shawn McConnell, City Council Representative, Sally Dybdahl, Travis Lewis, John Vlaun, and Christina Carrick, .

CALL TO ORDER: Robert Hutton Called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

ROLL CALL: Four (4) Board Members were present at roll call, a quorum was established.

CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD:

AGENDA REVISIONS: Robert Hutton would like to add Executive Session before New Business to discuss request for early release from teaching contract, add Playground Update to Discussion Items, and postpone Board Assignments from Discussion Items until next meeting when Grace Villarreal has returned.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: M/S Heidi Jewell, Jamie Erickson moved to adopt the amended agenda. Accepted by unanimous consent, **MOTION CARRIED.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: M/S Heidi Jewel, Jamie Erickson moved to approve the minutes of Regular Board Meeting November 17, 2017. Accepted by unanimous consent, **MOTION CARRIED.**

BOARD CALENDAR: No discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (THREE MINUTE TIME LIMIT EACH):

- Harold Houston spoke bullying. He would like to know more about the steps to address this issue so that it can be stopped.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

- **Administrator Report – Ralph Watkins** reported verbally that some teachers, Christina, John, Rita, and Eli attended training in Hydaburg. Both John Vlaun and Christina Carrick spoke about what they learned there and how they can apply it to teaching our students. Ralph Watkins addressed Harold Houston's concern about bullying and ensured him that Hoonah City Schools had zero tolerance for bullying. Robert Hutton asked about much longer the lease that HIA has for the Erickson Building. The lease goes through December 2017 and then from there is a month to month contract until the end of their fiscal year, September 30, 2018.
- **Business Office Report – Amy Stevenson** gave a written attached report. She attended the ALSBO conference in Anchorage this December. She worked with Melody Douglas on the budget.
- **Maintenance Report – Jeremiah Byers** gave a written attached report. He added that there was a fire alarm inspection this week and the batteries were replaced.
- **SPED Report – Sheryl Ross** gave a written attached report.
- **Board Reports – Dillon Styers and Robert Hutton** have been forming a Superintendent Evaluation Questionnaire Form that is loosely based on AASB. It is not set in stone yet. Next fall, there should be a permanent evaluation form made. Ralph Watkins needs to complete his self-evaluation so the School Board can get together and decided on extension of his contract.

OLD BUSINESS:

1.0 Second and Final Reading of Indian Ed BP 6174.1 and E 61741

M/S Robert Hutton, Heidi Jewel move that we take from the table Indian Ed Board Policy 6174.1 and E 61741 for second and final reading. Accepted by unanimous consent, **MOTION CARRIED.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Executive Session began at 7:27pm and ended at 7:43pm.

NEW BUSINESS:

2.0 Request for Early Release from Teaching Contract

M/S Heidi Jewel, Jamie Erickson moved that the Board of Education give Melissa Thaalesen an early release from her Teaching Contract. Roll Call Vote: Jamie Erickson-Yes, Heidi Jewell-Yes, Dillon Styers-Yes, and Robert Hutton-Yes.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- **Upcoming Legislative Session- Travis Lewis** passed on some advice he has learned throughout his years talking at different Legislative Sessions the past 11 years. He mentioned a guide booklet about: Who is on What Committee: Education, House & Senate. Travis stated that every school district will be asking for money that week so it is good to stick out politely. He advised the School Board to have an agenda about what they wish to discuss with the senator and wear something professional (like a dress shirt, jacket, and tie). Make allies: many schools in southeast Alaska have the same issues as us. The Governor and senators like to hear good reports about how schools attempt to make things better for students. Travis said an example of this would be the conference our teachers just attended in Hydaburg. You may not get to talk with a Senator but maybe his secretary. Bring a token gift to be remembered. Heidi Jewel would like to see the entire school board go to the Legislative Session as a whole. She said that it is a waste of money to just send one board member. The Legislative Session will be February 10-13th this year.

- **Playground Update**-Jeremiah Byers read to the School Board the Playground Update he had written. After, he stated that he needs to know a budget especially for the groundwork and equipment. Sally Dybdahl stated that this is a six phase project. She and our community have been raising money for the playground for 3 ½ years. They have raised roughly over \$57,000. She has gotten the ball rolling but would like to bow out soon. It would be nice if parents, community members, school board members, and maybe even city council members could form a Playground Committee to make decisions about the next steps of the playground process. Jamie Erickson volunteered to be on this committee as a school board member. Other people interested in being on the Playground Committee are Harold Houston, Travis Lewis, and Ralph Watkins. Jamie Erickson wondered if playground funds might be something we can lobby for? Travis Lewis mentioned that might be tough with all the budget crisis within the State of Alaska.
- **Board Assignments**- Tabled until next meeting when Grace Villarreal returns home.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (THREE MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

- **Sally Dybdahl** thanked the school board and staff for getting the ball rolling for the playground fund for our beloved school.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:

- **Dillon Styers** thanked Travis Lewis for his presentation to the School Board about the upcoming Legislative Session.
- **Jamie Erickson** commented about the bullying issue that Harold Houston brought up earlier in the meeting. She is very sad that there is bullying happening. Jamie encourages all parents need to talk to their children at home. Parents need to be proactive at home. Teach you kids not to react with hate and to always be nice.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- **Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Revised**
- **Board Assignments**

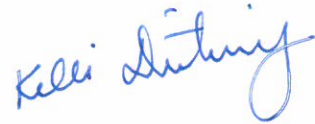
ADJOURNMENT:

Robert Hutton asked if there was any objection to adjournment. No objections. Meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Dillon Styers
Board Secretary



Kelli Deitering
School Board Secretary