

MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
FOR THE
VALLEY ALTERNATIVE LEARNING AND TRANSITIONING SCHOOL

A regular meeting of the Board of Education for the Valley Alternative Learning Transitioning School of Banner County (#1), Bayard (#21), Bridgeport (#63), Gering (#16), Kimball (#53), Minatare (#2), Mitchell (#31), Morrill (#11), and Scottsbluff (#32), was held at the ESU #13 Technology Center, Room E-189, 2620 College Park, Scottsbluff, Nebraska on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at noon. Notice of the meeting was given by publication of the time and place thereof in the Star Herald on February 28, 2020.

A. Call to Order

President, Brad Helgerson, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Present: Helgerson, Copsey (in place of Holiday), Lang, Winn, Peters, Pieper

Absent: Holliday, Gilliland

C. Acknowledge Open Meetings Law

The Open Meetings Law was acknowledged and published in the Star Herald on February 28, 2020.

D. Adopt Agenda

Peters made a motion, seconded by Winn, that the agenda be approved with the following change, that the bags used for the pup and cat pack program are plastic, not paper.

Helgerson-yes, Gilliland-absent, Copsey- yes, Holliday-absent, Peters-yes, Lang-yes, Winn-yes, Pieper-yes. Motion carried.

D. Excuse Absent Board Members:

Pieper made a motion, seconded by Lang to excuse absent board member Holliday (who was replaced by Copsey) and Gilliland.

Helgerson-yes, Gilliland-absent, Holliday-absent, Copsey- yes, Lang-yes, Winn-yes, Peters- yes, Pieper-yes. Motion carried.

E. Administrator's Report (George Schlothauer)

- Teacher Presentation/ Cynthia Brown

Mrs. Brown spoke about the mixed curriculum used for third quarter. She explained the Science Fair projects that students displayed. She said it was exciting for them to pick their project. One student did Iodine fingerprinting, using fuming guns and super glue. She was helped by the Scottsbluff PD with this project. Forensics did training with her. Her result was that the super glue worked better than the fuming gun to retrieve the fingerprints. Another student made a turbidity meter that curdled milk by using pineapple enzymes. It stayed in a dark room for four days and the last day took notes every two minutes. The outcome of this project was not noted. Mrs. Brown stated that she would like to do the projects again, but learned that the students needed more time and more preparation. She discussed her plans for the fourth quarter health class and

explained the class would be cooking and nutrition. Mr. Peters asked if the class would be hands on and she replied yes. She is planning to have the class prepare a full meal and plans to teach etiquette as well.

- Student Report: Teegan Moreno is the recipient of the WNCC scholarship for 2019-2020. Teggan told the board she plans to study Early Childhood Development at WNCC in the fall. She said she was very grateful for her teachers at VALTS. She thanked Mrs. Brown for helping her with her science project. Mr. Schlothauer commented that she has a wonderful support system at home. Mr. Peters told Teegan he was very proud of her and commended her and the VALTS staff. Teegan told the board she was very proud of her accomplishments this last year and that VALTS has made a very positive impact on her life. Mr. Schlothauer discussed how the scholarship last year, was accepted By Criztian Avalos, then he was awarded a sports scholarship by WNNCC and declined the scholarship through VALTS. Christian Cabral accepted the scholarship. Mr. Schlothauer explained that both men are doing great things at WNCC academically.
- Change in future VALTS numbers: VALTS South will be implemented and add 7 seats in Sidney this fall. It was stated that DL in Sidney has been a success. ESU Superintendent Andrew Dick told the board that plans are in place for a new facility and they will be adding a VALTS classroom this fall. The first semester will be held at the Sidney WNCC campus as the completion date is November 15, 2020. He explained that they would be hiring a para or staff to supervise students and Mr. Schlothauer and team would come up with a job description. It was discusses that face to face classes are best at building relationships and that online is second best. It was discussed that Creek Valley and Chadron may add seats in the future. Chadron has had very positive results with summer school. The seat numbers for VALTS were discussed with Scottsbluff dropping to five seats for the 2020-2021 school year and leaving next year. VALTS will increase to 50 seats as Gering has increased to 20 seats. Summer school was discussed at this time as well. In the past, English and Math have been offered. Science will be added this year. Summer school has been a success with the Title 1C students.
- Officer Massey: Officer Massey with the Gering Police Department K-9 unit visited and explained her duties. She brought the dog into the classroom. The students asked many questions. Mr. Schlothauer explained how this interaction was a positive experience building relationships our community.
- DOVES: Lisa Peden from the DOVES program visited and discussed dating violence. The students participated in a dating game with a male student as the bachelor and three female students as the bachelorettes. The students discussed healthy and unhealthy dating situations. The game was very interactive and initiated positive conversation.
- Other Activites: The students participated in the pup pack/cat pack program again this quarter. They also assisted in the lifelong learning program at WNCC. They helped seniors set up their cell phone. Many of the students and seniors became friends on social media.

F. Recommended Action on the Following Matters:

- **Approve the minutes from December 10, 2019.**
Lang made a motion, seconded by Pieper, to approve the December 10, 2019 board meeting minutes. Helgerson-yes, Gilliland-absent, Copsey- yes, Holliday-absent, Peters-yes Lang-yes, Winn-yes, Pieper-yes. Motion carried.

- **Approve 2nd Quarter Billing in the amount of \$77,658.00**

Winn made a motion, seconded by Pieper, to approve the 2019-2020 2nd quarter billing in the amount of \$77,658.00. Helgerson-yes, Gilliland-absent, Copsey- yes, Holliday-absent, Peters-yes, Lang-yes, Winn-yes, Pieper-yes. Motion carried.

- Approval to allow Mr. Schlothauer the opportunity to add additional seats and update the last Interlocal Agreement with the final draft being ratified at the June Board Meeting: Approval granted by the Board to allow the addition of 7 Sidney students, increase the number of Gering students to 20 and decrease the number of Scottsbluff students to 5.

Peters made a motion, seconded by Lang, to add the proposed seats and make changes to the Interlocal Agreement. Helgerson-yes, Gilliland-absent, Copsey- yes, Holliday-absent, Peters-yes Lang-yes, Winn-yes, Pieper-yes. Motion carried.

G. Board Comments: No additional comments.

H. Suggested Meeting Dates:

1. Sep 8, 2020
2. Dec 8, 2020
3. Mar 9, 2020

I. Meeting adjourned at 12:49.