

PAPILLION LA VISTA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #27
Board of Education Proceedings
July 27, 2020

The Board of Education of the School District of Papillion La Vista, in the County of Sarpy, in the State of Nebraska, met in open and public session at 6:00 p.m., Monday, July 27, 2020. The meeting was held at the Papillion La Vista Community Schools Administration Office, 420 South Washington Street, Papillion, Nebraska.

Notice of the meeting was provided in advance by publication in the *Papillion Times*, July 22, 2020. Notice of the meeting was simultaneously given to all members of the Board of Education. Their acknowledgment of receipt of the agenda is maintained at the Papillion La Vista Community Schools Administration Office. The proceedings, hereafter shown, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Call to Order

Board Vice President Brian Lodes called the meeting to order and publicly stated a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Law is posted at the entrance to the Board Room. Mr. Lodes led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken. Board members present were Mr. Chuck Zurcher, Ms. SuAnn Witt, Dr. Fred Tafoya, Ms. Valerie Fisher, and Mr. Brian Lodes. There were no comments from the Board or audience.

A motion was made by Mr. Zurcher and seconded by Dr. Tafoya to approve the absence of Mr. Bret Brasfield from the July 27, 2020, board meeting. There were no comments from the Board or audience. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Fisher, Lodes, Zurcher, Witt, and Tafoya Nays: None. Motioned carried.

Communication

Ms. Sarah Childs, parent in the District, addressed the Board on Board meeting decorum. Ms. Childs expressed her concern at the previous board meeting and the comments made from one of the Board members. It was her opinion that community members who address board members do not have to follow Roberts Rules and can comment anyway they want.

Recognition

Dr. Rikli recognized Molly Schnable, as the Nebraska Social Worker of the Year. Ms. Schnable is a social worker at PLHS and was chosen by the School Social Work Association of Nebraska.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Rikli provided a report of highlights and activities he has attended this past month. Dr. Rikli addressed the Board and the public with a general plan that will be shared with parents for the August 11 fall reopening of our schools. A community engagement Facebook Live event will take place on July 28 at 6:00 as a question and answer event to talk about the reopening plan for our schools.

Dr. Rikli shared with the Board the Cultural Competency group that met for the first time chaired by Dr. Kati Settles. The group of 30 discussed the District's diversity and inclusion initiative action plans.

Our 2020 Seniors will have a "face to face" Graduation on August 2 at Baxter Arena. PLHS will commence at 1:00pm and PLSHS will commence at 5:00pm.

The Papillion La Vista Schools Foundation will host its annual golf tournament on Monday, August 3 at Eagle Hills Golf Course.

Board Comments

Ms. Fisher complimented the Administration and staff for their hard work in putting together the plan for students to return to school.

Mr. Lodes commented on the construction that is going on within the District at several of our schools. He is pleased with the progress that has been made for the bond projects that were scheduled for construction.

Committee Reports

- Building & Grounds & Finance: Mr. Zurcher reported the committee had met. Agenda items to be discussed during the meeting.
- HR & Student Services Committee: Ms. Fisher reported the committee had not met.
- Curriculum and Instruction Committee: Ms. Fisher reported the committee had not met.

Action Items

A motion was made by Ms. Witt and seconded by Mr. Zurcher to approve the Action by Consent Items: The meeting agenda, finance, out of state travel and personnel items as presented. There were no comments from the Board or audience. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Tafoya, Fisher, Lodes, Zurcher, and Witt. Nays: None. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Ms. Fisher and seconded by Ms. Witt to approve the Board meeting minutes, Parental Involvement, and Wellness Hearing Minutes of July 13, 2020. There were no comments from the Board or audience. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Zurcher, Witt, Tafoya, Fisher, and Lodes. Nays: None. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Ms. Fisher and seconded by Mr. Zurcher to authorize the Superintendent and/or his designees to implement and carry out the provisions of the 2020-21 School Opening Plans and Protocols and make any necessary changes with timely and reasonable Board communication. The plan shall be implemented in accordance with the following: 1. District Policies and Procedures; 2. State and Sarpy County reopening executive orders; and 3. Governor directed health measures.

Board comments:

Ms. Fisher commented on her appreciation of the time and effort that has gone into the making of the new plan to reopen the schools. She expressed that there will most likely be some revisions and changes along the way depending on what happens with the COVID. Ms. Witt congratulated the team as well. She also expressed she felt the remote plan was a good plan to provide students to get back to school. Mr. Zurcher, Dr. Tafoya, and Mr. Lodes all commented on the well-constructed plan for the District to provide an option for students to also attend remotely.

Comments made from the audience:

Ms. Sarah Wilson, parent from the District, commented she felt the District's remote option plan was a good plan. Ms. Wilson also thanked the Board and staff for their hard work with the back to school decisions that have been made. Ms. Wilson commented that she had collected 1250 parent signatures asking the District to provide a remote learning option. She also is appreciative of the decision to wear masks during school.

Mr. Dave Herbener, President of PLEA (Papillion La Vista Education Association), addressed the Board with a news release. The release broke down the specific steps and meetings that have taken place with the District to provide a safe return for staff members at 100%. Mr. Herbener read the news release to the Board. Some of the points from the release stated that since the meeting the pandemic across the

State of Nebraska has worsened. The Centers for Disease Control and the University of Nebraska Medical Center said the safest protocols for reopening schools which include a mask requirement for all in attendance and social distancing of six feet. Based on these guidelines PLEA believes the conditions in our schools and communities do not make it safe for a 100% capacity reopening. PLEA is asking that the schools open at 50% capacity.

Dr. John Lowe, UNMC Assistant Vice Chancellor for Interprofessional Health Security Training and Education, was asked to address the Board by our teacher's association. Dr. Lowe gave a recount of the safety measures that need to take place in order for our District to safely open. He expressed that the District doesn't have the threshold set in place for a 100% return of all students to the schools.

Mr. Robert Childs, parent in the District, stated his concerns with the back to school plan that was presented. Mr. Childs expressed he felt the District was following and not leading in decision making with regards to hybrid learning both remotely and in the classrooms. Mr. Childs quoted the District's policy #8110-Purpose and Role of the Board and the direction the District is moving currently with the plan.

Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Witt, Tafoya, Fisher, Lodes, and Zurcher. Nays: None. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Ms. Fisher and seconded by Mr. Zurcher to approve a two-year Paraprofessional contract which would include increased wages of \$.32 per hour for 2020-21 and an additional \$.32 for 2021-22. Ms. Fisher expressed her thanks to the Admin for their work on the contracts related to both the Paras and Clerical. There were no comments from the audience. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Tafoya, Fisher, Lodes, Zurcher, and Witt. Nays: None. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Dr. Tafoya and seconded by Mr. Zurcher to approve a two-year contract for clerical staff which would include an increase in wages of \$.50 for 2020-21 and an additional \$.50 for 2021-22. There were no comments from the Board or audience. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Fisher, Lodes, Zurcher, Witt, and Tafoya. Nays: None. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Ms. Witt and seconded by Dr. Tafoya to adopt the Nebraska State Social Studies academic content standards. There were no comments from the Board or audience. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Lodes, Zurcher, Witt, Tafoya, and Fisher. Nays: None. The motion carried.

Discussion/Information Items

Dr. Kati Settles, Asst Superintendent of Human Resources, provided action steps on the District's Diversity & Inclusion plan. Papillion La Vista Community Schools - *We believe in an inclusive environment that honors diversity, equity, and access.* Dr. Settles shared the District has put together a focus group with board members and staff. Staff recommended that the District develop an equity audit to assess diversity, equity, and inclusion within the District. The focus group also suggested that the Superintendent utilize Advisory groups to deepen the work that has started. The District's new Strategic Plan has included several specific belief statements regarding diversity and inclusion. Human Resources has also taken some action steps to enhance recruiting, hiring, and onboarding practices in addition to emphasizing the importance and impact of positive professional relationships. Curriculum & Instruction's goal will establish a rigorous core curriculum that honors diversity, maximizes innovative instruction, provides levels of individualized supports, and results in demonstrated growth and achievement. Lastly, it was suggested that we explore the possibility of a dedicated District-level leadership position focused on Diversity, Inclusivity, and Social Justice.

Dr. Rikli presented in the absence of Mr. Doug Lewis the audit renewal discussion item. The District's current contract for auditing services is up for renewal. A proposal from our current auditors, O'Donnell, Ficenec, Wills and Ferdig, LLP has been received. The proposal is an extension of three years to the current contract for the audit of funds, single audit act, annual financial report and worker's compensation payroll audit. Mr. Lodes asked the question, how often do we open the bids up for new contracts? Dr. Rikli will ask the question to Mr. Lewis and report back. Action will take place at the August 10 regular meeting of the Board.

Board Vice President Lodes reviewed the future board calendar.
Board Vice President Lodes adjourned the meeting at 7:45p.m.

SuAnn Witt, Secretary
Papillion La Vista Community School District
Board of Education