



EAST OTERO SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1
301 RATON AVENUE
LA JUNTA, COLORADO 81050

BOARD WRAP-UP

Board of Education Meeting
November 13, 2023

1. **ROLL CALL** – Ayala, Backes, Bickel, Derbigny and Leyba.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – **AGENDA APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
 2. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. **Personnel Approval**
 - Rachel Ford - New Hire as High School Girls Assistant Basketball Coach for the 2023-2024 season
 - Michelle Goodrich - Resignation as Student Advocate at the Primary School effective November 10, 2023
 - B. **Additional Substitute Teachers**
 - Joseph Brandon Mills
 - Turza Miller
 6. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - D. **Oath of Office Postponed until Next Month**
 - E. **Organizational Meeting Postponed until Next Month**
4. **CONSENT AGENDA** - **APPROVED CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED**
 - A. **Personnel Approval**
 - Patrick Myers - New Hire as High School Assistant Wrestling Coach for the 2023-2024 season
 - Lauren Proctor - New Hires as Girls Assistant Swimming/Diving Coach for the 2023-2024 season
 - Rachel Ford - New Hire as High School Girls Assistant Basketball Coach for the 2023-2024 season
 - Michelle Goodrich – Resignation as Student Advocate at the Primary School effective November 10, 2023
 - B. **Approve Additional Substitute Teachers for the 2023-2024 School Year**
5. **MINUTES** – Minutes of the Regular Meeting on September 25, 2023 **APPROVED AS PRINTED**
6. **PRESENTATIONS**

Primary School:

Julie Miller, La Junta Primary School Principal, shared some celebrations and testing data with the Board. One of the main areas of focus listed on the Primary School Unified Improvement Plan (UIP) is academic achievement. Mrs. Miller said math has been added as a focus as well. She shared there were 14 students who exited from a READ plan at the end of last year, which left 72 students on READ plans. She said that data is looking lower this year so success is being seen. Kindergarten transitioned to Dibels Next which was upgraded to Dibels 8. She said similar skills are being assessed with a few additions.

Mrs. Miller shared the beginning of year data:

Dibels 8:

 - Kindergarten - 23% at or above benchmark
 - 1st Grade – 68% at or above benchmark
 - 2nd Grade – 50% at or above benchmark

Mrs. Miller said staff is looking into why the percentage of students at or above benchmark dropped from 1st to 2nd grade.

NWEA Reading:

Kindergarten – 63% at or above grade level
1st Grade – 57% at or above grade level
2nd Grade – 45% at or above grade level

NWEA Math:

Kindergarten – 59% at or above grade level
1st Grade – 52% at or above grade level
2nd Grade – 36% at or above grade level

Mrs. Miller said she is looking at using COMTSS (Colorado Multi-Tiered System of Supports) grant funds for math improvement. She stated the NWEA assessment is a good predictor of the CMAS assessment and shows areas that need to be focused on. She said fidelity of instruction and data analysis are being looked at. Mrs. Miller said teachers engage with the reading specialist every month to review data and she shared all the good things are happening with reading. Mrs. Miller said strategic planning for math is being looked at. Social/emotional learning is also a focus. Mrs. Miller said outside counseling services are being utilized and provided by Willow Tree Counseling. She shared two counselors from Willow Tree come to the building once and twice per week.

Mrs. Miller said parent/teacher conferences went really well with eight teachers having 100% family attendance. PTO had a table where they sold Good Job Notes that parents purchased and gave to their children and made \$106.

The Primary School holds monthly assemblies. Mrs. Miller invited the Board members to attend and shared the assemblies are held on the first Thursday of each month beginning at 8:00 a.m. She said parents whose children are being recognized are invited to attend. Mrs. Miller said this is a highlight for students and staff. Students are recognized for exhibiting the character trait of the month from the Capturing Kids Hearts (CKH) program. Mrs. Miller thanked the Board for their support of the CKH program. The Common Vision and Consistency committee created a TIGER award that is presented to students at the assemblies who show Teamwork, Integrity, Growth Mindset, Enthusiasm and Respect. Mrs. Miller said CKH has been really successful and a CKH strategist recently paid a visit. The strategist completed a walkthrough of the building looking for CKH implementation of practices. She was impressed with the level of practices being implemented and plans to nominate the Primary School as a national showcase school. Last year the Primary received the CKH Rising Star Award. Mrs. Miller said this shows how hard the teachers are working on implementing and the impacts to the building culture.

Mrs. Miller took a moment to thank outgoing Board members, Kidron Backes and Kristin Bickel.

Director Leyba congratulated Mrs. Miller on the parent/teacher conferences attendance.

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Superintendent Lovato informed the Board the new scoreboard at Tiger Stadium was delivered today and will be installed this week.

The transportation department has worked hard to get all kids who were on waiting lists onto a bus. However, there continues to be weekly changes.

Regarding the school improvement process, Superintendent Lovato said he, the administrators and Dr. Sam Schneider with the Colorado Department of Education have met with two improvement groups and are looking at the EASI grant process. He said the grant is due on December 6, 2023.

Water bottle fillers continue to be installed across the district. Superintendent Lovato said maintenance is waiting on the FRP wall paneling in order to begin repairs to the Tiger Trades Academy (TTA) gymnasium.

Ground has been cleared for the handicap swing at the Intermediate School. A concrete retaining wall has to be poured and is in the process of being scheduled.

Superintendent Lovato said in two of the north classrooms at TTA the flooring has been replaced. The floor was damaged due to water leaks this summer. A few of the TTA students helped with the project and are gaining work experience. Superintendent Lovato thanked Mr. Klob for allowing the students to help.

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Director Leyba asked if there is audio included with the new scoreboard. Superintendent Lovato said yes and he is hoping to repurpose the existing sound system in the stadium press box to TTA's gymnasium.

Director Ayala inquired about completion timelines for the scoreboard and swing. Superintendent Lovato said this Friday for the scoreboard and for the swing as soon as possible. He said the old scoreboard will be removed, however, the posts will remain.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Certify Total FTE for October Count at 1318.5 for 2023-2024 (Lovato) **CERTIFIED AS PRESENTED**
- b. Approve Out-of-State Girls and Boys Basketball Trip Request (Lovato) **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**
- c. Recognition of Kidron Backes and Kristin Bickel, Board Members

9. BOARD COMMENTS

- ✓ Superintendent Lovato announced the band took place at the state competition. Lexi McClure and Jackie Becerra took 1st place in Duo Interpretation at the Cheyenne Mountain meet. The Fall Festival went well and was well attended. Director Ayala inquired about the outcome of National FFA and Superintendent Lovato said he didn't have information on that at this time.
- ✓ Director Ayala thanked Directors Backes and Bickel for their service.

10. ADJOURNMENT – MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:04 p.m.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

DEE LEYBA, President **ANGELA AYALA, Vice President**
DARLENE DERBIGNY, Secretary/Treasurer **KIDRON BACKES, Director**
KRISTIN BICKEL, Director