

TWIN RIDGES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

16661 Old Mill Rd., Nevada City, California

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR BOARD MEETING Tuesday, March 10, 2020 4:00 PM

MINUTES

Approved April 14, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mindi Morton, Board President, called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

Mindi Morton	President	Present
Rachel Kozloski	Clerk	Present
Malik Goodman	Member	Present
Hilary Hulteen	Member	Absent
Lorien Whitestone	Member	Present

Four board members present, quorum established.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT AND COMMUNICATION

Grizzly Hill School parent, Jessica Gray, addressed the board to express concern about “rumors” she’s hearing in the community and, if true, the potential impact it could have for her child. Mindi Morton acknowledged her concern.

4. APPROVE THE MARCH 10, 2020 AGENDA

Action:

Lorien Whitestone moved to approve the March 10, 2020 agenda as presented, Rachel Kozloski seconded, motion approved by unanimous vote. (4/0/0/1)

Vote:

Aye	Mindi Morton
Aye	Rachel Kozloski
Aye	Lorien Whitestone
Aye	Malik Goodman
Absent	Hillary Hulteen

5. TEACHERS REPORT

Sabrina Szymanski, first grade teacher, shared samples of her students work and informed the Board of upcoming field trips and units of study which will incorporate reading and writing skills.

Alayna Grapel, 6/7/8th grade science teacher, shared that her students are engaged in Ted Talk Tuesdays. The selected talks have provided opportunities for positive discussion, self-reflection, and understanding of interrelated subjects.

Through a special project funding source, Ms. Grapel purchased *yoga ball chairs*, *wobble discs*, *kick bands* and learning materials addressing subjects pertinent to students in this age group; depression, anxiety, and suicide. Due to the sensitive nature of these items, permission slips will be required prior to student participation.

The 8th grade students are working with the kindergarteners every Friday. Her students have “really stepped up” in this capacity, equally benefitting both groups.

Ms. Grapel thanked the board for the opportunity to participate in a wilderness first-aid training program.

a. Washington School Enrollment

Washington School has one new student.

Grade	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
Students					2	1	2	1		6

b. Grizzly Hill School Enrollment

Grizzly Hill School has two new students.

Grade	TK/K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
Students	8	9	14	5	8	13	9	7	9	82

6. INVESTMENT REPORT UPDATE: OWENS ESTATE & STRATEGY GROUP

Peter Ketchand, with Owens Estate & Wealth Strategy Group, reviewed the District’s investment policy statement and recommended we split the existing money market account (20% investment) into two separate accounts (10% each). He believes this is a generally safer investment strategy. All four members polled were in agreement to move forward with Peter’s recommendation and signed documents authorizing the split the money market account into two individual money market accounts as recommended.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Action:

Rachel Kozloski moved to approve the consent agenda (Items: 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4) as presented, Malik Goodman seconded, motion approved by unanimous vote (4/0/0/1).

Vote:

Aye Mindi Morton
 Aye Rachel Kozloski
 Aye Lorien Whitestone
 Aye Malik Goodman
 Absent Hillary Hulteen

7.1 APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 11, 2020 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

7.2 APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 29, 2020 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

7.3 ACCEPT LETTER FROM NCSOS ON 2019-2020 1ST INTERIM PERIOD AND BUDGET REPORT

7.4 WARRANTS APPROVAL

8. FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER - Diana Pasquini

The Family Resource Center (FRC) *Upcoming Events* calendar has been impacted due to concerns around the COVID-19 virus. The monks visiting from Gaden Shartse Monastery and the Board Retreat on March 25th have both been canceled. At this point, the Earth Day Celebration is tentative. The raffle will continue as planned.

Good Sun, a non-profit solar organization in Grass Valley, whose primary focus is schools, has suggested Oak Tree School as a potential solar site. Sunshine Bender will follow up for additional details.

The FRC is a valuable community resource, yet, due to the new Schools Insurance Group (SIG) requirements, they've had to turn away three community members who requested to use the site for personal events. Mindi Morton will follow up with Scott Lay to see if there's anything we can do to accommodate these types of requests.

9. FACILITIES UPDATE REPORT – Melissa Madigan

An emergency sewer issue at Grizzly Hill halted toilet flushing, running water, and kitchen operations. Upon inspection from a plumbing/rooter service, it was determined the job would require a septic system specialist. Due to a public health concern if left unaddressed, Navo & Sons was brought in to pump and scope the lines. Their findings revealed the old pipes are corroded and collapsing and will continue to be a problem until the issue is corrected.

In an effort to identify and budget for upcoming long/short-term maintenance needs at Grizzly Hill School, we are in the process of contacting commercial inspectors to get estimates for an all-facilities inspection.

In anticipation of future planned power outages, we are exploring options for a generator system to provide the Grizzly Hill School/TRESA with uninterrupted telecommunication and other vital services in an effort to reduce loss of instructional days. The first step in this process requires a *design plan for bid* before an electrical contractor can spec/quote the job. Electrical engineer, Meg Hobbs, is scheduled for a site visit to get the process started.

The California Conservation Corps had a crew on site to clean up brush piles at Grizzly Hill and at Oak Tree campuses. Nevada County is scheduled to inspect their completed work.

Large brush/burn piles on the property adjacent to the Grizzly Hill campus prompted

communication with the fire chief at Nevada County Consolidated. He advised us to file a complaint online, at the MyNevadaCounty website, they will follow-up with the land owner. If it is deemed a public safety issue the County will proceed with resolving the matter.

Lorien Whitestone inquired about community use/rental of the commercial kitchen at the Oak Tree School/FRC facility. Melissa Madigan recommended we have a thorough inspection of the facility before considering requests of this nature.

10. BOARD REPORTS – Mindi Morton

Mindi suggested the Board host a mixer with the PTC to discuss ways they can best work together in the upcoming year.

11. TECHNOLOGY WIRING UPDATE – Sunshine Bender

Grizzly Hill Campus: Phase I provided noticeable improvement in our ability to effectively utilize technology. Phase II is scheduled to begin over Spring Break.

Washington Campus: Minimal improvements are needed to bring their system up to par.

12. BOARD POLICIES (1,000'S) FIRST READ – Melissa Madigan

Board members were provided with Board Policies 1000 series (*cf. CSBA Board Policies and Regulations*), addressing communication with the public, to review in preparation for discussion and approval at the next scheduled board meeting.

13. J-13 WAIVER FOR 2018-2019 – Melissa Madigan

Upon recommendation of the auditor, TRES D should, in spite of the late date, submit a J-13 Waiver with the California Department of Education (CDE). The board unanimously agreed to the submission of a J-13 Waiver for 2018/2019 to CDE.

14. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Melissa Madigan

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic TRES D is participating in ongoing meetings with NCSOS in order to stay updated and informed. The latest meeting provided protocol for school closure in the event of a confirmed positive COVID-19 diagnosis. Next Steps:

- Upon confirmation of a positive COVID-19 diagnosis of any person at the school site, contact Nevada County Health Department. They will advise regarding school closure.
- Evaluate all field trips scheduled through the end of this school year. It is strongly encouraged to NOT send students on any field trips.
- Use 211 Nevada County as your COVID-19 resource.
- All persons should stay home until fever-free.
- In the event that schools are closed, we must still provide breakfast and lunch to all students.
- Effective immediately, we will log temperatures of all students who come to the office with cold/flu symptoms. We are purchasing two (2) new, high quality thermometers.

- Sports team events will be canceled.

North Point Academy enrolled their first student at the Grizzly Hill satellite campus site.

Twin Ridges is the joint recipient of a four million dollar, four year, mental health grant. Grant funds will be used for mental health training and education.

15. LCAP UPDATE – Melissa Madigan

Nothing to report. LCAP will be discussed at the upcoming Board Retreat.

16. (Item 16 erroneously omitted from the agenda.)

17. SAFETY PLAN APPROVAL CONTINGENT ON UPDATING SAFETY ROUTES – Melissa Madigan

Melissa asked the Board to review the Safety Plan for discussion and approval at the next board meeting. The information in this plan is the same as the last one. This draft requires mapping and consult with local fire and law enforcement agencies before it can be finalized.

18. APPROVAL OF CDE CONSOLIDATED APPLICATION AND REPORTING FOR FEDERAL PROGRAMS – Deb Messervey

Action:

Rachel Kozloski moved to approve the report as presented, Malik Goodman seconded, motion approved by unanimous vote (4/0/0/1).

Vote:

Aye	Mindi Morton
Aye	Rachel Kozloski
Aye	Lorien Whitestone
Aye	Malik Goodman
Absent	Hillary Hulteen

19. AUDIT FINDINGS REPORT – Melissa Madigan

The report provides a narrative about how we're overcoming previous years findings. The actual audit is held up until we provide proof that we are, in fact, a District.

20. APPROVAL OF 2020-2021 AUDITOR SELECTION

Michelle M. Hanson, Certified Public Accountant, submitted a letter summarizing accounting standards and audit objectives, responsibilities, and procedures specific to audit services for Twin Ridges Elementary School District.

Action:	Vote:	
Rachel Kozloski moved to approve the selection of Michelle M. Hanson, CPA as independent auditor for TRESD 2020/2021, Malik Goodman seconded. Motion approved by unanimous vote (4/0/0/1).	Aye	Mindi Morton
	Aye	Rachel Kozloski
	Aye	Lorien Whitestone
	Aye	Malik Goodman
	Absent	Hillary Hulteen

21. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION # 20-09: CERTIFICATION OF 2019-20 SECOND INTERIM BUDGET REPORT AND REVISED APPROPRIATIONS – Deb Messervey

Deb reviewed the summary and report indicating that STRS/PERS is increasing, the numbers indicate we are solvent for the next two fiscal years. Board member, Malik Goodman, expressed concerns regarding the Board’s ability to make fully informed vote approving such a lengthy, detailed budget report in the short period of time they have to review the document(s).

Action:	Vote:	
Lorien Whitestone moved to approve Resolution #20-09: Certification of 2019-20 Second Interim Budget Report and Revised Appropriations as presented, Rachel Kozloski seconded. Motion passed by the following vote 3/0/1/1/.	Aye	Mindi Morton
	Aye	Rachel Kozloski
	Aye	Lorien Whitestone
	Abstain	Malik Goodman
	Absent	Hillary Hulteen

22. VAN PURCHASE FOR FIELD TRIPS – Melissa Madigan

Mindi Morton stated that the Board had previously approved the purchase of two (2) vans and directed Melissa to move forward with a van purchase.

RECESSED: 6:46 PM
RECONVENED: 7:20 PM

23. WASHINGTON – Melissa Madigan

Twin Ridges Elementary School District (TRESD) made a commitment to keeping Washington School open through last year (2018/2019). In an attempt to balance the budget we must consider the reality that it costs the District \$38k per student, per year to remain open in its current capacity. Rachel Kozloski recapped the details leading to that previous commitment and concluded that it comes down to meeting the numbers. If fewer than seven (7) students are enrolled, we will send out notification indicating the minimum enrollment requirement is not being met and without growth the campus is facing closure. As of right now the numbers are borderline.

After a period of discussion, Melissa asked the Board to consider this issue with clarity and focus on the budget so that we can revisit at a later date.

Rachel Kozloski asked if the board retreat could be rescheduled as she would very much like to attend. It was agreed and rescheduled to Thursday, April 2, 2020 @ 9:30 AM at Oak Tree School

24. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING ON INCREASING SCHOOL FACILITIES FEES AS AUTHORIZED BY GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 65995 (b) 3

Public hearing opened at 7:15 PM.

Diana Pasquini shared, as a member of the public that an increase in fees would be unaffordable for her. Discussion followed.

24.b CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING ON INCREASING SCHOOL FACILITIES FEES AS AUTHORIZED BY GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 65995 (b) 3

Public hearing closed at 7:20 PM

24.c ADJOURN BACK FROM CLOSED SESSION

This item is in error on the agenda. No closed session at this time.

24.d APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION #20-10: INCREASING SCHOOL FACILITIES FEES AS AUTHORIZED BY GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 65995 (b) 3

Action:	Vote:	
Rachel Kozloski moved to approve Resolution #20-10 to increase school facility fees to match state standards, Lorien Whitestone seconded.	Aye	Mindi Morton
Motion approved by roll call vote: (4/0/0/1)	Aye	Rachel Kozloski
	Aye	Lorien Whitestone
	Aye	Malik Goodman
	Absent	Hillary Hulteen

25. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

No public comment.

25.b ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Board President, Mindi Morton, convened to close session at 7:29 PM

25.c. CLOSED SESSION PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/ RELEASE Government Code 54957 Title: Certificated & Classified

25.d RECONVENE FROM CLOSED SESSION

Regular session reconvened at 8:25 PM.

25.e. REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION

Board President, Mindi Morton, reported that there was no action taken during closed session.

26. RESOLUTION #20-11 ELIMINATION OF CERTAIN CERTIFICATED STAFF POSITION FOR THE ENSUING 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

Action:	Vote:	
Lorien Whitestone moved to approve Resolution #20-11 to eliminate certain certificated staff position(s) for the ensuing 2020-2021 school year, Rachel Kozloski seconded. Motion passed by the following vote (4/0/0/1):	Aye	Mindi Morton
	Aye	Rachel Kozloski
	Aye	Lorien Whitestone
	Aye	Malik Goodman
	Absent	Hillary Hulteen

27. RESOLUTION #20-12 ELIMINATION OF CERTAIN CLASSIFIED STAFF POSITIONS FOR THE ENSUING 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

Action:	Vote:	
Rachel Kozloski moved to approve Resolution #20-12 to eliminate certain classified staff position(s) for the ensuing 2020-2021 school year, Malik Goodman seconded. Motion passed by the following vote (4/0/0/1):	Aye	Mindi Morton
	Aye	Rachel Kozloski
	Aye	Lorien Whitestone
	Aye	Malik Goodman
	Absent	Hillary Hulteen

28. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No agenda items identified.

29. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM

This agenda was posted at least 72 hours prior to the meeting at 16661 Old Mill Rd., Nevada City, CA 95959

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