

GEORGE-LITTLE ROCK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

Work Session – October 25, 2017

The George-Little Rock Board of Education met in work session on Wednesday, October 25 in the Library in George. Board President Doug Krull called the work session to order at 5:45 pm. Board members present were Doug Krull, Wade Netten, Todd Klein, and Kristi Landis with Curt Fiedler absent. Also in attendance were Superintendent John Eyerly, Board Secretary Cathy Bonestroo, Principal Molly Schilling, and special guest Les Douma. Les opened the strategic planning session with notes from the superintendent search.

Les shared board roles and responsibilities reviewing the standards for effective school boards including visionary team, student learning, district culture, policy & legal, fiscal responsibility, and advocacy. Discussion was held emphasizing student learning staying as the focus with personalized learning for each student to meet their individual needs. District culture was discussed with student achievement and student learning focused on fun, engaged and enjoyable. High quality staff was recognized with emphasis on continuing to recruit and retain good staff. Individual meetings have been done with the superintendent and staff. Policy and legal standards with ethics is the key to build or destroy relationships. Fiscal Responsibility and Advocacy – champion students, district, and community engagement were also discussed. It was recognized to continue to have things in both communities for communication. Mr. Eyerly and Cathy both recently presented at Kiwanis about the finances and upcoming challenges of the district.

Communication protocol was discussed and how first step is to discuss with staff and administration. Board meeting protocol was also discussed. Constituents presenting at meetings need to understand what can be said and the time limits. Board does not engage in communication with constituents at the board meetings, but assures constituents that they will have follow-up by administration. The sheet now required at board meetings will be helpful for constituents.

Board priorities, facilities and maintenance needs were discussed. District finances with focus on fiscal management and challenges of declining enrollment's effect on the budget. Vision for the district for the future, not just today with suggestion of 5, 10, 15 year goals was discussed. Procedures are being put in place to prepare for the future – ie: business procedures manual is first step. Needs of the current building and alternatives were discussed. Concerns are currently at high school with HVAC estimates \$600,000+, windows, and bathrooms. Building & grounds committee will meet to go over district needs lists. Transportation alternatives were also discussed.

Considerable discussion was held regarding setting goals and priorities with the vibrancy of the district as the focus. Focus is on maintaining and growing academic and co-curricular opportunities, making sure professional development is relevant to student achievement and how to increase and improve as a teacher with focus of personalized learning for staff. Mr. Eyerly reported that he is impressed with the hiring process and staff at GLR. He continues to “look out of the box” when analyzing and planning for the district.

Work session was adjourned at 7:35 pm.