

GEORGE-LITTLE ROCK COMMUNITY SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

The George-Little Rock Board of Education met in special session on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at 11:45 am with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Curt Fiedler and Todd Klein with Doug Krull and Wade Netten joining by phone. Kristi Landis was unable to attend. Also in attendance were Superintendent John Eyerly, Board Secretary Cathy Bonestroo, and Principals Kevin Range and Molly Schilling. A quorum was established. Citizens were invited to address the board with no discussion brought forward.

Premier Communications service contract was requested to be added to the agenda for approval to submit by the e-rate deadline. A motion to approve the adopted agenda was made by Fiedler, seconded by Klein, and carried 4-0.

Discussion was held on the 2018-19 staffing needs. Two options were presented. Option 1 was to not replace retiring Mrs. Fluth for 1st grade and provide a full-time para to assist the class with projected enrollment of 27. Option 2 was to hire a replacement for Mrs. Fluth and have 2 sections of first grade with the understanding of the position possibly being cut within the next couple years. Reassurance was given that a full-time para would be in the 1st grade class 100% of the time and not pulled for other duties. Discussion was how this type of situation was handled in the past. Mr. Eyerly addressed the budget and decreasing enrollment and requested firm guidance parameters from the board for the superintendent. Mr. Eyerly also stressed the time and discussions the administrative team put into this proposal and the advice from discussions with five financial experts regarding the district's financial plan with declining enrollment. Principal Range shared the past guidance of 24 students for elementary and 28 students for middle school being a rule of thumb for guidance, but not in board policy. Board Policy 606.01 was presented to the board. Mr. Eyerly stressed that he has experience with this plan working, and that he would seek a qualified applicant hopefully with a degree. If applicants received are not suitable, the administration will bring a recommendation to the board to hire a teacher. Klein shared that the personnel committee supported a full-time para and stressed the concern of hiring a teacher and then having it as a non-renewal. Krull stressed concern of not hiring a first grade teacher and having it work with a para. Krull is concerned this approach will not work and also noted concern about the long-term perception for the district. Administration stresses that the para would be full-time and not be pulled for other needs. Netten and Klein stressed the need to trust the administration and have open communications. The question posed was whether to have a timeline deadline for having a qualified para hired in order to open it up to a possible teaching position in a timely fashion if needed. Board stressed open communication between administration and the board. Eyerly stressed he wanted to discuss with the staff affected as soon as possible.

Superintendent Eyerly presented Lori Fiedler for the other track position. No other applications or inquiries have been received since March 12 meeting. A motion to approve Lori Fiedler as both girls and boys track head coaches at a pro-rated rate of \$4151.70 for each contract, and Curt

Fiedler as volunteer coach for both programs was made by Klein, seconded by Netten, and carried 3-0 with Fiedler abstaining. Discussion was held about the legal recommendation noted from the previous meeting. Eyerly spoke with the attorney this morning. Due to no other options and the dynamics of the situation, the attorney did not express future concerns at this point. Fiedler stressed the awkwardness of the situation being offered only one position and stressed they were uncomfortable to have to choose between the boys and girls programs. Discussion was held about the awkwardness of the situation and to prevent in the future with a better process.

A motion to approve the Premier Communications service contract for a 3 year service agreement was made by Fiedler, seconded by Klein, and carried 4-0.

Fiedler stressed moving forward and recognized Superintendent Eyerly for his 8 months with the district stressing an evaluation process needed for quarterly reviews noting no reviews to date for him.

A motion to adjourn at 12:15 pm was made by Fiedler, seconded by Klein, and carried 4-0.