

GEORGE-LITTLE ROCK COMMUNITY SCHOOL
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

The George-Little Rock Board of Education held a public hearing on the 2022-2023 certified budget on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 in the superintendent office in the GLR administrative building in George. President Kristi Landis called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Board members present were Kristi Landis, Andrew Sprock and Austin Lloyd. Andrea Johnson was expected soon. Jason Fugitt was unable to attend. Also in attendance were Superintendent Tom Luxford, Board Secretary/School Business Official Cathy Bonestroo, Principal/Activities Director Tyler Glanzer, Principal Karie Aeikens, and guests Valecia West, Melinda DeLeeuw, Eva Klingenberg, Natalie Krull, Kim Dykstra, Mitzi Wynia and her mother Brenda, Brenda Sandbulte, Kristi Donaker, Brenda Sandbulte, Jeff Kruger, Nicole Kruger, Stacie VerSteeg, Alan Holloway, and Darcy Hansmann.

A public hearing was held on the 2022-2023 certified budget. No public comment was received.

A motion to adjourn at 5:33 pm was made by Sprock, seconded by Lloyd, and carried 3-0.

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A quorum was established. Public comment was received from Melinda DeLeeuw. DeLeeuw spoke on behalf of the realignment moving 6th grade to Little Rock and continuing 6th grade in the elementary setting. She noted there was a 5th grade parent meeting held stating the maturity came up several times for the lack of readiness for the MS/HS setting. She expressed support for 6th grade to continue to remain in the elementary fitting better in the elementary setting for maturity noting the students are not ready for the demands of teachers and technology maturity wise. Test scores are important to come out of ESSA designation and having 6th grade reporting within the elementary. Homeroom teacher is still needed for support and let stay little one more year was requested.

A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Johnson, seconded by Sprock, and carried 4-0.

Budget presentation was presented by Bonestroo noting the tax rate for 2022-2023 and the annual budget process which begins in November with staff budget consideration requests. A monthly breakdown of the process was outlined including the March 2 deadline for requisitions to use to finalize the budget projections. The difficulty of this year's budget noted decisions still needed including the impact of the realignment and funding resources that will be ending. It was also noted that \$33,331.11 has been

approved after the requisition deadline which also affected the budget after completed. Enrollment determines the budget and open enrollment in and outs budget impact of over \$350,000 loss was shared. Financial goals and spending authority were shared and the impact decisions have on spending authority. District concerns were also shared. Planning ahead was noted with enrollment projections needed for future decisions. The impact of future one-time funding with a future decrease in miscellaneous income with COVID funding coming to an end was shared. Different funds were explained as different silos of revenues and expenditures noting the building projects are run through a different fund than the operating expenses which includes staff salaries.

Superintendent Luxford shared the finance committee met and reviewed all jobs and wages and presented the recommendations for classified, substitute, and admin staff increases for 2022-2023. New starting hourly wages were outlined for paras as follows: Non-degree/non-certified para \$11.50, Associate's Degree \$12.00, Bachelor's Degree \$13.00. A one-time certified increase of \$.50 for paras to become certified for those not yet para certified and have not received past certification increase with certification required to be maintained or wage will be reduced by \$.50. The one-time increase will be given with the next payroll after receipt of certification in the business office. Para certification classes are paid for by the district when serving the district as a classroom or SPED para with class time not paid by the district. Food service starting wage will be \$11.75, secretary starting wage will be \$14.00, custodial starting wage will be \$14.50 with experience or \$12.00 without experience, seasonal and summer help starting wage will be \$10.00.

Returning staff starting after January 1 will be frozen at the new starting wages for 2022-2023. Returning paras serving as a classroom or SPED para will receive \$1.00/hour increase. Library aides will receive \$.75/hour in the elementary (Susue) and \$.19/hour in the high school (Trish) noting the significant wage gap for the decision. Secretaries will receive \$1.00/hour increase. Custodians will receive \$1.00/hour increase. Transportation coordinator will receive \$.75/hour increase noting the previous year high increase of \$1.90/hour. Transportation driving will receive a 3% increase as follows: PS and TK shuttle \$14.86, Activity Shuttle \$19.92, AM/PM Shuttle \$14.86, activity hourly rate \$13.31, sub route \$40.89, extra time \$4.43, Saturdays \$18.49, SPED Sioux Falls 1 stop \$52.53, SPED Sioux Falls 2 stops \$65.66, Summer Rec \$19.92 with all rates defined by the handbook. Food service will receive \$1.00/hour. Seasonal returning help (Ken and Alex) will receive \$.75 increase. Tech Coordinator will receive \$1150 salary increase. Juvenile Liaison will receive \$1300 salary increase.

Lloyd presented on behalf of the finance committee that these are significant increases compared to the past noting being cognitive of staff focused and continuing and following what was done with the teachers while being cognitive that future funding will be decreasing. Lloyd noted he is proud of what has been accomplished noting hopefully makes a difference for everyone involved.

Substitute staff increases were presented for substitute paras at \$1.00/hour increase following new starting with those who have consecutively served over 5 years at \$.25 increase over the starting wage. Substitute teachers will be increased to \$120/day.

Administrative staff increases were presented for the teacher/day increase (\$6.05) multiplied by the contract days adding a \$1000 with possible reevaluation depending on additional possibilities being considered as indicated at the finance meeting. Principal and AD Glanzer (220 day contract) \$2331 salary increase, Principal Aeikens (210 day contract) \$2270 salary increase, School Business Official Bonestroo (260 day contract) \$2573 salary increase. The superintendent contract was not presented until full board discussion and evaluation at April 20 meeting for contract terms. The HR contract is not presented as originally Harris-Lake Park was the only school interested in continuing to share and now HLP is no longer interested, but Boyden-Hull is reconsidering continuation. Other districts have been reached out to for possibility of sharing outside the area with no interest received. The contract will need to be reconsidered for lower amount or potentially assigned extra tasks at a future finance meeting.

6th grade realignment was presented for TK-6 as the elementary in Little Rock and 7-12 as MS/HS in George beginning 2022-2023 school year. Principals and Superintendent met with 5th grade parents and presented a power point with good discussion held. The overwhelming majority were in favor for elementary setting for 6th graders for one more year. Great questions were shared during the open forum. Different schools approach different ways, noting this is a better fit for our kids. The board shared concerns heard that they would have liked to have held an open meeting for other staff and other public to hear the rationale. Good strong points were made noting the pros seem to outweigh the cons. Timeframe concern to get it done was also expressed and the renovations needed at the elementary noting the library would be moved regardless of the decision. Staffing was also addressed. Feedback regarding the communication during the process with not clearly communicating or in a timely fashion to staff and community members earlier and more consistently was again expressed.

2022 graduating class was presented for approval pending all requirements are met.

Amended contract was presented for VoAg noting actual of 2 years of experience compared to 3 years of experience originally presented increasing the extended contract to actual days served with fairs and the farm to give an overall increase of \$136.88 over the original amounts presented.

LCRF grants were presented for Amy Schmidt, Kris Hamilton, and Sharon Klaahsen.

Playground equipment bid from American Playground for \$34,795 for new preschool playground equipment in Little Rock was presented for more age appropriateness.

Revised stage curtain bid was discussed. Front curtains are not needing to be replaced. Scrim option curtain to rear project and allow to have images appear but need to confirm enough space is there. New options would be great for music and theater department. Current rigging system needs to be verified to confirm rigging system can support a scrim. Ensure before purchasing that enough space and rigging system can support was recommended along with a black color. Muslin curtain you can paint on. Discussion was to table until able to confirm everything will work.

Elementary carpeting bid was presented for Manitou carpeting for \$9574 and Chad Klosterbuer for \$3500 for 3rd floor carpeting for stairs, landing, hallway, main room, and 2 additional rooms leaving 2 rooms of carpeting not replaced for a total \$13,074.

Lane changes for Frances Burd BA+24 to MA for \$1250 lane change and Ben McCray BA to BA+12 for \$750 increase as outlined for staff advancements in licensed staff handbook were presented.

District 3 board director resignation was received from Landis expressing her thanks for the opportunity to serve the district. School board vacancy process was explained noting the resignation is not required for board approval. The notice of intent was published as recommended to meet all required deadlines. Applications are available from the business office to complete if interested noting the candidate must live within the district 3 boundaries. Applicants will present at a special board meeting with the board voting to determine the appointment. Lloyd extended appreciation for all that Landis has done and the sacrifices made.

Resignations were received from Eric Schafer (5th grade and MS boys track), Tina Sherrill-Range (one contract of .10 library/TAG), Amy Schmidt (business teacher), Bryan Paulson (special education, asst. cross country, and 22-23 head baseball), Kristi Luxford (language arts), and Hannah Engelkes (paraprofessional). Board extended appreciation for their service.

Recommendations for hire were presented for Arlan Arends, food service substitute at \$10.75/hour pending background check; Regan Mouw, substitute teacher pending substitute authorization and background check, and Regan Mouw, 2022-2023 kindergarten teacher at \$30,750 plus TSS; Amanda

Storm transfer from 3rd to 5th grade, Karissa Paulsen, 3rd grade teacher at \$30,750 plus TSS; and Candy Sandbulte, MS baseball coach at \$2,153.

A motion to approve the 2022-2023 certified budget was made by Lloyd, seconded by Sprock, and carried 4-0 noting the budget is published high due to many unknowns and cannot sustain without negatively impacting the spending authority.

A motion to approve the 6th grade district realignment was made by Johnson, seconded by Sprock, and carried 3-1. Lloyd expressed concerns of integrity with denying conversations and then several months later presenting for approval. Sprock also shared communication should have been better.

A motion to table the revised stage curtain bid until confirmations are completed and pull district 3 board resignation was made by Sprock, seconded by Lloyd, and carried 4-0.

A motion to approve the District 3 board resignation from Landis was made by Lloyd, seconded by Sprock, and carried 3-0 with Landis abstaining.

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Lloyd, seconded by Sprock, and carried 4-0. Consent agenda included 2022-2023 classified staff, substitute staff, and admin staff increases; 2022 graduating class; amended contract for VoAg teacher; LCRF grants, preschool playground equipment, elementary carpeting bid, lane changes for Frances Burd and Ben McCray, resignations and recommendations for hire all as presented.

May special meeting date will need to be scheduled to be held prior to May 7 for a 5:30 pm meeting for district 3 board appointment.

A motion to adjourn at 6:34 pm was made by Johnson, seconded by Lloyd, and carried 4-0. Landis thanked everyone for joining.