

GEORGE-LITTLE ROCK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

The George-Little Rock Board of Education met for a special meeting on Wednesday, August 31, 2022 in the superintendent office in the GLR district office building in George. President Austin Lloyd called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board members present were Austin Lloyd, Andrea Johnson, Andrew Sprock, Jason Fugitt and Matt Mitchell. Also in attendance were Superintendent Tom Luxford, Board Secretary/School Business Official Cathy Bonestroo, Principal Karie Aeikens, and guests Valecia West, Matt Matuska, and Kari Matuska.

A quorum was established. Public forum was held with Kari Matuska submitting the required form prior to the meeting to address the board. Lloyd noted procedures for addressing the board and meeting procedures. Kari Matuska spoke on behalf of the daycares in George and Little Rock regarding picking and dropping off students at daycares. She shared she spoke with Jim McConnell and transporting is working well with a smooth transition and requests for daycare transportation to continue for all ages.

A motion to adopt the agenda moving Norm DeWit's presentation to when he arrives was made by Mitchell, seconded by Fugitt, and carried 5-0.

Superintendent Luxford read the complete Board Policy 711.01 noting transportation eligibility more than 2 miles for elementary students and 3 miles for high school students and special education transportation as stated. Luxford noted the addition of transportation for PK services and programs and licensed child care center (daycare) services when practical. Question was addressed if preschool transportation was addressed in handbooks prior which Luxford denied. Luxford stated he met with transportation people noting it was going well. He also shared that pre-service transportation orientation discussions were that more bussing will be needed for daycare, and they recommended not to do this unanimously. Discussion of past practice was held that daycares were provided preschool transportation and a few additional transports occurred that Luxford stated he was not aware of. Concern of students unable to attend preschool and older students being responsible to bring younger students to school was expressed. Luxford shared policy clause was needed to pick up at registered daycares. Preventing exceptions was also noted with the policy update. Luxford also stated that communication and transparency of conversations needs to be more upfront in the future based on this issue. Discussion was held that we listen to staff in positions, but now we are not following staff recommendation for those put in place to do the job noting however that recommendation was prior to experiencing. Example was noted as listening to coaches, but now not other departments. Bus stops at other locations were also discussed as a possibility for the future. Luxford spoke with other districts sharing bus stops and registered daycare stops for other districts only. Questions were posed that if others could possibly be dropped off for pick up at bus transportation stop of daycares as possible future discussion. Domino effect was also noted as potential issue for transporting and open enrollment concerns. Convenience of getting kids to school was addressed.

Norm deWit arrived and presented updates on the HVAC project option of geothermal hybrid and payback. Utility information was discussed sharing the elementary and high school buildings are on different electrical plans. The HS electrical plan is large general service with 2 components, kw and kwh. KW is similar to penalty for use and are substantial. Summer demand charges are as high as \$20 kw, with overall demand of 125-150 for penalty of around \$3000 per month with lower kwh. Elementary is strictly on kwh because it is a smaller service. Geothermal will need to be discussed with Alliant for different rate structure possibility to change elementary plan clarifying the current rate structure is more beneficial

at HS for geothermal. Spacing for geothermal at the elementary was also noted as a concern. New tax law and budget legislation does have incentives for geothermal but have no details yet for incentives for the geothermal option and needs to be investigated.

HS hybrid geothermal recommended with geothermal use only in off or evening hours. Day hours everything is in use and would add to demand charges. Heat pump adds to demand charge during the day, so run boilers during the day and switch to geothermal around 4 pm through 7 am which is easily done with building automation system. If not done, hard for geothermal to pay back. Boiler less use with just fan during the day when everything else is running using less electricity and more natural gas during the day. Geothermal compressors (heat pump) run on electrical and night rate is cheaper for better payback. Geothermal is more complicated and more maintenance than a boiler but can be a savings when done right. Initial savings calculations estimated at 6.5 years payback from initial calculations for HS system typically 7-9 years payback with about 10% more upfront \$230,000 more on HS for geothermal hybrid. It was noted initial costs would be from capital fund and savings in the future would assist the general fund which is the goal for best financial management. HS is a better rate structure to get payback.

Elementary school calculations payback estimated at 17-20 years under current rate structure and concern of square footage availability for geothermal system. Payback is longer due to smaller square footage and different rate structure for longer time to payoff \$130,000 more for geothermal hybrid, but has not further investigated that far yet for elementary. Possibility to get different rate structure if request with Alliant. It was noted that HS HVAC is current focus with elementary down the line.

Implementation of geothermal hybrid option were reviewed. Track football field area was discussed for geothermal borings. Borings have become more economical in past years, but have done more vertical than boings. Decision would need to be made. More kwh use with geothermal. Hybrid geothermal square footage outside would need approximately 100 wells (vertical 10x10 at 200' deep) 150' x 150' area needed with everything buried about 6 feet down deeper than irrigation system. Open system not recommended. Closer to the school would be better. Further away would need bigger lines and potential vault. Horizontal boring changes geometry still 15' on center but are likely 2 or 3 levels deep, likely bigger than 150. Elementary 65-70 at approximately 120 x 120 needed and does not need to be square. More investigating is needed for what is in current legislation for geothermal and caveats typical.

Overview of project were 1) working system, and 2) lower general fund utility expenses and maintenance costs. No building over the well field but can do paving if needed. Possible tours were questioned noting Harrisburg has almost everything geothermal with some combining ice. Combined ice and geothermal may pay back quicker. Ice at night and melt during the day combo with geothermal and has some of those systems lowest dollar/sq foot building. \$.70-\$.80/sq foot total electric and gas combined costs. Further enhancement and can be added later but need to know it ahead of project. Impacts current costs not much if want to add in future but saves money with ice as chiller does not need to be quite as big so can save some tonnage off chiller. Already hybrid, but enhancement to system. All systems are automated with DDC who can control remotely typically to diagnose and control system.

Warranty was questioned. DDC control system is typically 2 years parts and labor. Majority of rest of system typically 1 year. Sometimes specify 5 or 10 year warranty on chillers and/or heat pump in bid for no surprises. Maintenance plan benefit was discussed noting all buildings with same control system is quite beneficial with computer that controls everything. Plan service on air handlers and heat pump was questioned, noting these and boiler are major pieces of equipment that someone needs to look at on regular basis.

Retrofit of current building noted high ceilings and use corridor and drop ceilings and sidewalls into each classroom. Lighting and sprinklers would need to be modified and those general numbers along with construction and electrical are included in the project budget. Goal at this time is MS/HS was stressed by Luxford. Elementary would be considered for future years with possibility of playground used for geothermal system.

Norm will review ice option and payback, incentives available, and rate code possibility with Alliant. Agreement letter from Norm was discussed.

Luxford questioned recruitment of qualified bidders for number of companies with DeWit noting most qualified bidders likely from Sioux Falls and Spirit Lake. Automation is somewhat separate but can negotiate upfront. Timing was questioned as concern for next summer's goal of completion. Bid by next summer, but will take a while to get it completed from there. Bid by 1st of year at latest to possibly start construction next summer. Struggle to complete in a summer without a major contractor. Problems experiencing are chillers are 20-40 weeks out so take about 8 months to receive. Concept drawings and cost estimates needing to be completed soon to present to board. Timeline is also needed. No time to waste if want to complete project next summer was addressed. Both designs at same time was encouraged and putting us ahead of game when ready for next building and more efficient for their operations.

Associated Consulting Engineering proposal will be sent for next board meeting with contract solidified at later date.

LCRF grant was presented from Tim Mauldin for music writing software. It was noted that this is part 1 of a 2-part grant noting exception due to a sale, but not a regular practice and usually all purchases on one grant form.

Letter from Central Lyon was received and presented regarding cross country (XC) if GLR proceeds to switch conferences. Luxford read the letter received. If GLR leaves Siouxland Conference, since GLR hosts cross country, Central Lyon's sharing committee intention is to start their own XC program. If continue in sharing if GLR switches conferences, CL would need to be host district as prefer to stay in same conference. Football and wrestling are not affected with conference change. Luxford noted it is not a matter of what conference we are in for XC, only difference is conference meet same as track. Sharing committee meeting was recommended to be set-up to understand their concern. Discussion was held regarding past committee meetings. Justifications of why they want home school and parent's wishes were discussed. Discussion was held in further detail and don't believe it should change decision of conference affiliation. Kids from both districts would be affected noting that we are stronger together. Success in wrestling and football and no desire to change was noted. Discussion was also held regarding board changes of two sports within 3 years and questioning their long-term interest in sharing agreement noting trends and actions concern and the impact to the students. Conference affiliation student meetings were questioned. Luxford shared that Mr. Glanzer would discuss with students. Discussion was held if power point from forums would be shared and opinions of students gathered similar to forum comments. It was also questioned if comments or students should vote with choices offered to present to board in looking at decision. Student comments for review were discussed and presentation to board for vote. Open enrollment was addressed and voices should be heard noting it would be nice if parents would come to board with concerns discussed at home with students. September meeting will vote on conference affiliation. Program sharing meeting will need to be set-up but not impacting decision so meeting can be after September board vote on conference affiliation.

Recommendations for hire were presented for Pam Grave, para; Alexis Trei, para; Samantha Everhart custodial help; Tammy Groen, custodial help; and Brenda Sprock, substitute food service. Discussion was held on seeking custodial staff applicants noting needed this school year yet.

A motion to approve the consent agenda of LCRF grant from Tim Mauldin was made by Johnson, seconded by Fugitt, and carried 5-0.

A motion to enter closed session per Iowa Code 21.5(1)(e) to consider suspension of a student was made at 6:49 pm by Fugitt, seconded by Mitchell. Roll call vote was taken with all ayes, no nays, motion passed 5-0.

A motion to return to open session at 7:32 pm was made by Fugitt, seconded by Mitchell. Roll call vote was taken with all ayes, no nays, motion passed 5-0.

A motion to table the HVAC proposal for bidding pending further information was made by Sprock, seconded by Johnson, and carried 5-0.

A motion to approve Policy 711.01 first reading and waive second reading was made by Johnson, seconded by Mitchell, and carried 5-0.

A motion to approve the in-town bus route and transportation for licensed daycares for all school-aged students was made by Sprock, seconded by Mitchell, and carried 4-1. Discussion was held about how the situation was handled and the approach. Concern expressed was slippery slope for transportation and possibility of grandmas who may also need transportation and equity concern for the future along with not listening to our bus drivers.

A motion to approve the recommendations for hire for Pam Grave, para, at \$11.50/hour for 10 hours/week in MS/HS; Alexis Trei, para, at \$12.00/hour for 29 hours/week; Samantha Everhart, continue custodial through school year, at \$12.00/hour for 10 hours/week 2 hours/night; and Tammy Groen, custodial help, at \$12.00/hour for 10 hours/week was made by Johnson, seconded by Fugitt, and carried 5-0.

A motion to approve the recommendation for hire of Brenda Sprock substitute food service at \$11.75/hour was made by Mitchell, seconded by Fugitt, and carried 4-0 with Sprock abstaining.

A motion to continue suspension of student A indefinitely until all documentation is met as requested was made by Fugitt, seconded by Johnson. Roll call vote was taken, with all ayes, no nays, motion carried 5-0.

Luxford thanked board members for additional board meetings and time commitment.

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:38 pm by Fugitt, seconded by Johnson, and carried 5-0.