

MONTE VISTA CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 8

Monte Vista, Colorado

February 11, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of Education of the Monte Vista Consolidated School District No. 8 was held in the Board Room with the audience attending by ZOOM.

REGULAR MEETING:

Gary Wilkinson called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

ROLL CALL:

The roll was called. Board members present were Orlando DeHerrera , Kurtis Holland, Elizabeth Quintana, Carly Santi Lozoya, and Gary Wilkinson. Superintendent Scott Wiedeman was also present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

A motion was made by Kurtis Holland and seconded by Elizabeth Quintana to approve the agenda. The vote was: Orlando DeHerrera, aye; Kurtis Holland, aye; Elizabeth Quintana, aye; Carly Santi Lozoya, aye; and Gary Wilkinson, aye. Motion passed 5 to 0.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Gary Wilkinson led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by Orlando DeHerrera and seconded by Carly Santi Lozoya to approve the consent agenda:

- A. Approve minutes from the January 21, 2021 meeting
- B. December and Quarterly Financial Reports
- C. Resignation/Employment List:

The Board accepted the retirement of Veda Mascarenas – MS Social Studies Teacher (effective the end of the 2020-21 school year) and the resignations of Jessica Castillo – HS ELA Teacher (effective May 6, 2021), Manuel Castanuela – Part-Time Custodian (effective immediately) and Kate Simpson – HS ELA Teacher (effective March 11, 2021). The Board approved Monica Medina – Part-Time Food Service, Lori Martinez – MS Behavioral Interventionist and Louie Sandoval – Part-time custodian. The Board approved certified substitutes Allison Harrison and Danielle Mondragon (both pending receipt of authorization) and classified substitute John Plane.

The vote was Orlando DeHerrera, aye; Kurt Holland, aye; Elizabeth Quintana, aye; Carly Santi Lozoya, aye; and Gary Wilkinson, aye. Motion passed 5 to 0.

ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

- A. Comments from the Audience. None.

DISTRICT REPORTS:

- A. BOCES Report. None
- B. Education Foundation Report. Mr. Wilkinson confirmed that the Foundation had approved up to \$15,000 for the marquee at Bill Metz Elementary
- C. City/District Conversations. Mr. Wiedeman and Mr. Wilkinson met with the City to catch up on activities.
- D. Follow-up to Principal Reports. CDE review of Bill Metz Elementary went well (this was not an official evaluation). The CDE team interviewed various administration and staff members. The High School Science classes are working on curriculum to provide more hands-on opportunities and will allow the students to proceed at their own pace and follow their interests.
- E. Board Report. None
- F. Superintendent Report. Scott Wiedeman reviewed the budget and the plan for using the ESSER funds for the next school year including additional teachers, training new staff, etc. There will also be some funds coming in from the Vaping tax that can be used for building improvements. It is coming up on 10 years since the new construction/remodeling, consequently there are maintenance type items to be done on the buildings and track. Mr. Wiedeman discussed the effect of the pandemic on students and loss of relationships teachers-to-students and student-to-student. There needs to be a concentrated effort in re-connecting and renewing those vital relationships. Mr. Wiedeman met with CU Denver to discuss a program they offer to help with the shortage of teachers. The District has some paraprofessionals that may be able to utilize this program to get their teaching credentials. Rebekah Johnson and her staff at the Delta Center worked on a grant to get a diagnostic review of the alternative/on-line program to make the programs more effective for the students. The school nurses shared some statistics on the positive COVID cases in the District. The staff has a 15% positivity rate and students a 1.7% positivity rate. Approximately 67% of the staff will have their first dose of the vaccine by the end of tomorrow. Mr. Wiedeman expressed the desire to try to get back to a normal school schedule for the final quarter of the school year. The state assessment testing has been discussed and some issues with it have been noted as follows: the data will not be used by the state to compare districts; it would take longer than normal because of the hybrid model; it will interfere with the relationship-building focus and limited instruction time; and student stamina is low because they have not been able to attend class full time. Mr. Ortega is pursuing a partnership with TSJC to provide different educational paths for students to pursue their interests in different fields including hospitality, construction, etc. There has been discussion about building a maintenance/transportation shop close to the bus garage and converting the current maintenance building into an Ag shop for the Ag program. Students may be able to help with some of the building as part of their classes and training. The Modern Classroom is a tool that can be used effectively with training to help with student instruction and meeting the various needs of the students working at a different pace and level.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A. Policy. See the attached list for policies read and reviewed.

ACTION ITEMS:

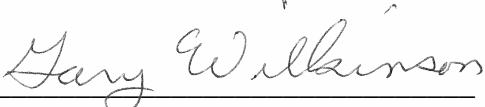
- A. Resolution in Support of Suspending State Assessments for the 2020-21 School Year. A motion was made by Kurtis Holland and seconded by Elizabeth Quintana to support the resolution suspending state assessments for the 2020-21 school year. The vote was Orlando DeHerrera, aye; Kurt Holland, aye; Elizabeth Quintana, aye; Carly Santi Lozoya, aye; and Gary Wilkinson, aye. Motion passed 5 to 0.
- B. Next Regular Board Meeting. A motion was made by Orlando DeHerrera and seconded by Kurtis Holland to schedule the next regular board meeting for March 11th at 6:00 p.m. The vote was Orlando DeHerrera, aye; Kurt Holland, aye; Elizabeth Quintana, aye; Carly Santi Lozoya, aye; and Gary Wilkinson, aye. Motion passed 5 to 0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

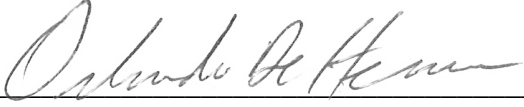
A motion was made by Elizabeth Quintana and seconded by Kurtis Holland to go into executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(f) for Discussion of Personnel at 7:05 p.m.

The Board returned to regular session at 7:15 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.



Gary Wilkinson, President



Orlando DeHerrera, Secretary