

Official Minutes
Weld Re-3(J) Board of Education
February 8, 2017

Work Session Meeting

1. **Call to Order** by President Haffner at 6:45 p.m.
2. **Roll Call** Directors Baumgartner, Grundy, Haffner and Jensen present. Director Gustafson was absent.
3. **Review of Agenda** Dr. Rabenhorst asked that the Board begin with items 4.2 and 4.3 as the group awaited a principal's attendance.
4. **Discussion Items**
 - 4.1 **Secondary Strategic Plan Activities**

As requested by Board members, district administration has focused on math development this year. Secondary principals presented on what has been occurring this year to improve instruction at their schools. Mr. Kennedy presented some data on the NWEA testing that they have done thus far this year. He noted that there is a significant drop between 8th and 9th grade math scores and the 9th grade teachers feel like they spend significant time catching students up on missing skills. He noted that with the NWEA scores, they are seeing some growth. Mr. Kennedy is excited about partnering with ANet next year and noted that the Math department is receptive to training and change. Ms. Jeffery talked about the professional development work they have done this year. She explained the aspects of rigor and talked about how one of her personal/professional goals this year is to be in math classrooms each week in order to better identify standards and instructional practices. This semester she plans to dive deeper into the math curriculum. Ms. Jeffery noted that the middle school will offer an 8th grade academy this summer as soon as school lets out. This academy will be for students who failed a core course. The hope is that students would realize that failing is not an option and also gain a better understanding of the content that they failed.
 - 4.2 **Removal of Registration/Curriculum Fees for 2017-2018**

As discussed in the MLO planning and advertising, administration is recommending the elimination of curriculum fees required at registration effective with the 2017-2018 school year. The financial impact of this is reflected in the MLO spending plan as approximately \$100,000 less in revenue will occur due to the elimination of the fee. The current fees are \$60 per student. All board members were in agreement on eliminating this fee. This will be an action item on the March 22nd agenda.
 - 4.3 **Removal of Activity Fees for 2017-2018**

The Board discussed eliminating the activity fees at the middle and high school level. The middle school is in favor of eliminating the fee so that students can participate in different clubs and activities and not be locked into something they end up not liking. Removing the middle school activity fee will be placed as an action item on the March 22nd agenda. The high school administration would like to retain the fee with some exceptions for service clubs (Student Council) or clubs recognizing academic excellence (NHS). Mr. Kennedy was tasked with making a final recommendation for the March 22 meeting. He and the high school leadership team will consider whether to recommend continuing the fee, and if so, which clubs would be exempt and the rationale. The removal of activity fees at the high school will be a separate agenda item on the March 22nd agenda. This decision will not impact athletic fees.
 - 4.4 **2107-2018 Personnel Planning**

Based on MLO planning and the new school construction to begin there are personnel issues that need to be addressed even at these early stages. Dr. Rabenhorst discussed the positions that will be added based on program enhancements noted in the MLO expenditure plan. Dr. Rabenhorst also discussed his plan for administration at the new Lochbuie school and existing Lochbuie Elementary. Dr. Rabenhorst will be recommending that the Principal of the new elementary be appointed in late spring. The principals for both Lochbuie schools should be in place by the Fall so that transition activities for students and staff can occur more smoothly. Board members indicated support for this process.
 - 4.5 **FY2018 MLO Expenditure Planning**

Administration has begun to draft the expenditure plan for 2017-2018 MLO funds. The board reviewed ideas that have been discussed with some potential cost estimates. Some of the subcategories in a "bucket" (recruit & retain, student instructional initiatives, technology initiatives, preventive maintenance & operations) may change, but the goal is to stay true to the amounts designated and advertised in the four primary "buckets." The greatest discussion was centered around the student instructional initiatives area. For example, the district plans to implement art at the elementary level, provide more social-emotional

supports at the elementary level, and add class sections (e.g., electives) at the middle and high school levels. Full-day kindergarten was implemented in January will continue.

4.6 District Climate Survey Summary

The district climate survey results were reviewed. The summary sheet included the past two years of data for comparison purposes. There does seem to be consistency in results year to year with most areas on an upward trajectory. Dr. Rabenhorst highlighted a few key areas of strength and weaknesses and areas of consideration for goal development. Overall, the results show strong, positive climate with the majority of areas exceeding 80% agreement on staff responses.

4.7 Capital Construction Update

Dr. Rabenhorst updated the Board on the Bond projects. The next CCU newsletter is projected to go out the week of February 13 and another will go out after the community meetings in March. An unofficial agreement with the land owner in Hudson has been reached. The board discussed the process of the land purchase in Hudson and how they can support it. Dr. Rabenhorst was directed to proceed by working with the Owner's Reps and following the appropriate channels through the town regulations.

5. Adjourned at 8:32 p.m.