

BOARD NOTES: October 12th, 2021 7pm, Regular Board Meeting, Sunset Ridge School

Items Approved: *9/14/21 Consent Agenda, 9/14/21 Closed Session Minutes*
Second Reading: Proposed Board Policy Revisions
Vaccination Requirements for Overnight Trips
2020-2021 District Financial Audit
10/14/21 Personnel Report : Resignation of Deepa Saraiya (Teaching Assistant)
Employment of Melissa Gold (Teaching Assistant)
Employment of Kenneth Neumann (Technology Assistant)
Leave of Absence of Anna Kristen (Accounting Supervisor)

ROLL CALL (7:02pm): all present

CONSENT AGENDA (7:03pm): The Board **approved** the Consent Agenda, including September 14th Regular Board Meeting minutes, monthly bills and salaries, and second reading policy revisions.

SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENTS (7:04pm): Sunset Ridge Girls Volleyball, check out the video!

COMMUNICATIONS (7:17pm): NBC Universal on unclaimed property, Vince Espi for COVID and 1619

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (7:18pm):

Return to School (7:18pm) COVID metrics updated, Test-to-Stay implemented successfully twice, plan updated per latest IDPH guidance. No issues with compliance (visitors or within community) which is much appreciated. Staffing is tenuous situation, open teaching assistant positions and absences have cascading effect.

Strategic Planning (7:20pm) First Portrait Design team meeting conducted on 10/4. Feedback received about conducting the meeting. Solicitation for participation in Strategic Design team for 2021. Need to ensure lines of communication open between teams. Discussion about whether to make meetings open. Student participation was very proactive and appreciated. Themes emerged about continued evolution of technology.

2021-2022 Enrollment (7:37pm) Continue calling attention to 1st grade cohort (63 students, 4 sections), staffing needs will continue to grow. Reading is particularly important at the early grades, no particular magic number of students - but smaller generally better. Further analysis on metrics/options/concerns, request for specific cost benefit analysis and firmer recommendation from school.

2021-2022 Personnel (7:55pm) Resignations, leave of absence creating concerns. Closed session discussion.

School Security Consultant (7:56pm) Previous consultant has been engaged nearly every three years. Comments about using new vendor vs previous vendor. Proposals to be researched, possible to re-examine external vendor management model, as well as controls for inside vs outside visitors.

Vaccination Requirements for Overnight Trips (8:09pm) Memo in packet related to legal counsel recommendation on vaccine requirements for overnight trips. **Approved**

School and Department Reports (8:28pm)

Technology (8:28pm) Technology issue with board meeting from last month, required service related to joining presentations with the livestream. Consensus on continuing livestream / auditorium. Progress on tech security.

Middlefork (8:36pm)

Traffic congestion seems to be easing. Request to measure and monitor.

Looking forward to expanding Halloween celebrations (whole school parade...with recording...with outside viewing for parents...and room parents included)

3rd Grade bike safety week completed successfully, spring event in planning

Sunset Ridge (8:43pm)

Constant assessment of desk assignments, focusing on individual students showing positive impacts.

Following sex-ed parent information night, looking for feedback from board on controversial topics - anxiety expressed from teachers about which topics may generate criticism. Comments on general trust of, empowerment for teachers, with interest in keeping parents informed so parents can make informed choices. Formal curriculum complaint policy exists. Comments on continuing to build trust.

Finance (9:05pm) Audit summary discussed in finance committee, no major findings. Audit **approved**.

NEW BUSINESS (9:08pm)

Audience Comments/Public Participation (9:08pm) Comment from parent of student who reported the janitor incident in the bathroom, detailing the students report of incident and making suggestions for improvement. Comment from parent about two provisions up for approval at IASB board meeting related to gun safety. Debate about comment submitted to 2 board members but not to the superintendent.

Board Open Discussion (9:41pm) Consensus to move audience comments to beginning of board meeting. Proposal to review committee structures and responsibilities. Plug for board notes feedback. Letter from district parent read aloud. Notice of the passing of Phillip Jones - prior D29 board member.

First Reading: Board Policy 711 Bullying & Harassment Prohibited (9:47pm)

REPORTS (9:49pm)

Internal Reports (9:49pm)

Return to School Task Force – next meeting likely in December/February/April, committees review may affect

Finance Facilities – next meeting January 11, 2022

Education – next meeting November 16, 2021

Policy – next meeting December 8, 2021

External Relations (8:53pm)

IASB – policy revisions up for review (23 changes suggested, 10 recommended for adoption, see board packet)

PTO – no report

True North / NSSSED – no report

Park District – no report

Village of Northfield – no report

Foundation Fund – no report

CLOSED SESSION (10:02pm):

- To Review Closed Session Minutes from September 14, 2021
- To Consider Information Regarding the Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance or Dismissal of Specific Employees or Legal Counsel
- To Discuss Matters Related to Individual Students
- To Discuss Potential Litigation
- To Discuss Collective Bargaining

ACTION ITEMS FOR BOARD APPROVAL (11:14pm):

- Closed Session Minutes from September 14, 2021
- Resignation of Deepa Saraiya (Teaching Assistant)
- Employment of Melissa Gold (Teaching Assistant)
- Employment of Kenneth Neumann (Technology Assistant)
- Leave of Absence of Anna Kristen (Accounting Supervisor)

Official meeting minutes will be posted after approval at the November 16th, 2021, Regular Board meeting.

Topic Durations

ROLL CALL	7:02pm :	1 min
CONSENT AGENDA	7:03pm :	1 min
SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENTS	7:04pm :	13 min
COMMUNICATIONS	7:17pm :	1 min
SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT	7:18pm :	1 hr 10 min
Return to School	7:18pm :	2 min
Strategic Planning	7:20pm :	17 min
2021-2022 Enrollment	7:37pm :	18 min
2021-2022 Personnel	7:55pm :	1 min
School Security Consultant	7:56pm :	13 min
Vaccination Requirements for Trips	8:09pm :	19 min
SCHOOL AND DEPT. REPORTS	8:28pm :	40 min
Technology	8:28pm :	8 min
Middlefork	8:36pm :	7 min
Sunset Ridge	8:43pm :	22 min
Finance	9:05pm :	3 min
NEW BUSINESS	9:08pm :	41 min
Audience/Public Participation	9:08pm :	33 min
Board Open Discussion	9:41pm :	6 min
First Reading: Board Policy 711	9:47pm :	2 min
REPORTS	9:49pm :	13 min
Internal Reports	9:49pm :	4 min
External Relations	8:53pm :	9 min
CLOSED SESSION	10:02pm :	1 hr 12 min
ACTION ITEMS	11:14pm	