

**HOOONAH CITY SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**August 16, 2018  
LIBRARY  
7:00 PM**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Heidi Jewel, Dillon Styers, Grace Villarreal, and Robert Hutton. Harold Houston had an excused absence.

**SUPERINTENDENT/PRINCIPAL:** Ralph Watkins

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Amy Stevenson, Business Manager, Kelli Deitering, Board Secretary, Jeremiah Byers, Maintenance Director, Sheryl Ross, Special Education Director, Shawn McConnell, Vallorie Buffa, and Clark Brown.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Robert Hutton called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm.

**ROLL CALL:** Four (4) Board Members were present at roll call, a quorum was established.

**CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD:** No Correspondence to the Board.

**AGENDA REVISIONS:** No Agenda Revisions.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** No objections. The agenda was adopted as presented.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:** Robert Hutton asked if there are any corrections to the minutes of Regular Board Meeting on June 21, 2018 and Special Board Meeting on July 25, 2018. No objections. The minutes were adopted as presented by unanimous consent.

**BOARD CALENDAR:** No comments

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (THREE MINUTE TIME LIMIT EACH):** No Public Comments

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:**

**Administrator Report** – Ralph Watkins gave a verbal report. He apologized that he did not provide a written report this month. He had been very busy this week with Inservice. There were 111 students enrolled on the first day. This is a little less than what we ended last year with but more than we had anticipated starting with. There were six new high school students, a new batch of kindergarteners, and 6 new primary students. We lost some students but with the transient nature of our population, they could come back at any time: preferably before October. He reported that the first day of school was a

success. It was fantastic and he could feel the energy in the air. The third grade teacher won't be here until Monday so Sheryl Ross and Peal Miller covered famously for her. By the end of the day, every student was scheduled for classes. Ralph will be in Juneau from 5:30am-10:15am for a meeting with the University of Alaska to align CTE college courses to receive credit. During the New Teacher Orientation, the new teachers were exposed to the Tlingit Culture. They went paddling, did the zip-line tour, the ISP cultural show, and watched a slide show presentation put on by Amelia Wilson with Hoonah Heritage. He thanked Amy for completing the audit and ordering supplies. Ralph thanked Kelli for being professional. Ralph thanked the paraprofessional staff for having short lunch breaks while the schedule gets figured out. The students will benefit from Rita Crouch being the counselor this year. She is working with Aaron at SEARHC to align programs. Dillon Styers asked Ralph what we had projected the student enrollment to be. Ralph and Amy responded 115 students. Robert Hutton asked Ralph about the schedule this year. Ralph calls it the Variable Term Schedule. Ralph mentioned that the Variable Term Schedule has been presented to the board twice; one time in a powerpoint presentation. This schedule gives students more exposure to CTE classes. There are four core courses (math, science, social studies, and science) for four weeks and then classes like EMT, construction, technology, and culinary arts for two weeks straight. Students still get the same amount credits. Currently there are six districts in Alaska on this schedule. He will keep the Board apprised of this. He thinks this schedule is going to be awesome.

**Business Office Report** – Amy Stevenson gave a written attached report.

**ANEP Grant Director's Report** – Heather Powel gave an attached written report. Not present at meeting for questions.

**Grant Director's Report** – Norma Holmgaard gave an attached written report. She also walked the Board step by step through her written report. She will be here in person to attend the School Board Meetings from now on. Ralph Watkins added that some staff have expressed concerned that a non-native is in charge of a native grant. He has assured them that the cultural team is still in charge all cultural activities. There are some growing pains. However, it is our role as a district to use the funds given in the way they are intended and to report out those activities in a manner that they want it to be done. In the past, we have struggled with this as a district because we haven't had the personnel and now we have that. There is some confusion why the auntie and uncle position has been reduced. Ralph doesn't want the community to get the wrong idea. The Demonstration Grant is not about providing jobs but instead using the grant effectively in the way the state would like us to. Norma added that the Local Tribal Committee has committed to providing Cultural Activities and Cultural Experts for our students. We didn't fill those positions in the grant because these organizations claim that they are giving this to the students. Heidi thanked Norma for going through her report with the Board. She appreciates Norma for stepping in and fulfilling what the Board has requested. Heidi looks forward to working with her.

**Maintenance Report** – Jeremiah Byers gave an attached written report. He added that there is a teleconference at 10:00am with Corvus Design tomorrow to finalize construction contract for the Playground. He was rereading his report and he would like to redact the statement he made about needing another maintenance man to help clean all the areas for needed for the Variable Term Schedule. He didn't really understand the changing schedule. He now realizes that he won't have to clean the whole school every day because students will only be in certain parts on certain weeks. Even though the Erickson Building, AutoShop, and Wood Shop are all now in use they will only need cleaned during the two weeks that classes are happening in them. He will see how the cleaning goes with the Variable Term Schedule and will report back to the Board. Robert Hutton thanked Jeremiah and Corbin for everything they did to get the building ready for school to start.

**SPED Report** – Sheryl Ross gave an attached written report. No questions asked.

**Board & Committee Reports** – Robert Hutton included a report from Lon Garrison on the School Board Retreat on August 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. Dillon Styers and Heidi Jewell thought the Retreat went well. Grace Villarreal was very much missed.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **1.0 Adoption of AR 2123 / Superintendent Evaluation Timeline**

Heidi Jewell, Grace Villarreal move that we adopt AR 2123 Superintendent Evaluation Timeline. Robert Hutton explained that this AR is what they discussed during the Board Retreat with Lon Garrison. This is so the Board has a timeline they can follow for the Superintendent Evaluation. Robert Hutton asked for all those in favor to say "Aye". All four members said "Aye." Motion passes unanimously.

### **1.1 Transfer from Fund Balance to Fund for Boiler System**

Heidi Jewell, Grace Villarreal move that we approve a transfer from the general fund in the amount of \$70,000 to a fund for the purchase of a new boiler system. No Discussion. Robert Hutton asked for all those in favor to say "Aye". All four members said "Aye." Motion passes unanimously.

### **1.2 Teaching Contract for Catherine Pearce**

Heidi Jewell, Dillon Styers move that we offer a 2018/2019 teaching contract to Catherine Pearce. No Discussion. Robert Hutton asked for all those in favor to say "Aye". All four members said "Aye." Motion passes unanimously.

### **1.3 Adoption of the Board Self-Improvement Goals for 2018/2019**

Grace Villarreal, Heidi Jewell move that we adopt the following Board Self-Improvement Goals for 2018/2019:

1. The Board will institute a regular program of recognition of staff and students accomplishments.

2. The Board will educate itself on understanding its role with regard to grants. No Discussion. Robert Hutton asked for all those in favor to say "Aye". All four members said "Aye." Motion passes unanimously.

#### **1.4 Adoption of the Board Priorities for the District for 2018/2019**

Heidi Jewell, Dillon Styers move that we adopt the following Board Priorities for the District for 2018/2019:

1. By June 2019, the Board will have in place a sustainable district technology plan that improves opportunities for student success and achievement.
2. By May 2019, the Board will adopt revisions to the "Actions" of the 2016-2021 Hoonah City Schools Strategic Plan.
3. By June 2019, the board will adopt a plan for recruitment and retention of qualified staff.

No Discussion. Robert Hutton asked for all those in favor to say "Aye". All four members said "Aye." Motion passes unanimously.

#### **2.5 Adoption of the Board Handbook for 2018/2019**

Heidi Jewell, Dillon Styers move that the board formally adopt the current Board Handbook and add it to board policy as an exhibit. No Discussion. Robert Hutton asked for all those in favor to say "Aye". All four members said "Aye." Motion passes unanimously.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- **Review of Board Assignments:** Robert Hutton asked for Grace Villarreal's opinion on her assignment. She was good with the assignments. Each of the Board members will have the opportunity to report on their assignments during the Board & Committee Reports if they choose to do so. Heidi Jewell would like to switch assignments with Harold Houston. He seemed more interested in doing Tribal and Heidi would like to do Legislative to learn from Grace. Robert Hutton asked Heidi to talk to Harold and let him know what they decide.
- **Self-Improvement Goals:** Robert Hutton asked the board members if any of them would like to spear-head either self-improvement goals. There were no volunteers. He asked the Board Members to think about it and get back to him. Heidi Jewell is interested in sitting down with Norma in talking about the second board goal. He will ask again in September.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (THREE MINUTE TIME LIMIT EACH):** No Public Comments

**COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:**

**Heidi Jewell** – Heidi said that the students coming to Collette's report that they had a great first day. They did say that the schedules were still in progress but had a good day.

**Robert Hutton** – Spoke for Harold Houston saying that his children had a hard time sleeping because they were so excited about the first day of school.

**Grace Villarreal** – Grace is very glad to be back. She is glad that her husband is at peace and isn't suffering anymore.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

- One Teacher Contract

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Robert Hutton thanked the new teachers and Shawn McConnell for showing up to the meeting. He asked if there were any objections to adjournment. No objections. Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

**Dillon Styers**  
**Board Secretary**



**Kelli D Gretsinger**  
**Recording Secretary**