

**Meeting of the Gentry Board of Education
District #19
Minutes of Board of Education**

Meeting	Type	Location	Time	Date
No 2	Special	PAC	6:30 p.m.	August 2, 2021

Present

David Williamson – President
Melissa Holland – Secretary
Jim Barnes – Member
Gary Dunlap- Member
Jon Holt – Member
John Skaggs - Member

Absent

Randall Bolinger - Vice President

Call to Order

The Special August 2, 2021, Meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm with 6 members present at roll call. Randall Bolinger was absent. The local press was notified of the meeting but not present.

Moment of Silence

Observed

With no objections Mr. Williamson revised the agenda order to move the Curriculum Review Process and Materials item up on the agenda.

Comments:

Public -None

Staff

1. Terrie Metz, Superintendent, told the Board that she was proud of the work of the Admin Team and their work over the summer. She said that should be “praised for their efforts in the development of the ARP ESSER Plan.” They are working well as team and even doing a book study together. She said the FY22 school term would be, now more than ever, focused on student achievement.

Ms. Holland said that she appreciated the commitment to student achievement as top priority.

Personnel - [5 Personnel August 2, 2021.pdf](#)

Melissa Holland moved to accept the personnel items as presented (see link above) and John Skaggs seconded. The vote carried 6-0.

Consideration of Various Tuition/Purchased Service Agreements

- Physical Therapy Services - [Physical Therapy Services.pdf](#)
- Shirley Tuft Psychological Examiner - [Physical Therapy Services.pdf](#)
- Ozark Guidance Center - [Ozark Guidance Center.pdf](#)

John Skaggs moved to approve the Various Tuition and Purchased Service Agreements as presented and Gary Dunlap seconded. The vote carried 6-0.

ARP ESSER Budget Christie Toland

- [7 ARP ESSER Budget-Board Presentation.pdf](#) (Toland and Barrett)
- [7 ARP ESSER Plan for Use of Funds.pdf](#)

Ms. Metz noted that if the board approved the plan, it would also have to be approved at the state level before it could be implemented. Mr. Barrett noted there would also be other steps in the process for bids in some areas if the plan is approved by the State.

Ms. Toland noted that the district budget was hit hard by the lack of Free/Reduced applications last year. She said, “Hopefully this money will help make up the deficit for student services and normal funding can pick back up next year.”

Ms. Metz reported much of the plan was devised with feedback from public surveys.

Gary Dunlap moved to approve the ARP/ESSER Plan and Budget as presented. Jim Barnes seconded, and the vote carried 6-0.

Curriculum Review Process and Materials - [8 Instructional Model and Curriculum Review](#)

After Ms. Toland’s presentation, as linked above, Jim Barnes had questions regarding the unpacking slide #13 (page 22) - Ms. Toland explained identifying Essential Standards, noting that the purpose is to pare down the curriculum and master priority standards, required for success grade to grade and after high school, first. Ms. Metz agreed and noted that the document is an ever changing working document.

Ms. Toland noted that if approved, the implementation would begin in the FY23 school year.

Gary Dunlap moved to accept the Curriculum Review Process and Materials review as presented, and as recommended, approve the plan for using Arkansas State

Standards/Frameworks based instruction as the District's curriculum plan. Jim Barnes seconded. The vote carried 6-0.

Special Note: Arkansas Frameworks State Standards are link in the slide above and will be the standards the District will follow for all instruction. Ms. Metz noted that there are courses in that link that the District does not teach. It is the framework for every state approved course.

Ready for Learning Plan - 9 Updated for August 2021 Gentry School District Ready for Learning Plan.pdf

This plan review is required by the state. Ms. Toland noted that she and Ms. Metz are waiting for additional information from the Legislature. Ms. Metz noted that she has been taking phone calls about the District's Mask Policy all week. Currently the law prevents mandated masking, but this is being considered in the Legislature tomorrow. If the law changes the plan will also have to change.

Ms. Toland further explained that there is a continuous review process. This document is another ever evolving working document.

Ms. Holland said was in favor of also continuously sending out the surveys to parents for input as the plan is also consistently changing. Ms. Holland said that historically it has been a small number of parents who have responded to survey opportunities.

Ms. Toland said that while the focus of last year's plan had been remote learning and returning to school. This year's plan goals focus on living, working, and learning in a Covid era.

It is noted that this plan is on the website for review as well as linked above.

Currently cleaning, distancing as allowed, are in place. Each change should be brought to the Board. Ms. Metz asked if the Board would like a "swift reach poll" to parents after the legislative process, possibly Wednesday afternoon, to get input about masks. The board agreed by consensus.

John Skaggs suggested requiring virtual students to maintain a certain grade level to remain in the program. Regarding Virtual Learning at the K-6 level, Ms. Metz reminded the Board, there is not currently a K-6 Virtual option because it was apparent that it was not a good option for those grade levels. Ms. Metz reported that the NWAESC has provided 5 spots for these grades for emergency situations. Virtual 7-12 was also not approved for any student who did not perform last year in a virtual setting. Ms. Toland stated that even if the District went virtual again at some point, it could not look like 2020. Ms. Metz agreed.

Statement of Assurances - Accreditation [10. Statement of Assurances.pdf](#)

Gary Dunlap moved to approve the Statement of Assurances as presented. Jim Barnes seconded, and the vote carried 6-0.

Second Reading of Policy [Chromebook Protection Plan.pdf](#)

Craig Millsap briefly spoke concerning the cost of repairs and items damaged last year. He said that the protection plan is designed to help offset some of the cost of damage and loss.

Melissa Holland said that to be fair some were not in the best condition when sent out, Mr. Millsap agreed this was the case in the first distribution. 400 new Chromebooks were added to help that situation. Every student now has a Chromebook provided for their learning that is in good working order. Ms. Holland suggested conversations in each classroom, especially at the lower grade levels, directed by teachers, stressing the importance of taking care of the Chromebooks and stressing the expectations of care and responsibility.

Mr. Millsap noted that this policy proposal was “ripped” from other local districts. Most other districts have this type of policy in place. There would be no coverage on power cords. The vote carried 5-1 with Ms. Holland dissenting.

First Reading of Policy

None

Student Transfers

- Skyler Dedonder – Gentry to Siloam Springs
- Bristol Dedonder – Gentry to Siloam Springs
- Kadya Dedonder – Gentry to Siloam Springs
- Ethan Blake Pennington – Gentry to Springdale
- Alexander Michael South – Gentry to Springdale
- Mason Wells – Gentry to Farmington

Jim Barnes moved to accept the transfers as presented and Gary Dunlap seconded. The vote carried 6-0.

Miscellaneous and Informational Items

None

Miscellaneous Items after Publication of Agenda

None

Round Table

Jim Barnes - asked if there were any developments regarding mask mandates and/or any idea where it will go. Ms. Metz said she had heard it will be dropped down to the local level.

Gary – expressed “kudos to the Admin Team for their hard work on the ESSER Plan development.”

Adjourn

Gary Dunlap moved to adjourn at, 7:29 pm and Jon Holt seconded. The vote carried 6-0.