

Salida School District R-32-J

Board of Education

Work Session - Meet the Candidates for At-Large Seat

July 12, 2022, 5:30 p.m.

Kesner Board Room

The work session was attended by Directors Jodi Breckenridge Petit, Carrie Mattix, Jen Schuchman, Mandy Paschall, and Matt Hobbs. Also in attendance were Superintendent David Blackburn, Secretary Kim LeTourneau, Will Wooddell, Ben Hill, Paul Brackmann, and D.J. Dejong. Note that Board President Joe Smith was not in attendance.

Both candidates for the open at-large position on the Salida School Board were asked to share their three priorities for the district. Brackmann went first, indicating that he has been attending school board meeting for several months, and also that he had very recently applied for a teaching position at Salida High School, which would be a conflict of interest in his ability to serve on the school board. Superintendent Dr. Blackburn noted that Board policy notes a \$10,000 limit in earnings from the District to maintain eligibility to be a school board member. Brackmann shared his priorities for the District including school safety, diversity in programing, and SEL to focus on wellbeing of students and staff.

Ben Hill then introduced himself and identified his priorities which include security of schools, appropriate use of technology, and communication.

After further discussion, Brackmann decided to withdraw his interest in the position. Hill confirmed he would accept the nomination should the Board choose to move forward with that action. The Board noted their thanks to both candidates, and appreciated their qualifications and dedication to the Salida Schools.

The work session ended at 6:15 p.m.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

At 6:15 Vice President Jodi Breckenirdge Petit called the meeting to order. In attendance were Directors Jodi Breckenridge Petit, Carrie Mattix, Jen Schuchman, Mandy Petit, and Matt Hobbs. Note that Board President Joe Smith was not in attendance.

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited.

Guest Introductions – those present in the boardroom included Superintendent David Blackburn, Secretary Kim LeTourneau, Will Wooddell, Ben Hill, Paul Brackmann, D.J. DeJong, and William Stokesburry.

Board Member Comments

Director Schuchman shared that an ADL discussion on hate speech had been postponed due to COVID.

Director Mattix extended a thank you to Paul Brackmann and Ben Hill for their interest in becoming members of the Board of Education.

Director Breckenridge Petit noted the third vote for policy IKF-2 and the work that went into getting to this point and thanked the many involved in the process.

There were no **written communications** to the board.

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There were no **public comments**.

Approval of Agenda with the following changes:

Remove item 4j Approve Contract with SoftDocs for an Online Registration Program for \$10,000

Director Mattix made a motion to approve the agenda with the above changes. Director Paschall seconded the motion. Said motion was put to a vote as follows: Dr. Breckenridge Petit, yes; Mr. Hobbs, yes; Mrs. Mattix, yes; Mrs. Paschall, yes; Ms. Schuchman, yes; and was unanimously approved.

Reports

There were no guest, department or campus reports due to summer break. Superintendent Blackburn noted that early test score data is starting to come in and the numbers are worth celebrating. More details will be available when the data is released from embargoes.

Consent Agenda Items

Director Hobbs made a motion to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda. Director Schuchman seconded the motion.

- a) Approve Minutes of Regular Board Meeting of June 14, 2022
- b) Claims Payable – All Funds
- c) Claims Payable – Bills over \$5,000
- d) Personnel Items
- e) Acknowledge and Approve Exhibits and Regulations as Recommended by the Superintendent – None
- f) Approve on 1st Reading Policies - None
- g) Approve on 2nd Reading Policies
 - i) DKC – Expense Authorization/Reimbursement
- h) Approve on 3rd Reading Policies
 - i) JJD – Student Activity Fees
 - ii) IKF-2 – Graduation Requirements
- i) Approve \$14,347.28 Third Street Flooring-SECC Modular

Discussion included a note on the recommendation to hire interim principal Michelle Saab at SMS. There were three qualified candidates interviewed, and Saab brings character and experience to lead the middle school. Said motion was put to a vote as follows: Dr. Breckenridge Petit, yes; Mr. Hobbs, yes; Mrs. Mattix, yes; Mrs. Paschall, yes; Ms. Schuchman, yes; and was unanimously approved.

Discussion Items

Vice President Breckenridge Petit opened the conversation about school safety and the SRO IGA. Dr. Blackburn continues to update it and will meet with key partners from the community to make sure it is ready to go for review at the August meeting. The Board requested clarity in specific situation/response guidelines, and the role and expectations of the SRO, with a focus on the “resource” component of the role. The Board looks

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forward to having the document ready for review and in place to guide the District and partners in the case of an emergency situation.

Action Items

Director Schuchman made a motion to appoint Dr. Ben Hill to the at-large Board of Education seat. Director Hobbs seconded the motion. Vice President Breckenridge Petit noted that Paul Brackmann has applied for a teaching job at Salida High School and decided to step away from being a candidate for the Board. Director Mattix thanked both for their interest in the position. Said motion was put to a vote as follows: Dr. Breckenridge Petit, yes; Mr. Hobbs, yes; Mrs. Mattix, yes; Mrs. Paschall, yes; Ms. Schuchman, yes; and was unanimously approved.

The Board took a brief break while Dr. Hill signed the needed paperwork and was sworn in by notary Kim LeTourneau in front of those in attendance.

Board Communications and Committee Reports

There were no committee reports to share, as many are on summer break. Directors Paschall and Hobbs noted that they are working on revised structure and guidance for evaluating the superintendent and plan to present that information at the August retreat. It was noted that there is an opening for a Director to join the CBT committee.

Future Business

The Board will review a resolution to support Initiative 63 at the regular meeting of the Board on August 9th. Director Paschall noted an interest in revising the dress code policy, and Superintendent Blackburn noted that with new leaders in several buildings it is a good time to review that and the information in student handbooks in August or September.

The Board will host two listening sessions in August, with tentative dates of the 16th and 17th. One possibly at a local restaurant/pub in the evening and one at a coffee shop in the morning. More details will be released as they become available.

The next regular meeting of the Board will be Tuesday, August 9, 2022 at 6 p.m. at the Kesner Building. Director Mattix volunteered to help with agenda setting. The Board will meet for their annual retreat on Saturday, August 27, 2022 at Oak Street from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Superintendent Blackburn extended an invitation to each Director to reach out and sit down individually to visit before the start of the new school year.

Director Mattix made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim LeTourneau, Board Secretary

Joe Smith, Board President