

Carroll County Board of Education Working Meeting

March 11, 2014 4:00 PM

Carroll County Board of Education Conference Room

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

Attendance Taken at 4:00 PM:

Present Board Members:

Ms. Carolyn Jones

Mrs. Mona Kindoll

Mrs. Drusilla Maiden

Ms. Mary Ann Pearson

Mr. Rob Spenneberg

Dr. Lisa James, Superintendent; Bill Hogan, Assistant Superintendent/CAO; Jon Conrad, Treasurer; Tracie Crawford, Board Secretary were also present.

2. Approval of Agenda

Order #60917 - Motion Passed: Approved agenda items 1 - 4 as presented. Passed 5-0 with a motion by Mr. Rob Spenneberg and a second by Mrs. Drusilla Maiden.

Ms. Carolyn Jones Yes

Mrs. Mona Kindoll Yes

Mrs. Drusilla Maiden Yes

Ms. Mary Ann Pearson Yes

Mr. Rob Spenneberg Yes

3. Discussion Mrs. Kindoll started off by welcoming everyone and explained that tonight we were only discussing items on the agenda and that there would be no action taken at this time.

3.A. Discussion of Valedictorian/Salutatorian *Dr. James informed the board that there was an update on the Youth Career Connect grant. The grant has Carroll, Gallatin, Owen, Trimble, and Henry counties. Rick Rand is going to place a bill on the floor to provide SEED money to the five districts to help with the Regional Career ATC even if the grant isn't awarded to us he feels that this is a step in the right direction for the area. The SEED money is suggested to start at \$250,000.00. The federal grant that we applied for is to assist our area with starting a Regional Career Academy to focus on Technology, Engineering, and Manufacturing. This could start as a phasing in period, but the governor along with Legislature is behind this push to assist area technology centers to move forward. In October we had our first working meeting to discuss the valedictorian/salutatorian practice and gather information from other districts on how they recognize students. The board wanted to look at acknowledging more students for their academic accomplishments. On the screen, is what was shared with the board members at the October working meeting. We explored how we can acknowledge students and a discussion on possibly not recognizing valedictorian/salutatorian and instead recognizing students as cum laude, magnum cum laude, and summa cum laude which aligns with how colleges classify students. Dr. James revisited how other districts recognized students from what was shared with the board during the October meeting. She also discussed that at the October meeting the board asked us to look at the grading scale that we currently use, which could affect students and KEES money and weighting*

grades, we also gathered information about valedictorian/salutatorian needs for scholarships, and the pressure on students with ranking. Mr. Hogan shared with the board a compilation of surrounding districts and some additional districts that are similar to our district. Mr. Hogan provided a chart with the other districts grading scale, weight, and honors and how those districts recognize valedictorian/salutatorian. Most school districts that we researched do not specifically with board policy state how recognition of students is determined. Most schools that use KSBA for policies, just as we do, have general statement on graduation requirements and a more in depth policy is provided within the student handbook. Mr. Hogan also gave some estimates on how many districts using KSBA policy contain valedictorian/salutatorian wording within their policies. Mr. Hogan also talked to Duke, Harvard, University of Tennessee Knoxville, Northern Kentucky University, University of Louisville, and University of Cumberlands, these schools do not have any scholarships specifically for valedictorian. University of Kentucky, Morehead State University, Campbellsville, and Cumberland University do offer scholarships specifically for valedictorian recipients. Mr. Stephens discussed survey findings that the high school gathered from the students. The seniors and juniors were ask if they still wanted to continue with valedictorian/salutatorian practices and 80% wanted to keep the practice and 20% did not want to keep the practice. Additional comments that were given were that students wanted to keep the graduation practice like it has been with emphasis on tradition, the students also stated that drawings for money and gift cards would be nice as well, Mr. Stephens stated that the students were thinking outside the box. The draft policy was discussed and Dr. James pointed out how the draft policy had been changed from the last meeting to start the conversation for discussion. Dr. James discussed the 2015 graduation class requirements and the 2016 graduation class and future class requirements. We can change this policy, this is just a beginning for us to work from and move forward. Mr. Hogan did state that with the draft policy as written that in the future for classes 2016 and future classes the requirements in place could have a graduating class without a valedictorian or salutatorian if the requirements are not met. Mrs. Kindoll did ask Mrs. Richter if we have students that are on a career path would those students still have the same chance to take AP or Dual Credit classes but also be allowed to take classes at the ATC? Mrs. Kindoll wanted to make sure that all students have the same opportunities that the same classes were going to be offered the same opportunity each year. If a class didn't have enough interest that a student had the ability to take the class online and not miss out on classes. Mrs. Richter stated that the ATC is working with the high school to ensure that students are able to take the classes and also have the chance to take the AP classes or Dual Credit classes. Mrs. Kindoll stated that we are not taking any action however we need to discuss how to move forward. How do we feel about changing the grading to compete with and for KEES money but to also emphasize to the community that we are not making it easier on the students but giving our students the ability to compete with other students in other districts. It will also meet the college grading scale as well. Mrs. Kindoll took a consensus of the board on how they feel with changing the grading scale which would align with how colleges grade and to also give students of Carroll County a competitive edge for KEES money. Mrs. Kindoll took a consensus among the board about the proposed draft policy that was presented. The board at this time likes the draft policy, that would allow more recognition of graduating students which will not start until next school year and it will be phased in over the next two years. The board agreed to bring this back to discuss at the March 27, 2014 board meeting. Mrs. Kindoll did want some wordage added into the policy that would allow us to have valedictorian/salutatorian if the requirements were not fully met. The board also discussed looking at do we want to have the ACT minimum listed as part of the

requirements? The board wanted more information and more data. Mrs. Kindoll stated that more discussion would be needed for the next meeting. The audience was allowed to ask questions and the board was able to inform parents about the emphasis of the requirements for valedictorian/salutatorian and recognition as a honor student.

3.B. Discussion of Tobacco Free Campus for Carroll County School District

In October the board began discussions about Tobacco Free Campuses. We gathered information from Shelby, Owen, Gallatin, and other surrounding counties on their policies and how they have incorporated tobacco free campuses. Dr. James and Mr. Curell have looked more closely at Gallatin County and Grant County policies, how those districts incorporated those policies. We have looked more closely at Gallatin Counties because they also involved their student body and are close to us. Mr. Curell presented an implementation plan for how we can roll out the process within the district which would take about 15 months for us to complete the process and become tobacco free. We would need to adjust policies which we will have Janet Jeans, KSBA to draft some policies for us. The implementation process would begin this summer 2014 and we would be tobacco free as of the beginning of school 2015. Our first step is how to inform the community, public, employees, and district that we are moving toward a tobacco free campus. We are also working with the health department to discuss assistance with cessation classes for our employees to assist them with quitting tobacco. This plan will give us a timeline to allow everyone the ability to adjust to the change. Mr. Curell discussed the policies that we would need to change within our on district's policies. He also described with examples of Grant and Gallatin's policies how we can be as specific or as general. We will have time over the next few months to begin drafting policies that we can approve over this summer going into the school year of 2014-2015. The board would like to proceed with the implementation plan, they would also like to have Janet Jeanes send us some additional policies from other districts, but would also like us to begin sending things out to district staff and the community to allow everyone ample time to adjust. We will also talk to the health department to get a timeline started for classes as well to help employees.

4. Adjournment

Order #60918 - Motion Passed: Approved adjourning the March 11, 2014 Working Board Meeting at 5:17 p.m. Passed 5-0 with a motion by Mr. Rob Spenneberg and a second by Mrs. Drusilla Maiden.

Ms. Carolyn Jones	Yes
Mrs. Mona Kindoll	Yes
Mrs. Drusilla Maiden	Yes
Ms. Mary Ann Pearson	Yes
Mr. Rob Spenneberg	Yes

Chairperson

Secretary