

TWIN RIDGES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

16661 Old Mill Rd., Nevada City, California

Phone (530) 265-9052 ♦ Fax (530) 265-3049 ♦ www.twinridgeselementary.com

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2024 4:00 PM

GRIZZLY HILL SCHOOL - ROOM 4

	1. CALL TO ORDER 4:07pm	
	2. ROLL CALL	
	Aubrey Puetz Jonathan Farrell Mindi Morton Lorien Whitestone Malik Goodman	President Clerk NCSOS Representative Member Member
		Present Present Present Absent Present
	3. ATTENDEES: CBO, Sunshine Bender, C.S.C. Kristen Snell, E.A. Marisol Estrada, Cindy Browning, Adam Percy, Diana Pasquini	
<i>Action</i>	4. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 12, 2024 REGULAR AGENDA – Aubrey Puetz	
	Trustee Puetz seeks a motion to approve the March 12th regular agenda, Trustee Morton makes a motion to approve the March 12th Regular agenda with the elimination of items I, J, K, Trustee Goodman seconds the motion. The vote carries as follows: (4/0/1/0) Aubrey-YES Jonathan-YES Mindi-YES Lorien-ABSENT Malik-YES	
	5. PUBLIC COMMENT	
	The Board of Trustees welcomes comments and suggestions from the public. While no action may be taken by the Board concerning items not on the agenda, comments are important for District information and for possible future action. Due to time considerations, the chair may request that comments by an individual be limited to two minutes. Suggestions and comments from the public regarding items listed on this agenda should be raised during the comment period for the specific agenda item. (Education Code 35145.5; Bylaw 9322, Government Code 54954.3)	

Jessica Gray speaking for public comment. She shares concerns regarding communication between the school administration and parents. Jessica expresses that parents have a desire for regular direct communication between the school and parents. She ends by stating she hopes to see a change.

Action

6. CONSENT ITEMS. *These items are expected to be routine and non-controversial. The Board will act upon them at one time without discussion. Any Board member, staff member or interested party may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.*

Action

A. Shall the Board approve the February 13,2024 Board Meeting Minutes (See Red TEXT backup)



Mindi makes a motion to approve the February 13,2024 Board Meeting Minutes, Jonathan seconds the motion. Vote Carries as follows: (4/0/1/0)

Aubrey-YES
Jonathan-YES
Mindi-YES
Lorien-ABSENT
Malik-YES

Action

B. Shall the Board approve the February warrants (see white backup)



Mindi makes a motion to approve the February Warrants, Jonathan seconds the motion. Vote Carries as follows: (4/0/1/0)

Aubrey-YES
Jonathan-YES
Mindi-YES
Lorien-ABSENT
Malik-YES

7. REPORTS

Report

A. Family Resource Center Report -*Diana Pasquini*

Diana reports for FRC, 6 new families and an estimated 260 clients were served at the most recent food pantry distribution. Diana shares she is receiving donations from local Ridge Markets and the foodbank. Clothes closet is still running, plenty of clothing is still available. Tech services are a great asset.

New at the FRC are laundry vouchers along with the various household items they are supplying. Classes are still going on at the FRC. Children's dance classes are full, with waitlists. Some future events at the FRC are the collaboration with Grizzly Hill on "Ridge Connections" with the Community Schools Coordinator leading the effort.

There is a parent who would like to grade the driveway. Diana will put him in contact with Sunshine or Scott.

Report	B.	Teacher's Report - <i>Adam Percy</i>																						
		<p>Mr. Percy begins with an overview of I-ready. He shares his experience using the program and that he has seen an overall improvement with his students. I-ready gives accurate levels of Math and Reading. Having electronic data backup is also great for keeping up with student data collection. Has some challenges around keeping the students engaged for ongoing periods of time.</p> <p>Field trips- Adam shares that he is planning the sixth grade camp. They will be repeating last year's trip. Another future trip will be to the Gold Crush Climbing Gym, he wants to get the kids out doing physical/outdoor activities. He also wants to plan some trips around local activities such as Sierra streams institute, Malakoff Diggins, and Shady Creek to have the kids get first hand experience as it relates to curriculum.</p> <p>Adam concludes by reading a letter he prepared ahead of time. He shares his personal reasons for becoming a teacher and the passion he has behind leading his classroom. The letter includes both ideas for improvement along with concerns.</p>																						
Report	C.	Little Acorns- <i>Pam Langley</i>																						
		Not in attendance																						
Report	D.	Superintendent/Principal Report - <i>Scott Mikal-Heine</i>																						
		<p>Boys basketball ended the season with 4/6, a great season, impressed with coach Tom Wade. Not able to get a volleyball coach on board. Happy to announce there is a person ready to take on Coaching the track team . Movie night success was another great success for the month's activities.</p> <p>On the horizon. Differentiated Assistance. For schools that are in the California state dashboard, we are in for chronic absenteeism, and student performance. We were in negotiations with CSEA about job descriptions. Lots of change in leadership at CSEA leadership making communications difficult.</p>																						
Report	E.	Student Service Report- <i>Cindy Browning</i>																						
		nothing to report																						
Report	F.	<p>Current Enrollment - Grizzly Hill School</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="409 1507 1461 1749"> <thead> <tr> <th>Grade</th> <th>TK/K</th> <th>1/2</th> <th>3/4</th> <th>5/6</th> <th>7/8</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Students</td> <td>4/16</td> <td>12/10</td> <td>11/16</td> <td>11/12</td> <td>5/8</td> <td>105</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Teacher</td> <td>Caughey</td> <td>Clemens</td> <td>Hobbs</td> <td>Pearcy</td> <td>Hinrichs</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Grade	TK/K	1/2	3/4	5/6	7/8	Total	Students	4/16	12/10	11/16	11/12	5/8	105	Teacher	Caughey	Clemens	Hobbs	Pearcy	Hinrichs		
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Report	G.	Little Acorns Preschool - <i>Pam Langley</i>																						

Class	M,W,F - Ages 3-5	T,Th - Ages 2 - 3
Students	11	6

<i>Report</i>	H.	Community Schools Report- <i>Kristen Snell</i>	
		<p>Things moving forward with CS- The Advisory Council continues to meet. This committee helps guide and oversee the community schools process. There has been some consistency which makes the meetings beneficial. Update on the grant, should hear the results in May. In the process of revitalizing “Ridge Connections” Kristen hopes to have it out quarterly.</p> <p>Elop: Hired two people to fill the position for upcoming ELOP activities. Spring break planning is in full swing. Program is full at 18, 10 on the waitlist. Speaks about various trips and activities planned for the spring camp. Looking to build out the program for summer break.</p>	
<i>Report</i>	I.	Parent Teacher Club Report - <i>Aubrey Puetz</i>	
		Aubrey starts by addressing community health, encourages everyone to evaluate what you can do to stay healthy. Update on Krispy Kreme fundraiser. Gives Sunshine kudos for her efforts during the sale. Money goes to the 7/8th grade excursion. Reports on the book fair. Lots of support and help from the PTC. It provided students with excitement about books, and we also got scholastic dollars for future use. Very Grateful to the PTC and how much support the event received.	
<i>Report</i>	J.	Board Report - <i>Jonathan Farrell</i>	
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compost plan update 2. Proposed Bus Stop at Mother Truckers <p>Jonathan starts- Compost plan- Kacy has a design for a 3 bin compost receptacle. Work starts this week, Jonathan building wood boxes. Also creating a black soldier fly system to create larva to eat the compost. A full circle system to meet the needs of our compost issues.</p> <p>Bus Stop- Has reached out to pertinent individuals with a potential new location of the proposed bus stop but has not heard back from his contact. Trustee Farrell has a contractor willing to build it, a design team in place, and he thinks concrete and lumber can be sourced via donation. A matter of getting approval from the land owner and final approval from Eli.</p>	
	8.	DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS	
<i>Discussion/Action</i>	A.	Update on Measure “A”- NEXT STEPS- <i>Scott Mikal</i>	

Scott Mikal begins- We are currently at a 71% approval rate. Has not communicated to the community yet because the final count has not been released. In terms of approval rate we are quite high in the Measures on the Ballot. Trustee Goodmans asks for voter turnout. 846 votes were cast out of just shy of 2000 voters. Michael Reimenschneider says we are in a good place. Scott gives recognition to the staff, parents, PTC, Board, and of course Michael for all of the efforts being made towards our bond effort. Excited about the results and moves us towards next steps.

The conversation continues around next steps with specific details regarding order of priorities going forward,as well as contractor and architect services. Trustee Goodman suggests a special meeting to only talk about the project list as relates to the bond.

Trustee Morton asks what the process will be for prioritizing projects. Board Members agree that they would like to propose a Special Meeting and a committee be assembled at that meeting.

Shin- Responds to the board with the importance to add an architect because the proposed work will be at a school and we will have to meet the department of state architects requirements. Also to understand potential costs for any projects we plan on doing. Trustee Goodman asks if we need an architect for every project. Even things such as repairing an HVAC requires meeting certain criteria that the architect will be able to help with.

Michael- talks about his excitement to work with the team and is excited about the steps. Issuance of funds will be the next steps.

Shin- Summarizes his presentation. A team will be put in place to issue the bond and handle the logistics. The team will ensure we are meeting all requirements necessary to issue the bond to the school. Talks about the bond guidelines when it comes to issuing the bond. Provides a sample timeline to the Board. Anticipating bringing the resolution back by the next board meeting.

Moves discussion to tax rates. If we feel things will take longer than 3 years can move to a multi series but feels with the amount that we will be receiving it is completely reasonable to stick to a single issuance. Congratulations to the board, district, community, etc. School bonds getting to 70% is a huge success! Speaks to the quality of the work , the board and the community support for the school.

Discussion/Action

B.

Shall the Board approve the FCMAT Agreement For Management Assistance -*Scott Mikal (See yellow back up)*



Scott gives an overview of what FCMAT is. We are currently in a state of structural deficit spending. Shares that certain funds will be expiring Sept 2024. We will spend every last dollar before that happens. Scott talks about a special education component that we can take out since we are using county support in this area. Believes we need an outside perspective to handle some of the

next steps we will need in moving towards the black. Trustee Goodman would like understand the process of FCMAT and how they see the budget. Trustee Goodman would like to have a separate meeting as a budget workshop or a Special Board Meeting .Trustee Puetz shares her concerns with creating another special vs. a workshop or ad hoc committee. Trustee Morton asks what will be discussed in the meeting. Trustee Puetz asks if there is an expiration date? Yes, it is a 30 day quote. Trustee Goodman asks if the Special Meeting would not include special needs due to the survey we have going on with the county. Trustee Goodman asks for clarification on Eli’s findings. There are other areas in terms of fiscal items that are outside of Eli’s study.

The Board Pauses for a question from the public:

Jessica asks if this is necessary , the Board replies yes, and it is long overdue. Trustee Farrell shares that it is important to recognize when you need help and that to get an outside expert can hold value.

Aubrey states that she does not have the Board's approval at this time.

Discussion/Action

C. Shall the Board approve the Second Interim Budget Report-*Sunshine Bender* (See the clipped backup)



Sunshine reads her letter aloud given to the board. This is an overview of the various highlights of the budget. Moves to special education and county costs, and projected costs.

In lieu and special ed costs make up a lot of the spending. Touches on the county partnership and how this can affect our spending in the area of special education.

Scott Mikal- gives clarification on in lieu tax spending. Mindi questions if it is better to remain in basic aides.

Sunshine moves to her recommendations for the board. Staff recommends the sale of the Washington School, finalizing the steps for Little Acorns Pre-School, and moving forward with reductions in force.

Aubrey moves for a motion to be made-

Trustee Goodman makes a motion to approve , Trustee Morton seconds the motion.

Vote Carries as follows: (4/0/1/0)

Aubrey-YES
Jonathan-YES
Mindi-YES
Lorien-ABSENT
Malik-YES

Discussion/Action

D. Shall the Board approve the Reduction in Force Resolution (Classified)



-Scott Mikal (see the orange backup)

Staff is making a recommendation to reduce 3 positions in the classified unit. People notified may not actually be released. They are not final, May 15th is final the deadline. The district still maintains autonomy to hire as needed in the future.

Starts with Little Acorns- Both staff are currently associate teachers, as we move forward with a formal pre-school there will need to be a site supervisor to fill the need for two staff. Staff has been made aware of these needs.

Grizzly Hill-
the paraprofessional class in the unit is a teacher's aide. A protective step in order to have time to plan for next year.
School secretary- some proposed job descriptions have been brought to the board will hopefully fit the needs of any potential reductions.

Trustee Goodman- asks for clarification on reasoning for these particular positions being reduced. Scott responds with; The positions were being paid for by funds that will no longer be available. .

Aubrey moves for a motion to be made-
Trustee Morton makes a motion to approve , Trustee Farrell seconds the motion.

Vote Carries as follows: (4/0/1/0)
Farrell:yes
Morton:yes
Goodman: yes
Puetz:yes
Whitstone: Absent

Discussion/Action

E. Shall the Board approve the Reduction in Force Resolution (Certificated)
-Scott Mikal (see the orange backup)




Scott proposes - Resource Teacher, teacher is on an intern permit. Most districts do this with those on an intern permit.




Trustee Morton makes a motion to approve , Trustee Farrell seconds the motion. The vote carries as follows (4/0/1/0)

Vote Carries as follows:
Farrell: Yes
Morton:Yes
Goodman: Yes
Puetz:Yes
Whitstone absent

Discussion/Action

F. Library Planning Update

		<p>Scott- Great progress in updating the library. 3 teacher librarians have been working on the project. Weeding has been the main focus, now in the steps of creating a list of books for purchase. Books must be exit-ed and the list will be brought to the board. There will be books shared, given to classrooms, community students etc. Scott assures the board we are following a very formal process. Discussion moves to talk about furniture and bookcases in order to access the space for students in a more functional way. One more weekend of big work and then we will move to the discard process. will potentially come to the board with furniture recommendations, and equipment.</p> <p>Diana Paquini- Speaks about her concerns for some of the books that are in the discard pile. The importance of having local authors kept in the library.</p> <p>Trustee Goodman- wants to make sure we are not discarding something that would be important to the community connection.</p> <p>Scott clarifies these are books for check out that are being weeded. They can also include aged books.</p>	
<i>Discussion/Action</i>	G.	Culinary Program at Grizzly Hill School	
		<p>Scott -talked to Kitchen staff. They are excited about getting the program together Talked with staff about prep and clean up. Staff is excited to create a program. Trustee Goodman asks when an elective schedule will be made for the next year. Trustee Goodman asks for this to be put on the May agenda for an update.</p>	
<i>Discussion/Action</i>	H.	Martial Arts program update	
		<p>Has tried to reach out, playing phone tag. Partnering with Kristen for EIOP potential. Trustee Farrell shares another contact that may be willing to lead the class. Aubrey would like to put the assembly first. Trustee Goodman asks for this to be on the April agenda. Trustee Farell sees this as a good way to address some of the concerns of behaviors, attendance, etc. This could be incentive for kids to come to school.</p>	
<i>Discussion/Action</i>	K.	Food Forest Planning update	
		<p>Jonathan Farrel, Gives an update to the board regarding the food forest idea. Gives some data on water usage. Shares that there is a 5000 grant available for gardens in schools. With the interest of timing we may have to put up the money up in advance and then get reimbursed via the grant. Jonathan will follow up after the next meeting at the parks board. Board is good to move forward to start the project.</p>	
<i>Discussion/Action</i>	L.	Shall the Board approve the replacement of the Kindergarten playground slide - <i>Scott Mikal (see lavender backup)</i>	
		Board asks if we can offset the shipping costs.	

		Trustee Morton makes a motion to approve , Trustee Farrell seconds the motion. The vote carries as follows (4/0/1/0) Vote Carries as follows: Farrell: Yes Morton:Yes Goodman: Yes Puetz:Yes Whitestone: Absent	
Discussion/Action	M.	Shall the Board approve the 2023-2024 Comprehensive School Safety Plan- <i>Scott Mikal</i>	
		Trustee Morton makes a motion to approve , Trustee Goodman seconds the motion. The vote carries as follows (4/0/1/0) Vote Carries as follows: Farrell: Yes Morton:Yes Goodman: Yes Puetz:Yes Whitestone absent	
Discussion/Action	N.	Shall the Board approve the Place Based Job Description - <i>Scott Mikal</i> <i>(see the gray backup)</i>	
		OT, Reminds Board this is dependent on funding- Aubrey moves for a motion to be made- Trustee Morton makes a motion to approve , Trustee Farrell seconds the motion. The vote carries as follows (4/0/1/0) Vote Carries as follows: Farrell: Yes Morton:Yes Goodman: Yes Puetz:Yes Whitestone absent	
Discussion/Action	O.	For the Board's review- Audit Engagement Letter - <i>Sunshine Bender</i> <i>(see the white backup)</i>	
		Read and acknowledged	
Discussion/Action	P.	Letter to CPUC-Regarding AT&T Landline Elimination <i>(see green backup)</i>	
		Trustees sign letter to send	

Discussion/Action	Q.	Policy Updates-First Read	
		Scott gives clarifications on expectations from the board.	
	9.	FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS DISCUSSION	
		Martial arts, discuss closing washington school, discuss communication with parents and teachers (closed session)	
	10.	UPCOMING MEETINGS: April 9,2024	
	11.	PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS	
		<p>Jessica to speak- highly disapproves of getting rid of teachers, speaks on behalf of the community possibility of moving forward with teacher reduction.</p> <p>Hillary- speaking on behalf of tk/k teacher. She believes she is a valuable resource.</p> <p>Board responds by clarifying that is not one of the reductions in questions.</p>	
	12.	CLOSED SESSION: 7:14	
	A.	Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release (Government Code § 54957)	
	B.	Conference with Labor Negotiator (Government Code § 54957.6). Employee Organizations: Twin Ridges Teachers Association, California School Employees Association, SJR Chapter, Non-Represented Classified; Agency Negotiator: Superintendent Scott Mikal	
	C.	Conference With Legal Counsel – Anticipated/Existing Litigation (Government Code § 54956.9(d)(1) (Government Code § 54956.9(d)(2) or (3).	
	13.	RECESS /RECONVENE - Report Out on Closed Session – Malik Goodman	
	A.	Reportable Action Taken Regarding Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release (Government Code § 54957(b))	
	B.	Reportable Action Taken Regarding Conference with Labor Negotiator (Government Code § 54957.6). Employee Organizations: Non-Represented Classified. Agency Negotiator: Scott Mikal	
	C.	Reportable Action Taken Regarding Conference With Legal Counsel – Anticipated/Existing Litigation (Government Code § 54956.9(d)(1) (Government Code § 54956.9(d)(2) or (3).	
	14.	ADJOURNMENT: 7:48	

This agenda was posted at least 72 hours prior to the meeting at 16661 Old Mill Rd. Nevada City, CA 95959 and on the website at TRES.D.ORG

NOTICE:

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to access the Board meeting room or to otherwise participate at this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, contact the Twin Ridges Elementary School District office at 530.265-9052 ext. 201 at least 48 hours before the scheduled Board meeting so that we may make every reasonable effort to accommodate your needs. {G.C. §54953.2, §54954.2(a) (1); Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, §202 (42 U.S.C. §12132)}

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3/12/2024

Aubrey Puetz, Board President

Date

3/12/2024

Scott Mikal-Heine, Superintendent/Principal

Date

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