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

**March 13, 2018**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Heidi Jewel, Dillon Styers, Harold Houston, and Robert Hutton. Grace Villarreal is absent excused.

**SUPERINTENDENT/PRINCIPAL:** Ralph Watkins

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Amy Stevenson, Business Manager/Board Recording Secretary, Sheryl Ross, Special Education Director, Jeremiah Byers, Maintenance Director, Jamie Erickson, Valerie Houston, John Vlaun, and Mary Beth Moss.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Robert Hutton Called the meeting to order at 7:25 pm.

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

**CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD:**

* **Resolution passed by the Board February 15, 2018 Supporting and Advocating for Implementation of Alaska’s Education Challenge** - Robert Hutton spoke with Lon Garrison asking what should be done with the passed resolution. Lon suggested sending the resolution to Johnathan Kreiss-Tompkins, Senator Stedman, Commissioner Michael Johnson, and the Governor. He read responses from Johnathan Kreiss-Tompkins, and Commissioner Johnson for the audience. This resolution will also be published in the school newsletter.
* **Acknowledgement of Letter from Valerie Houston –** Robert Hutton thanked Valerie Houston for her kind letter expressing her appreciation with the SPED staff for all of their hard but wonderful work.
* **Letter from Ladonna Dybdahl –** Robert Hutton informed the audience that Ladonna has withdrawn her letter intending to retire June 1, 2018
* **Letter of Retirement from Jennifer Bidiman –** Robert Hutton read a letter from Jennifer informing the District she will be retiring from the school at the end of this school year.

**AGENDA REVISIONS:** Robert Hutton moved the Presentation to honor outgoing school board member to beneath the adoption of the agenda.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

**M/S Heidi Jewel, Dillon Styers moved to adopt the agenda as revised**. **MOTION CARRRIES WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT**

**PRESENTATION to Honor Outgoing School Board Member**

* Robert Hutton presented a certificate and gift to Jamie Erickson thanking her for her service and dedication to the school and children of Hoonah. Jamie expressed that she wished she could do both, work for the school doing PAT and be on the school board. She loves PAT. She was just starting to feel that she was learning.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**M/S Harold Houston, Heidi Jewell, moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting February 15, 2018. VOICE VOTE: HJ-YES, DS-YES, HH-YES, RH-YES, MOTION CARRIES**

**BOARD CALENDAR:** Harold Houston asked about the testing period on the calendar. Ralph explained that the State opens testing on March 26th a period for several weeks. This give district the ability to test anytime during this period letting the instructional staff judge the best time frame.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (THREE MINUTE TIME LIMIT EACH):**

* **Mary Beth Moss** – She spoke on rebuilding the music program in the school to its former splendor. She would love to see the students be able to learn music by classes, jazz band, pep band, etc. Music is known to help students with academics. Music can be a social outlet especially for student who are not athletic. Music increase brain activity whether played or listened to. There are giant amounts of literature showing the benefits of music. It is known to increase literacy and benefit with dyslexia.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:**

* **Administrator Report – Ralph Watkins** asked John Vlaun to speak to the Board about a wonderful opportunity. John informed the Board of an opportunity to collaborate with scientists in Glacier Bay. The National Park Service has given the district monies last year that can be used to allow 4 students, two of each gender to Glacier Bay to work alongside scientists sampling the water and plankton. This will be this spring. Science give kids that light bulb to think that this is something that I can do. BIA has grants to employee students to intern over the summer working in science based jobs.

Ralph presented the most current testing data and explained how it compared the previous years.

* **Business Office Report – Amy Stevenson** gave a written attached report. No comments.
* **ANEP Grant Director’s Report – Heather Powell,**  not present, deleted
* **Maintenance Report – Jeremiah Byers** gave a written attached report, which he read for the Board
* **SPED Report –** **Sheryl Ross** informed the Board that she has been extremely busy with IEPs annual evaluations.
* **Board Reports** 
  + **Dillon Styers** told everyone that the negotiation committee had completed the task they were given.Nothing else to report
  + **Heidi Jewell** will be reaching out to Lon Garrison about a possible Board Work Shop focusing school budget.
  + **Harold Houston** attended the committee as a whole meeting earlier this evening at the City of Hoonah. There was a heated debate on budget issues. He informed the Board that he and Jeremiah had meet and had a great meeting. We need to do research on other material verse pea gravel for under the playground equipment. He would like to meet with Sally Dybdahl and other key personnel to get input on the needs of kids. We need to invest in equipment that will last long term.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION-Superintendent/Principal Contract**

**M/S Heidi Jewell, Dillon Styers to go into executive session discuss the Superintendent/Principal Contact. VOICE VOTE: HJ-YES, DS-YES, HH-YES, RH-YES, MOTION CARRIES**

**INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION: 8:23 PM**

**OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION: 8:45 PM**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1.0 Superintendent/Principal Contract**

**M/S Heidi Jewell, Dillon Styers move that we offer Ralph Watkins a contract for FY 2019-2021 as Superintendent/Principal. VOICE VOTE: HJ-Yes, DS-Yes, HH-Yes, RH-Yes**. **MOTION CARRIES.**

* 1. **SPED Administrator’s Contract**

**M/S Heidi Jewell, Dillon Styers move that the Board of Education offer a 2018/2019 Administrator contract to Sheryl Ross. VOICE VOTE: HJ-Yes, DS-Yes, HH-Yes, RH-Yes**. **MOTION CARRIES.**

* 1. **FY 2018/2019 School Calendar for 1st Reading**

**M/S Heidi Jewell, Dillon Styers move that we approve the proposed 2018-2019 school calendar for first reading. DISCUSSION: Heidi asked if the staff and parents were part of this calendar. Amy commented that no, not yet. The calendar will go out to the staff to get their input before the second and final reading next month. VOICE VOTE: HJ-Yes, DS-Yes, HH-Yes, RH-Yes**. **MOTION CARRIES.**

* 1. **FY 2018/2019 School Operating Fund Budget 1st Reading**

**M/S Heidi Jewell, Dillon Styers move that we approve the FY 19 preliminary Budget for first reading. VOICE VOTE: HJ-Yes, DS-Yes, HH-Yes, RH-Yes**. **MOTION CARRIES.**

* 1. **Part-Time Federal Grant Manager**

**M/S Heidi Jewell, Dillon Styers move that the Board of Education approve the contract for services with Norma J. Holmgaard for FY 19. VOICE VOTE: HJ-Yes, DS-Yes, HH-Yes, RH-Yes**. **MOTION CARRIES.**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

* **Board Assignments –** deferred until Grace Villarreal returns.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (THREE MINUTES PER SPEAKER):**

* **Jamie Erickson** – She asked that the parents be informed how to help the students prepare for testing. Ralph told Jamie that there was information on our school website about testing.
* **Ralph Watkins –** He thanked the Board for extending his contract. He also thanked them for recognizing Ms. Ross for her support with our students.

**COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD:**

* **None**

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

* **Board Assignments**
* **FY19 Budget for final reading and Work Session if needed**
* **Final reading of school calendar**
* **Non-tenured teacher contracts for FY 19**
* **Exempt contracts for FY 19**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Robert Hutton asked if there was any objection to adjournment. No objections. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Dillon Styers Kelli Deitering/Amy Stevenson

Board Secretary School Board Secretary