

**NORTH RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 200**  
**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**  
**January 19, 2021**  
**5:30 PM**  
**IN THE LIBRARY/**ZOOM****

**FLAG SALUTE**

**I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:**

Chairman Mizushima called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM. Board Members Present by Zoom: Chairman, Beth Mizushima; Vice-Chairman, Jim Banas, Legislative Representative, Carolyn Lande, Director, Julie Miles; and Director Bob Sholes. Others Present by Zoom: Superintendent, Lindsey Maehlum, Recording Secretary/Business Manager, Pam Pratt, and Transportation/Maintenance Supervisor, Joe Fuquay.

**II. VISITORS ZOOM:**

Melinda Brock	Olivia Gomez
Jim /Maryann Welch	David Farnell
Trish/Jessica Nelson	Jamie Peterson
Ted Clausen	Gumaelius Family
Kendal Johnson	Debbie Dey
Kathy Osbekoff	Bridget/Destinee Greiner
Lorenzo Churape	Jeff/Lisa Schreck
Chuck/Donna Schreck	Chantha phone
Rocio Gomez/Raul Apaez	Jacob Coker
Jesus Rodriguez	Danae Poukkula
Angie Fuquay	Sue Coulter
Harry Carthum	Oliver Emerson
Christy White	Greg Stone
Kelly Clark	Jerry Mertl
Greenways	Marisol Guzman
Vance	Austin/Missy Cain
Sara Jordan	Donda Sorenson
Taaffe Whipple	Heather Johnson
Estphany Garcia	Suzanne Handley
Debbie Koehn	

A few others on cell phones and ipads did not give their name.

**III. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA:**

The following items were added to the agenda: VIII Old Business item B Quarterly Report and VII Director's Report—Bob Sholes Facts to Consider Director Banas made a motion, and Director Miles seconded the motion to approve the changes to the agenda. The motion passed 4- 1's and 1-Nay.

**IV. MINUTES: December 14, 2020, Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

Director Banas made a motion, and it was seconded by Director Sholes to approve the December 14, 2020 Board Minutes as written. The motion carried unanimously.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENTARY:**

Chairman Mizushima explained that if anyone had a Public Comment to add their name to the Chat. Ms. Beyer would add you to the list. Chairman Mizushima reminded the visitors that there was a two-minute time limit. Several Community and Parents again voiced their concerns about the direction that the school is headed.

- **General: Vision Plan**—People were concerned that the Vision plan was moving forward and that they were told it was just a vision. There were additional questions about the Birth-3 program.
- **Critique: Questions about the hiring process. Bilingual program lack of transparency.** There was a petition presented with over 100 signatures supporting a hiring freeze.
- **Community Support: Comments made about the benefits of bilingual programs for learning and beyond high school. Support voiced for the addition of music and home ec programs for the benefit of Junior High and High School.**

**VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

- (a) **Financial: The Business Manager reported an ending cash balance of \$313,971.00.**

**VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT(S):**

- (A) **Facts to Consider—Bob Sholes**

Director Sholes wanted to clarify some truths—The Vision Committee met twice a month for two years of planning for this vision. The committee laid out the groundwork. Superintendent Maehlum is not the author of the plan the Vision Committee is. The vision is what is best for the students.

**VIII. OLD BUSINESS:**

- (A) **Board Approval for the Re-Opening Plan**

Director Sholes made a motion, and Chairman Mizushima to approve the Re-Opening Plan beginning January 28 with no school on Mondays from 10:15 to 3:45 PM. and with the approval of hiring an additional temporary para. The motion carried unanimously.

- (B) **Quarterly Report on the Behavior Facilitator Position Neutrality**

Director Banas would like a Board discussion and vote on the continuation or not for the Quarterly Report for the Behavior Facilitator Position neutrality. Director Banas requested Chairman Mizushima to fully explain the background is from the school's attorney on why it is a legal liability to the school if we look at this and following that, then someone could make a motion as to continue with it or not., if it is not a go then he would go along with the decision.

Chairman Mizushima stated that she strongly believes that the Boards role when looking at budgets is a broad overall picture. When she clarified that the school's attorney cautioned us as a board to stick to the broad budget we oversee and passed at the beginning of the year. School budgets are very fluid and he advised that there are a lot of moving pieces and Administrators have the responsibility to manage and that when board members as a whole step should not step across the line they should be sticking to their role. If they do not stick to their role, and the prevalence is in their scope, it can present a lot of challenges and risks to the district. She stated that she believes that it is not

appropriate to review any singular positions if we want an overall assessment of the sustainability of our budget she thinks that is something we could do quarterly absolutely, and look at how the pieces are moving and make sure that we are physically sound compared to the overall broad budget that we passed at the beginning of the year.

Director Banas asks what is the district's attorney's reasoning on why it gives the possibility of liability for the district.

He stated that he doesn't understand. Director Banas then explained why he originally requested that report. It was early on it was a position that we have never had before, and that he felt that it wasn't necessary, but after the Superintendent explained the reasoning for the position he went along with it. The person would have to be bilingual because the district has parents and students that their English is very limited and it helps communication and the other was Special Education background to help our teachers with the paperwork that the district has fallen behind in over the years. The main selling point was that the position would be budget neutral towards the end of the year. It was specifically for that reason that he asks for the report to show that the position was budget neutral towards the end of the year. Director Banas further stated that he had voted for the position and the person that was selected after the interviews. That was his reasoning why he requested the report. He thought the report was settled until it came up again just before the last board meeting. Director Banas would like for the board to either vote yay or nay and he would follow whatever the vote of the board is.

Chairman Mizushima stated that it is important for the board to stick to the broad overview of the budget and that she does not believe that it is appropriate for the board to specifically focus on any one singular position and she doesn't think that is effective for good relations.

Chairman Mizushima made a motion that we stick to reviewing the overall budget.

Director Sholes stated that he remembered when Director Banas talked about a report. Director Sholes suggested that a simple solution would be for the Superintendent, at a quarterly or monthly meeting, simply state in an unrequested statement that says the district is still budget neutral. Director Sholes said that he believes that is all Director Banas is asking for. Director Sholes further stated that he agrees with Director Banas that the board was told that the position was budget neutral and he doesn't disagree that we shouldn't expect that.

Chairman Mizushima reminded the board that she had made a motion to stick to the overall budget and asked if there was a second. No response. She then asked if there was another motion

Director Banas made a motion that we just have an unrequested statement quarterly or monthly stating that we were heading towards budget neutrality on that position. Director Sholes seconded the motion as long as it was unrequested. Discussion—Chairman Mizushima encourages people to consider not calling out singular positions. The vote was four I's and one Nay. Motion carried four to one.

## **IX. NEW BUSINESS:**

- (A) High School Grade and Credit Mark Policy—Director Banas made a motion, and it was seconded by Director Sholes to approve the High School Grade and Credit Mark Policy. The motion carried unanimously.**
- (B) Acceptable use Policy for Student’s Laptops—Director Banas made a motion, and it was seconded by Chairman Mizushima to approve the Acceptable use Policy for Student’s Laptops. The motion carried unanimously.**
- (C) Device Policy for Student Assigned Laptops.—Director Banas made a motion and it was seconded by Director Lande to approve the modified form to keep track of the district’s technology and where it goes. The motion carried unanimously.**
- (D) Operational Reform—Chairman Mizushman made a motion to hire a second Behavior Facilitator—Jamie Peterson, Director Lande seconded the motion. Motion carried.**  
**Transportation/Maintenance Supervisor –Director Sholes made a motion and it was seconded by Director Banas to postpone the decision until another meeting the following week. Motion carried unanimously.**
- (E) Board Meeting Times—Director Banas made a motion to amend the time for the board meeting from 5:00 to 6:00 PM. Motion died.**  
**Director Mizushima made a motion and Director Lande seconded the motion to have the board meetings at 5:30 PM. Vote Four I’s and one Nay. Motion carried four to one.**

## **X. TRAVEL:**

**There was no Travel.**

## **XI. VOUCHERS:**

**Director Mizushima made a motion, and it was seconded by Director Lande to approve signing the vouchers. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**There was no Executive Session.**

## **XIII. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Director Sholes made a motion, and it was seconded by Director Banas to adjourn at 7:37 PM. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Mission Statement: Prepared for Life. Every Student Matters. Every Moment Counts.**