

MINUTES

Boulder Elementary School District No. 7  
Special Meeting

March 2, 2022  
Boulder Elementary School

Board members present:

Carrie Harris – Chair      Matt Strozewski – Vice-Chair      Andrea Dolezal – Trustee  
Cheryl Hecht – Trustee

Administrators present:

Jeff Elliott, Superintendent  
Britton Mann – Clerk

Devyn Ottman – Facebook Live and Go Meet Facilitator

Visitors: Kessie Strausser, Matt Bowman, Sarah Rieder, Melody Grant, Tim Harper

CALL ELEMENTARY BOARD TO ORDER      The Elementary Board was called to order at 4:00 by Carrie, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA REVIEW      None

PUBLIC COMMENT      The written “public comment” was not available for Carrie to read, however she did go over a summary of the “public comment.”

NEW BUSINESS      **Recommendations to discuss leave days over and above what is offered from the District** – Mr. Elliott stated that the current Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) for the Certified Staff does have specific language regarding a teacher having the need for more personal days. Mr. Elliott contacted MTSBA for guidance and it was suggested by Kris Goss to hold a special board meeting with all board members to have a discussion on the subject. Mr. Elliott briefly stated that Mrs. Grant was traveling to Ireland and would be gone longer than the 7 days given to each certified staff at the beginning of the year. He said that Britton would speak of the history of what past Administrators had done. Britton stated that as far as she could remember, no administrator made the teacher take days with no pay, however there were situations in which days were worked out between the Superintendent and the staff member. Currently the CBA stated that the Superintendent could grant the teacher 2 extra days at his/her discretion. Mr. Elliott stated that he felt that this statement should be used for emergencies only and to not arbitrarily be given for any reason. The board agree. Mr. Elliott also stated that this would be perfect timing for the union and board to agree on more specific language. Mr. Bowman stated that since this is a negotiating year, and if the board would grant the extra days, then it shouldn't affect anyone else. Mr. Elliott didn't want to set a precedent for those certified staff members who already had taken trips and used all of their personal time. Mr. Elliott and Britton had discussed some options for Mrs. Grant prior to the meeting. Mrs. Grant could pay for the sub wage of \$100 per day for the days that she will be out or she could be given 2 days less in the 2022-2023 school year. Mr. Elliott asked Mrs. Grant what she would prefer. Mrs. Grant stated that this trip was originally scheduled during 2020, however due to the COVID pandemic, the trip was cancelled and re-scheduled for this past August. It was cancelled again and re-scheduled for March. She stated that under normal circumstances she would never schedule a trip like this during the school year. She said she would rather pay the sub wage. The board discussed both options and took into consideration what Mrs. Grant had said. Matt motioned to allow Mrs. Grant go over the allotted approved personal days per the CBA. Andrea seconded, all present approved.

ADJOURNMENT      Carrie motioned to adjourn at 4:23 pm.

*Carrie Harris*  
Vice-Chair, Elementary Board

*Britton Mann*  
Clerk, Elementary Board