

June 19, 2013

Dear Parents and Guardians

The last BOE Meeting was held on 6/10/2013 here are the highlights:

Report from the Chief Financial Officer

Ron Patera, Chief Financial Officer reported the district's grant application to BEST (Building Excellent Schools Today) was approved by the State Capital Construction Assistance Board. Ron Patera and Superintendent Douglas Bissonette made a presentation to the BEST Board on May 28 for two re-roof construction projects; one for Singing Hills Elementary and one for Elizabeth High School. These re-roof projects were identified by the State Assessment and by the Infrastructure Assessment Committee that both roofs should be replaced. Moisture penetration into the buildings will continue and the intrusion could lead to further damage until these roof conditions are corrected. The State Board of Education gave its final approval for the BEST Grant for Elizabeth Schools. With the award of the BEST Grant, the district will effectively be receiving a 40% discount on the cost of these projects.

Singing Hills Elementary

Total Cost \$766,610.90

BEST Grant \$306,644.36

District Match \$459,966.54

Elizabeth High School

Total Cost \$1,521,899.50

BEST Grant \$608,759.80

District Match \$913,139.70

Ron Patera and Douglas Bissonette recommended to the Elizabeth School Board of Education to go to the voters this November and seek approval for matching funds to complete the re-roof projects at SHE and EHS. The BEST Grant will be a topic for discussion at the next BOE meeting.

Human Resources Update

Kin Shuman, Director of Human Resources, indicated that we are still in the process of interviewing for the Principal at Running Creek Elementary and Assistant Principal for Elizabeth Middle School. Mr. Shuman also provided an update on teacher turnover. The district experienced a 25.2 percent turnover in 2010-2011 and a 29.11 percent turnover in 2011-2012. 38 teachers are leaving their current positions, which includes internal district transfers and retirements. Reasons for leaving their current positions include out of state moves, out of district moves for family or pay reasons. An Exit Interview process is being conducted to better understand why teachers are choosing to leave the district.

Superintendent Communication

Superintendent Douglas Bissonette continued the teacher turnover discussion during his communication

update. Mr. Bissonette indicated that teacher turnover impacts the district financially and affects student success. Teacher turnover is disruptive to the school community and to school resources. Mr. Bissonette also announced teacher retention and reducing teacher turnover is a strategic priority for the district. Intense effort will be made over the next year to understand the causes and how to reduce the turnover, and the district will be developing key strategies to address this issue.

Activities by the Board of Education

All five board members participated in this year's Elizabash. The board members had the opportunity to talk to community members about several topics such as the Infrastructure Assessment Report, the BEST Grant, and district communications including our newspaper Small Town Big News. Director Deb Spenceley and Director Carol Hinds attended the Elizabeth Middle School trip to Washington DC. Both commented on the incredible job by EMS teachers and the positive behavior of the students and how well they represented our school district. Several board members attended the Elizabeth High School graduation and Frontier High School Graduation.

The board of education is reviewing several policies to ensure we are compliant with the Colorado Association of School Boards recommendations. The district website [Policies Under Review](#) includes a listing of policies that are being reviewed. All current and updated policies are also located on the district website at [School Board Policies](#).

The next board meeting will take place on June 24, 2013 in the board room of the district office. The next BOE Meet and Greet will take place on August 13, 4:00-6:00 pm.

Kind Regards,
Michele McCarron
Executive Administrative Assistant/Communication Specialist
Elizabeth School District C_1
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Students are at the heart of everything we do.