**Grand County School District Board of Education**

**Board Work Session Minutes**

**Wednesday, September 13, 2023**

**3:30 p.m.**

Attending: Melissa Byrd, Kathy Williams, Ariel Atkins, Steve Kennedy, DeeRay Wardle

Also Attending: Superintendent Taryn Kay, Business Administrator Klint York, Administrative Assistant NaShay Lange

Audience: Jill Tatton, Hank Postma, Todd Thompson, Jolynn Torgerson, Kari Barnard, Cari Caylor, Jeremy Spaulding, Michelle Searle, Eric Pratt

Melissa Byrd brought the meeting to order @ 3:35 p.m.

**I.** **SRO (School Resource Officer) Presentation:** SRO Eric Pratt talked about his job and priorities at the schools. He is there to provide security and safety for not just the students but also staff. Response will take place to threats with or without mention of weapons. Pratt explained that some situations should be handled by the School District while others will need law enforcement. It is important to not take juvenile behavior and criminalize it. Pratt talked about Youth Court and how it works. Melissa Byrd brought up potential problems with FERPA in regard to guidelines, compliance and sanctions. It was explained that all parties would have to sign confidentiality papers. Taryn thanks Eric and Curt Brewer for their service. Board agrees.

**II. Implications of AI (Artificial Intelligence) in Education:** Jolynn Torgerson presents slides regarding AI. There are many different types of AI including Chat GPT (Generative Pre-Trained Transformer), Gen AI, Bing AI, Google Bard, Google Duet (not available for education accounts, only for personal use), Adobe Firefly. Jolynn talks about each of these types of AI. AI relies on feedback from users in order to continue progressing. Jolynn addresses the concerns of using AI in our schools. Concerns include: academic integrity, plagiarism and cheating. It is hard to catch plagiarism because AI is constantly creating new content. Despite the forward progress of AI, the information gathered can still be inaccurate and unreliable. Bias is seen with generalized questions, but can be less seen with added details. Jolynn presented the Board and attendees with the question of whether we are serving our students by not utilizing AI in the classroom and recognizing it is being used by our students. Many teachers expressed concerns of misuse by students when using AI. Jolynn suggests setting guidelines and educating students about AI and expectations. Jolynn expresses the need to be proactive in the conversations we have with students, having an open mind and being adaptable. Jolynn gave the following resources that can help teachers with AI: eduide.ai ; magicschool.ai ; gamma.app. To conclude, Jolynn left the group with the following questions, which she will answer at the next admin meeting: How do we support teachers? How do we respond to cheating?

**III.** **Grand County Special Education Policy and Procedure Manual**: Definitions have changed in order to meet the federal guidelines. An example is changing wording from emotional disturbance to emotional behavior. The changes include future transitions for special education plans. There is added classification of funding for the special education departments. These changes are law bound.

**IV. Policy Updates:** Policy updates include holding teachers accountable. Changes aren’t being made without the Board seeing the suggestions. Taryn points out that most of the changes are small. Policy for BBG was specifically spoken about - As written, Board Members currently receive no more than $3,000 per year. This is an inaccuracy and needs to be addressed. Original suggestion was to change the amount to read $6,000 as that is the current amount. DeeRay suggests a higher amount to eliminate the need to change the policy so often. Discussion is held and it is understood that this does not change the amount received at this time, but that the next time an increase is deemed appropriate, change to policy will not be necessary. Board agrees. New amount to read $10,000. A new compensation schedule needs to be created and then adopted. Board needs to read the policy changes in Column 3 and discuss them at the next meeting. Columns 2 and 7 will be addressed at the next meeting.

**V. Personnel List:** Most positions have been filled to date. The following certified positions are still open: CTE Auto Teacher, Middle School Counselor and SCSC Lead Teacher. Taryn announces that as of today, the district has a total of 15 hired substitute teachers. Next week, interviews will take place for Mentoring Coordinator positions; there are 4 applicants at HMK alone. Taryn will send job descriptions to the Board.

Kathy Williams made a motion to Adjourn the meeting

DeeRay Wardle seconded the motion to Adjourn the meeting

Meeting Adjourned @ 5:04 pm.