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CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT 12
Board of Education Report

Note: This document is an unofficial summary of the Board of Education's meeting and is not an official record. Official minutes of each meeting are approved at the subsequent regular meeting of the Board.

Regular Board Meeting

March 15, 2021

President Monica Peloso called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order with Board members, Russell Ross, Randy Case, Susan Mellow, and Nissa Steinhour present. Administrators joining the Board were Superintendent Walt Cooper, Assistant Superintendents Carolena Steen (Student Services) and John Fogarty (Student Achievement), Executive Director of Technology Greg Miller, Executive Director of Business Services Natalie Morin, and Director of Safety and Security Susan Payne.

The **AGENDA** was approved.

VISITORS signed in to address the Board all spoke on the issue of the CMHS Indian team name.

The **CONSENT AGENDA** was approved.

The **MINUTES** of the February 22 (special and regular), March 1, and March 8, 2021 meetings were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. The Board adopted a resolution (attached) retiring the Indians team name at Cheyenne Mountain High School at the end of the 2020-21 school year and directed the administration to establish a student and stakeholder process to identify a new team name and mascot.
- B. The Board adopted revisions to KHC: Distribution/Posting of Non Curricular Materials and KHC-R: Distribution/Posting of Non Curricular Materials upon third reading.
- C. The Board reviewed the calendar of 2020-21 meetings and events.
- D. The Board ratified the superintendent's acceptance of resignations from Beth Gorab (CMJH SPED); Karen Greco (CMJH SPED); Christine Gleason (CMJH Science); Greg Watkins (CMJH Principal); Emily Hornbuckle (CMHS Math); Nicole Cammarata (CMHS Spanish); Randy Trussell (PVE 6th Grade); Danae McClure (PVE 4th Grade); and Katy Baccam (BME 3rd Grade).
- E. The Board approved the employment of Adam Rabo (CMHS Math); David Finlay (CMHS SPED); Abigail Gruber (CMHS Spanish); and Jessika Munoz (CMHS Spanish).
- F. The Board approved post-retirement work agreements for Greg Watkins (CMJH Principal) and Randy Trussell (PVE 6th Grade).

The meeting **ADJOURNED** at approximately 6:40 p.m.

CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT 12
RESOLUTION
REGARDING THE USE “INDIANS” AS A TEAM NAME AND MASCOT
AT CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL

March 15, 2021

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has received extensive written correspondence and public testimony from both opponents of and advocates for the use of “Indians” as a team name and mascot at Cheyenne Mountain High School;

WHEREAS, the National Congress of American Indians, the oldest, largest, and most representative national organization serving American Indian and Alaska Native tribal nations and their citizens, has called for an end to “Indian” sports mascots due to the harm they cause;

WHEREAS, many Native Americans living in our community have asked District 12 to retire the “Indians” team name;

WHEREAS, mental health associations such as the American Sociological Association, American Counseling Association and American Psychological Association have recommended ending all American Indian mascots due to the damaging effects on both the Native and non-Native population;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights has called for an end to the use of Native American images and team names by non-native schools because their use “mocks and trivializes Native American culture” and have the potential to create racially hostile environments;

WHEREAS, it is clear there is no consensus among District 12 students, alumni, parents and community members regarding the appropriateness of Native American team names and mascots;

WHEREAS the presence of the “Indians” team name and mascot at Cheyenne Mountain High School has been, and continues to be, a controversial and divisive issue in our school community; and

WHEREAS the Board of Education has duly considered the issue and desires to establish a team name and mascot that serves to unite rather than divide our school community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education that the Indians team name be retired at the conclusion of the 2020-2021 academic year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education directs the administration to establish a student and stakeholder-centered process to identify the purpose of a team name and mascot and to recommend to the Board of Education a new team name and mascot, if any, to represent Cheyenne Mountain High School beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year.