Miner's Minutes - February 2020
www.TellurideSchool.org | 970-728-4377

UPCOMING DATES:

**February 14 & 17**  No School Pk-12

**February 18:** BOE Work Session & Regular Monthly Board Meeting

**February 19:** Social/Emotional Health Planning for District

**February 20:** TAB Student Fashion Show

**February 21:** THS Basketball Senior Night & Alpine Bank Appreciation

**February 24:** TSD Accountability

**February 24:** Superintendent Interviews/ Community Meet & Greet

**February 24-27:** TIS Book Fair

**February 25:** School Conferences (No School Grades Pk-12)

**March 3:** TMHS Accountability/Bright Futures "Let's Talk" Parent Workshop

**March 4:** TES Accountability

**March 4-5:** Incoming Kindergarten Parent Meetings

**March 8:** Daylight Savings begins

**March 11:** TIS Accountability

**March 12:** TEF Meeting

**March 13:** Quarter 3 ends, 1/2 day school Pk-12

**March 16:** BOE Work Session

**March 17:** BOE Monthly Meeting

**March 17:** TEF Film Speaker

**March 18:** Thespian Inductions

**March 20:** Telluride's Got Talent

Please refer to weekly emails from TES, TIS & TMHS for times, places

TSD SELECTS THREE FINALISTS FOR SUPERINTENDENT POSITION

At a special meeting on Monday, February 10, 2020, the Board of Education for the Telluride R-1 School District (TSD) announced three finalists to become the next Superintendent.

The finalists for the position are:
- Walter H. Coulter, Education Program Administrator, Bureau of Indian Education, Window Rock, NM
- John W. Pandolfo, Superintendent, Barre Unified Union School District, Barre, VT
- Dawn Paré, Chief Academic Officer at Weld RE-1 School District in Gilcrest, CO

Please click [here](#) for the press release and more information on each candidate.

Candidates will be in Telluride for interviews February 23-25. A community meet-and-greet will take place with all three finalists at 5:30 pm on February 24 in the Telluride Elementary School cafeteria.

The TSD Board plans to announce our next Superintendent no later than March 6, 2020. The district is replacing current superintendent, Mike Gass, who retires June 30, 2020.

PRE-K PARENT MEETING(S)

There will be two incoming kindergarten parent meetings for the 2020/2021 school year:

Wednesday, March 4th at 5:00 pm in the TES Café (food and childcare provided)

Thursday, March 5th at 8:15 am in the TES Café

Information regarding the Dual Immersion and the Traditional programs will be presented and registration materials will be available.

JUST FOR KIDS

Applications for the Spring 2020 Individual Grant is now live via the Just For Kids Foundation website. This grant is designed for middle and high school students who are seeking funding for personal enrichment.

[https://www.justforkidsfoundation.org/grants](https://www.justforkidsfoundation.org/grants)

The Individual Grant application will be available until Monday, March 2 at 11:59 pm. No late applications will be accepted. The Board of Directors will then review applications. Students who qualify for an interview will be notified the week of March 16th. Interviews will be conducted at the Placerville Schoolhouse on Tuesday, March 24, 2020.
The legislative session is in full swing. There are numerous proposed bills related to education to be decided on by early May. Proposition CC for TABOR refunds failed; therefore, the state projects they will be giving out TABOR refunds for the next three years. **What does this have to do with funding schools?** The factors in the state budget impacting K-12 funding include:

- The Economy – It is strong; however, annual revenue collection growth is limited by Article X Section 20 Revenue limits. Proposition CC on ending TABOR refunds failed in 2019.
- State tax rates – decreased from 4.63% to 4.5% for TABOR refunds on your 2019 state taxes.
- Gallagher, TABOR, and Amendment 23 - these conflict with each other.
- Competing priorities such as to TABOR refunds, Medicaid costs, Transportation, and Technology.
- School Finance Formula calculation including the Local Share – There is discussion to change this complex formula. The Interim Finance Committee formed and disbanded without a conclusion. The proposed solution is a Uniform Mill Levy which the Joint Budget Committee is currently considering.

In FY2019-20 36.1% of the State General Fund went towards K-12 education. As budgetary pressures for State dollars increase there is a delicate process for the state to balance their budget. The **Budget Stabilization** has been used as the mechanism to do this. **Telluride’s total decrease in funding for the past ten years is $10.7 million.** This is approximately $1 million per year.

Currently our revenue stream includes:

- 62% from Local sources, the majority being property taxes and specific ownership taxes. This includes the Mill Levy Override we passed in November 2018 to maximize funding for our schools.
- 37% from State sources, the majority being State Equalization based on the School Finance Act Funding formula.
- 1% from Federal sources, the majority being Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- Governor Polis’s proposed budget includes an increase of $317 per student in Telluride. As we move into FY2020-21 Telluride has an enrollment bubble at the secondary level; however, a projected “overall declining enrollment” of about 2%. Five-year averaging is used for districts with declining enrollment. This “phases in” the decrease in funding; therefore, revenue is projected to increase by $200K based on the School Finance Formula for FY2020-21.

As we look forward to building our budget we focus on:

- **Balancing the budget** and/or maintaining three months of expenditures in our general fund. We closed FY1819 with $4.5 million in our fund balance.
- **Priorities and needs across our school district.** We budgeted $15 million in expenditures for FY2019-20. Salaries and Benefits account for 80% of our budget. The December 2019 CPI index is 1.9%. PERA will increase an additional ----0.5% for Employers. Health care premiums continue to rise encouraging us to review the contributions our school makes towards this increasing cost for our staff. In addition, we have growing capital needs to ensure the safety and health of our students.

We will have the tentative “changes” by mid-March. In April we will fine tune the budget as we review the projected revenues and needs across the district. By mid-May after the legislative session finalizes our funding and we complete negotiations our budget will be defined and presented to our Board of Education. The budget is adopted in June for the next fiscal year which begins July 1st.

-Wendy Everett, Director of Finances
TELLURIDE EDUCATION FOUNDATION

TEF Film & Speaker Series: March 17th

8:30 - 9:30am: Wilkinson Public Library-Parent discussion on technology and stress resilience led by Yalda Uhls (see below)

11am - 12pm: The Palm Theatre - Student screening of Screenagers: Next Chapter

5:45 - 7:30pm: The Palm Theatre - Community screening of Screenagers: Next Chapter, followed by Q&A with Yalda Uhls (see below)

Yalda T. Uhls, a former senior exec at MGM and Sony, left the movie world to study child development, earning a Ph.D. in Psychology at UCLA. Uhls recently founded The Center for Scholars & Storytellers, an organization dedicated to bridging the work of child development researchers and youth content creators. Uhls is also an assistant adjunct professor at UCLA where she does research on how media affect the social behavior of tweens and teens and teaches a class on Digital Media and Human Development; she is an advisor for Common Sense Media, YouTube Kids and Family, Barbie and the Jacobs Foundations Learning and Science Exchange; and is the author of the parenting book Media Moms & Digital Dads: A Fact not Fear Approach to Parenting in the Digital Age/ Research conducted by Dr. Uhls has been featured in Time Magazine, the NY Times, USA Today, NPR and many others, and published in academic journals such as Developmental Psychology and Computers in Human Behavior.

ELKS CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Ursula Cristol, TSD Cultural Liaison who is Telluride Elks's Citizen of the Year. Each Lodge is encouraged to select a citizen, not necessarily an Elk, who has contributed to improving the community. This individual should have shown leadership, volunteered in the community, and been recognized as an all-around good citizen.

Thank you Ursula for your dedication to Telluride School District and the community.

SPANISH SPELLING BEE

The Spanish Spelling Bee has Telluride Students Buzzing.
Please see story featured here at KOTO News.

THS TODAY

Please look for Telluride High School's recent edition of THS Today insert in the Daily Planet this Sunday, February 16th and congratulate our budding journalists.
You can also look online at https://thstoday.com for the online version that is updated frequently.

SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL HEALTH PLANNING

Please join Mike Gass and Administrators for a planning meeting for social/emotional learning at Telluride Schools - Wednesday, February 19th 9 am in the District Conference Room.

click on flyers for more information

Telluride R-1 School District
COMMUNITY MEET & GREET
Featuring three finalists for the superintendent position:
- Walter Coulter, Education Region Administrator, Region 3, Colorado
- John Pandolfi, Superintendent, Banneker-Davidson School District, Banneker, NY
- Dawn Park, Chief Academic Officer, Missoula School District, Missoula, MT

February 24, 2020
5:30 - 6:30 pm
Telluride Elementary School Cafeteria

Alpine Bank Appreciation Night - February 21st

Alpine Bank
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Last Home High School Basketball Games vs. Mancos
Senior Night
Varsity Girls 5:15 PM
Varsity Boys 6:30 PM
Telluride Miners appreciate our new scoreboards provided by Alpine Bank.