

REGULAR MEETING – APRIL 13, 2010

1. CALL TO ORDER & 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chairman Keith called the regular meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. in the Elementary Board Conference Room. Trustees Present: Krystal Zentner, Mark Giesick, Penny Young and Russ Imlay. Others Present: John Ballard, Becky Bell, Betty Sweet, Linda Eckerman, Ole & Donna Olsen, Houston Finn, Robin Smith, Amy & Bert Kraft, Michaela Witt, Michelle Hoferer, Kyle Howard, JoEllen Wood, Jan Goetz, Pat Hereim, Jeff Zeltner, Holly Dorvall, Corinne Turnsplenty, Jennifer Birrer, Desiree Donaldson, Allison Boeck, Kayla Jares, Carrie Klempel, Vicki Kaufman, Bart Heiken, Analicia Pianca, Bryan and Tami Mahoney and Michelle McCarthy.

3. MINUTES:

Trustee Young made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2010 Regular Meeting. Trustee Imlay seconded the motion. Members voted 5/0 in favor.

4. CLAIMS & PAYROLL:

Trustee Zentner made a motion to accept the following: February Treasurer Reconciliation, claims 13297-13358, payroll warrants 16720-16767 and direct deposit lists from 4/8/10. Trustee Giesick seconded the motion. Vote 5/0.

5. ATHLETIC/ACTIVITY ACCOUNTING:

Trustee Imlay made a motion to accept the activity accounting for March. Trustee Young seconded the motion. Vote: 5/0. Discussion: winter sports workers consist of clock keepers, book keepers and announcers.

6. CORRESPONDENCE:

A letter from Mike Kelsey concerning budget shortfalls was read to the members. The following teachers submitted letters of intent to move over a lane on the salary schedule for the next year: Travis Heggem, Amy Kraft and Michelle McCarthy. Amy Kraft informed the Board that she would not be able to fit a drama production in this school year. Information was received from MUST regarding their plan to recoup their own budget revenue shortfall by assessing each member \$20 per employee per month in the next contract year. Districts leaving the MUST plan will owe the same amount payable immediately as a lump sum. A 2009-2010 salary survey from the Montana Association of School Business Officials was given to the Board.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Robin Smith addressed the Board on the matter of budget issues and referenced a restructuring e-mail from Superintendent Ballard. Mr. Smith wondered why the Board had chosen to hire a second administrator with all the shortfalls, declining budget and enrollment issues the district was facing. Trustee Young noted that this item would be scheduled for the next meeting. Bert Kraft spoke on the subject of the group health plan and the increase in premiums which will potentially cost his family \$700 per month for family insurance that they can't afford. Mr. Kraft realized the costs is shared by staff and the district and wondered if the district was going to increase their share. He also understands that this is the general trend in insurance costs and wonders what the long-term effects will be for the district.

8. SPECIAL REPORTS:

A. Activities Director Report: There are 16 students in the High School Track program and 23 Jr. High students.

B. Principal/Transportation Director Report: A trial healthy snack program began for all students on April 14. The Culinary Arts students will be working with the kitchen staff to provide fruit or vegetable snacks every day. The 4/14 PIR day will involve response to intervention for the elementary staff, assessment of students, and grouping students by abilities. Gifted/Talented testing is moving forward; multiple testing is needed to determine student placement. High school seniors are working on scholarships and college applications and will be job shadowing with the juniors. The CRT's are done and MAPs testing is almost done. Grades 9-12 will be attending the Opera on 4/14. All buses are working well including the oldest one of the fleet. We currently have 3 regular route drivers and 3 substitute drivers.

C. Superintendent's Report: Based on the recommendation of the Western States Property Insurance representative, the merry-go-round on the elementary playground will be removed as it was deemed dangerous and un-repairable. The district will be looking for a comparable, safer alternative for that piece of equipment. Information on the lighting project for the high school gym and vo-ag building should be in by 4/27. This project was scheduled for summer 2009 but problems with supplies and architects specs would have delayed the project too far out to encumber the funds from the 08-09 budget. No movement has been made by ADH on the elementary door issue; the architect hopes to have this resolved soon. This project must be finished by 6/30/10 in order to use the funds set aside from the 08-09 budget.

D. Clerk's Report: A list was given of job descriptions currently approved by the Board and those that still need to be written and approved. The election for May 4th can be cancelled as the number of candidates running is equal to the number of open positions. Teacher Appreciation Week is the first week in May.

9. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Goals: Principal Bell brought the goals reflected in the current district 5-Year Plan. Targets for students were based on CRT scores. This June we will have the CRT data to compare to the goals. No further action was taken.

B. Second Reading – 5630-Employee Use of Cellular Phones and Other Electronic Devices: Trustee Young made a motion to accept the second reading of this policy. Trustee Zentner seconded the motion. Vote: 5/0

C. Sportsmanship Policy: Trustee Imlay made a motion to table this item to the May meeting. Trustee Giesick seconded the motion. Vote: 5/0.

D. Social Networking Policy – Policy 3310: Trustee Imlay made a motion to approve the first reading of policy 3310 to add section L as follows: L. Cyber bullying: Answering yes to numbers 1 through 4 or 1 through 5 would constitute an actionable offence of District policy 3310. 1. Was it written on-campus or during a school related activity? 2. Was it written about a District student or staff? 3. Could the posting be reasonably related to school or school activities? 4. Did it cause any disruption on-campus or during a school activity? 5. Was it

lewd, vulgar, threatening or advocating illegal or dangerous behavior? Trustee Giesick seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

E. Policy Revisions: **4330P**-Rules and Regulations for Building Use; Trustee Young made a motion to add 'or nicotine products' to line 186. Trustee Imlay seconded the motion. Vote: 5/0. **3110**-Entrance, Placement & Transfer; Trustee Zentner made a motion to table this policy until further information is received from Jeff Weldon. Trustee Young seconded the motion. Vote: 5/0. **8123**-Driver Training & Responsibility; Trustee Giesick made a motion to amend this policy to include "and passenger "P" endorsements" on line 13 and to add the following section: A school bus driver is prohibited from operating a school bus while using a cellular phone, including hands free non-voice activated cellular phone devices, except; (1) During an emergency situation; (2) To call for assistance if there is a mechanical breakdown or other mechanical problem; (3) When the school bus is parked. Trustee Young seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Out of State Travel Request – Trustee Zentner made a motion to approve travel to Chicago for Bobbi Dorvall and Trevor Christian this July to the FCCLA National Convention. Trustee Young seconded the motion. Vote: 5/0. Mrs. Dorvall will accompany the students.

B. Activity Account – Jr. High and HS Track Accounts: Trustee Imlay made a motion to establish accounts for Jr. High and HS Track in the district Activity Accounting records. Trustee Giesick seconded the motion. Vote: 5/0.

C. Personnel: 1. Extracurricular Assignments: Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Ballard, Trustee Young made a motion to accept the following extracurricular coaching assignments for the 2010-2011 school year: HS Boys Basketball Asst.-Randy Novakovich, Jr. Hi Boys Basketball Head-Darren Zentner, Jr. Hi Boys Basketball Asst.-Tessa Beach, Jr. Hi Girls Basketball Head-Tessa Beach, Jr. Hi Girls Basketball Asst.-Rikki Zentner, HS Football Head-Mike Mathis, HS Football Asst.-Bill Coleman, Jr. Hi Football Head-Ole Olsen, HS Track Head-Wes Schwend, HS Track Asst.-Tara Schwend, Jr. Hi. Track Head-Ole Olsen, HS Volleyball Head-Wayne Moorman, HS Volleyball Asst.-Robin Smith, Jr. Hi Volleyball Head-Allison Boeck, Jr. Hi Volleyball Asst.-Kayla Jares. Trustee Imlay seconded the motion. Vote: 5/0. Trustee Giesick made a motion to table the assignment of the 2nd HS Volleyball Asst. Trustee Imlay seconded the motion. Vote: 5/0. MHSA will be consulted to see if a same sex coach is required to be assigned for a team.

Superintendent Ballard noted a point of information: Houston Finn has employed legal representation. A special meeting will be held when counsel for both parties is available, possibly April 22 or 26. (Note: the meeting was scheduled for May 6, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. due to conflict in board members' schedules). During this meeting, the Board can address HS Boys and Girls Head Coach assignments.

2. Non-tenured Teacher Contracts: Trustee Young made a motion to offer Kayla Jares her first tenure contract. Trustee Imlay seconded the motion. Vote: 5/0.

Trustee Imlay made a motion to offer contracts to the following non-tenured staff: Tessa Beach, Analicia Pianca, Nancy Robinson, JoEllen Wood, Jeff Zeltner and Michaela Witt. Trustee Giesick seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

Based on the recommendation of Superintendent Ballard, Trustee Young made a motion to non-renew the contract of Kyle Howard for reasons without cause. Trustee Imlay seconded the motion and members voted 5/0 in favor. Mr. Howard addressed the Board on his own behalf and was given additional support from Houston Finn.

3. Tenured Teachers with extended contracts: As recommended by Superintendent Ballard, Trustee Imlay made a motion to offer the following tenured staff member's contracts with summer extensions: Jan Goetz (15 days), Robin Smith (10 days), and Corinne Turnsplenty (10 days). Trustee Zentner seconded the motion and all members voted in favor. Trustee Young made a motion to table the contract for Ole Olsen pending further information as recommended by Superintendent Ballard. Trustee Imlay seconded the motion. 5/0.

4. Activities Director position: Trustee Giesick made a motion to combine the position of Activities Director with administrative duties. Trustee Imlay seconded the motion and members voted 5/0 in favor. Principal Bell had been in contact with in-coming Superintendent Phillips and he was in favor of including this position with administrative duties in an effort to relieve some of the burden on the budget.

5. Ag program: Considerable discussion was held over the subject of sharing vocational education teachers with the Fromberg School District. Superintendent Ballard, Principal Bell and Fromberg Superintendent Scott had visited about the Vo-Ag and FCS programs in both districts and had concluded that the positions could be handled by half-time teachers in each district based on the number of students served by each current teacher. Considerable savings would be evident in both districts. This would not be a cooperative or interlocal agreement; both districts would only offer half time contracts. The details would need to be worked out quickly as both school boards would need to accept this adjustment by 6/1/2010. Several concerns and some suggestions were made; further information needs to be gathered, mainly, what are the numbers of students served by each teacher in all classes. This item will be revisited at the May Board meeting.

D. Attendance Policy – Elementary: This item relates in particular to Kindergarten and other elementary grades that do not assess letter grades for students but rather 'proficiency' or 'non-proficiency'. Current district attendance policy notes that on the 11th absence, a student will be penalized ten percentage points on their quarter grade with additional deductions for further absences. The question of how to assess this penalty when there are no grades to penalize needs to be addressed. District counsel feels that once a parent enrolls a student, that parent and student are subject to district/school requirements. We currently have parents who feel that Kindergarten is optional; therefore, attendance is optional. Trustee Imlay made a motion to table this item to an upcoming meeting. Trustee Giesick seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

E. Budget Amendment Proclamations: Trustee Zentner made a motion to amend the previous proclamation of the Boards' Resolution to adopt a budget amendment in the Transportation Fund

of \$20,000 for the revised purpose of purchasing supplies and other improvements. Trustee Young seconded the motion and members voted unanimously in favor.

F. Foreign Language as a Graduation Requirement: Trustee Zentner made a motion that one credit of foreign language will be required for graduation beginning with the class of 2014. Trustee Young seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

11. FUTURE ISSUES:

Principal evaluation and re-hiring, updates and additions to district policies including 5328 & 5328P-Family Medical Leave, school election, budget amendments and fund transfer.

12. NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Trustee Imlay made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 p.m. Trustee Giesick seconded the motion. The next regular Board meeting and the annual Board Reorganization meeting will be moved to Thursday, May 13, at 7:00 pm due to conflict in board members' schedules .

ATTEST:

Board Chairman

Clerk of the Board