

REGULAR MEETING – MARCH 12, 2009

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Graham called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. in the Elementary Board Conference Room. Trustees Present: Claude Keith, Krystal Zentner, Penny Young and Mark Giesick. Others Present: John Ballard, Betty Sweet, Ole Olson, Ryan Witt, Tara Schwend, Tammy & Ty Schwend and K.C. Hickok. Additions and Corrections to the Agenda: Ryan Witt will report on the Prom between items 5 and 6. Item 10A will be moved ahead of item 6. Under Old Business, item A, Educational Co-op should be item B and Wage Matrix should be item C.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. MINUTES:

Trustee Zentner made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 17th regular meeting as presented. Trustee Young seconded the motion and members voted 5/0 in favor.

4. CLAIMS & PAYROLL:

Trustee Zentner made a motion to accept the following: payroll warrants 16005-16048, 3/5/09 direct deposit listing, expenditure recoding items of 2/19/08 and claims 12416-12461. Trustee Keith seconded the motion. Vote 5/0. Discussion was held on the claim paid to David Huether for his work on the Crisis Management Plan which is nearly completed. Preparations are being made to meet with town police and staff members to discuss the plan. Claim number 12418 to I-State was questioned and Superintendent Ballard noted that this was supposed to be covered under warranty. He will call I-State to verify.

5. ATHLETIC/ACTIVITY ACCOUNTING:

Trustee Keith made a motion to accept the activity accounting for February. Trustee Giesick seconded the motion. Vote: 5/0. Questions included whether the Danes' Legacy account should be renamed for the AED project and that the purchases from Stumps were for Prom. Clerk Sweet will prepare a final report on the Sports Cooperative income and expenses. (Note: Vicki K. didn't mind whether the name on the Dane's Legacy account was changed or not so we'll just leave it as is for now.)

INSERT – Prom Report: Ryan Witt reported that the 2008 Prom would again be held at the Armory in Billings on 3/28. A bus will be provided if any students would like transportation. Several students will be going to Billings on 3/27 with advisor Nancy Robinson to decorate.

6. CORRESPONDENCE:

Thank you notes were received from the Lions Club and the Sacred Heart Council of Catholic Women for use of the Multi-Purpose room and kitchen for their dinners.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT: K.C. Hickok gave all members a packet of information that he had from several years ago when he was on a building committee for the district.

8. SPECIAL REPORTS:

A. Activities Director: Houston was unable to attend. Receipts of apx. \$1280 were received from the Boys District Tournament and \$837 from the Girls. We have not received the Boys Divisional receipts at this time.

9. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Policy 4330 F – Facilities Use Agreement: We haven't received the info on this policy from Jeff Weldon yet, Superintendent Ballard will follow up on this.

B. Educational Cooperative: The Board had voted to continue the joint committee in this capacity at the January meeting. Superintendent Ballard is looking for an organization in the community with 501(c)3 status to work with us on grant funding for the modular project.

C. Wage Matrix for Classified Employees: Trustee Zentner made a motion to table the Wage Matrix till the next meeting. Trustee Giesick seconded the motion. Vote: 5/0. Clerk Sweet will work on the proposed matrix with Superintendent Ballard. Info on Paraprofessional wages in the area will be gathered.

10. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Personnel-Coach Pay: Trustee Zentner made a motion to rescind the motion made at the February 17th meeting to hire Ole Olsen as the Jr. High Head Track Coach for the 2009 season. Trustee Young seconded the motion. Vote: 5/0. Trustee Young made a motion to rescind the motion made at the same meeting to hire Tara Schwend as the Assistant Jr. High Track Coach. Trustee Keith seconded the motion and all members voted in favor. Trustee Zentner then made a motion to hire Tara Schwend as the Head and Ole Olson as the Assistant Jr. High Track Coach. Trustee Keith seconded the motion members voted 5/0 in favor.

Trustee Keith made a motion to pay Darren Zentner an additional stipend of ½ of the amount of the Assistant Coach pay for Jr. High Boys Basketball as he was the only coach and there were enough boys to field two teams. Trustee Young seconded the motion. Members voted 4/0 with Trustee Zentner abstaining due to the family relationship.

B. Future Building Maintenance Plans: Superintendent Ballard is still working on prioritizing the bids. Trustee Keith made a motion to table this item. Trustee Giesick seconded the motion. Vote 5/0.

C. Student Attendance Agreements: Trustee Zentner made a motion to accept the out-of-district attendance agreements for Heather Torbert-11th grade and Bobby Dorvall-8th grade. In addition, Jordan Webb-5th grade and Alicia Griffin-10th grade. Trustee Young seconded the motion and all members voted in favor. Trustee Zentner made a motion to approve the attendance of in-district student Tevin Weilert to the Yellowstone Academy with the appropriate tuition to be paid. Trustee Young seconded the motion and the vote counted 5/0 in favor.

D. School Election – Board Resolution: Superintendent Ballard recommended that a General Fund mill levy be run in the amount of \$34,177.39. This amount may change based on legislature's action. Language for the 4-day school week opinion ballot was discussed in detail

and the following language will be forwarded to the attorney for his review: Proposition - According to Montana law, the Board of Trustees must set the number of days in a school term, the length of the school day, and the number of school days in a school week. Mont Code Ann. §§ 20-1-301 and 302 (2007). Recent changes to Montana law permit the Board to set the school week at 4 days, rather than 5 days. The Board seeks input from the electorate on the question of a 4 day school week. The primary objective of the 4 day week is to improve the education of the District's students by providing uninterrupted instructional time, when compared to a traditional 5 day school week. By action of the Board at its regular meeting on January 20, 2009, the Board wishes to seek the opinion of the electorate on the following question. The election results on this proposition are for the Board's nonbinding consideration. Should the Board of Trustees implement a four (4) day school week rather than the current five (5) day school week? FOR a four (4) day school week or AGAINST a four (4) day school week. Trustee Keith made a motion to accept the trustee resolution calling for an election on May 5th, 2009 for 1 trustee for a three-year term, a general fund mill levy in the amount of \$34,177.39, and an opinion ballot for the 4-day school week. If any item is later determined to not be necessary, the clerk has the authority to cancel that portion. Trustee Giesick seconded the motion members voted 5/0 in favor. Penny Kidwell, Kathleen Webber and JoAnn Peters will be asked to serve as election judges.

E. Budget Amendment Resolutions: Trustee Young made a motion to proclaim the Boards' Resolution to adopt a budget amendment of \$122,041.40 due to unanticipated enrollment increase with the funding to come from additional state assistance and the General Fund reserve. Trustee Keith seconded the motion and members voted 5/0 in favor. Trustee Young then made a motion to proclaim the Boards' Resolution to adopt a budget amendment of \$210,000 for replacing the Elementary Building Boiler and other improvements of grounds and facilities that have been deferred due to funding constraints with the anticipated source of funding to be the greater than anticipated oil, gas and bentonite revenues in the general fund. Trustee Keith seconded the motion and members voted unanimously in favor.

F. Policy Revision – 5328 and 5328P-Family Medical Leave: Trustee Keith made a motion to table this policy until the attorney can review it. Trustee Giesick seconded the motion and all members voted in favor.

G. Personnel-Superintendent evaluation/negotiations: As provided by statute 2-3-203 (3) MCA, the meeting was declared closed for rights of privacy at 10:40 p.m. The meeting opened at 11:00. No action was taken.

11. CLERK'S REPORT: A draft of the Activity Accounting Manual for the district was presented to the members and a copy given to Judy for additions and corrections. New copies will be given out after any changes are made. Quarterly reports will be prepared and submitted. Grant balances will be reconciled and cash ordered through E-grants. The MASBO budget workshop and regional meetings will be held March 16-17 and 31st. A MPERA workshop will be held 4/1.

12. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

A. Transportation Negotiations – No new information.

B. Policy Revisions: 3231-Searches & Seizure – No new information.

C. Building Project: Noted in item 9B.

D. Bus Order: Adding under carriage storage on the new route bus so it can be used for trips will be discussed with I-State. There are funds available to pay for 2 buses at this time for a total cost of \$152,000 after trade-in allowances of \$15,880.00. It was the consensus of the members to order 2 at this time. April's agenda will contain an item for the second bus purchase.

Other items: The district will pay for the service agreements on the AED units. Victoria Beddall was in the district to watch and work with Response to Intervention team members. School calendars for next year will be presented at the April meeting for both 4-day and 5-day weeks. With all the programs staff need to work on – there will be several early release Wednesdays on the 5-day calendar to accommodate RTI, PRISM, Gifted and Talented, curriculum updates, Standards assessments and the 21st Century Grant.

13. FUTURE ISSUES:

Four Day School Week, Elementary Roof, updates and additions to district policies, building appraisals, Extracurricular Activities: accounting policies/procedures, emergency planning, transportation issues and negotiations.

14. NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

The next Board meeting will be held April 20th. The meeting adjourned at 11:05 p.m.

ATTEST:

Board Chairman

Clerk of the Board