



**Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Monday, March 11, 2013**

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The Board of Directors held a Regular Board Meeting on Monday, March 11, 2013. The meeting began at 6:00 p.m. and was held at Mt. Spokane High School. Directors Farley, Denholm, O'Connor, Hunt and Olson were present. Also attending were Superintendent Tom Rockefeller and Assistant Superintendents Wayne Leonard and Ralph Thayer. Deputy Superintendent Dan Butler and Executive Directors Dorcas Wylder and Jared Hoadley were excused.

**I. Approval of Agenda**

Director Hunt made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Director O'Connor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Director Denholm made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 25, 2013, as presented. Director Hunt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**III. Proclamation**

Superintendent Tom Rockefeller read the *Classified Employee Appreciation Week Proclamation* declaring March 11-15, 2013, **Classified School Employee Week**. School board members expressed their appreciation for the persistence, hard work and dedication of Mead's classified employees. This weeklong celebration is intended to recognize the efforts of the nearly 50,000 classified school employees, state wide, who are involved in almost every aspect of public education.

**IV. Remarks for the Good of the Schools**

Travis Widmer, 2013-2014 ASB President, filing in for current ASB President Sam Stuart, presented a brief review of the academic, athletic, leadership and music events recently completed and upcoming at Mt. Spokane High School. Mt. Spokane students recently participated in *Read Across America* with Shiloh Hills, Meadow Ridge and Midway. It was a very positive experience and they plan to take part again next year. The annual *March Madness* food drive, with donations going to 2<sup>nd</sup> Harvest Food Bank, is in process, spring sports are in full swing and the musical *Little Shop of Horrors* just completed an extremely successful run. DECA students recently returned from State with several students qualifying for Nationals.

Director Denholm positively commented on the 2013 Legislative Conference he attended along with Director Olson, Director O'Connor and Superintendent Rockefeller. They had the opportunity to hear from Governor Jay Inslee and Superintendent of Public Instruction Randy Dorn and visit with former Mead School District administrators Kelly Shea, Becky Berg and Mick Miller.

**V. Council for Learning Improvement Report - Mt. Spokane High School**

On behalf of the Mt. Spokane High School community principal Darren Nelson welcomed all in attendance. Mt. Spokane, this year and moving into the 2013-2014 school year, is focused on the following:

**Instructional Improvement:** The Mt. Spokane administrative team continues to devote considerable time to the new TPEP evaluation tool. Mt. Spokane has 19 teachers involved in the pilot program this year and next year all teachers will be on either the "focused" or "comprehensive" evaluation form.

Another area of focus for Mt. Spokane is the new common core state standards and the move from HSPE testing to SBAC (Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium) testing - incoming freshman will take this high stakes test in their junior year of high school. In preparation English

teachers have moved from an elective course offerings model in the junior year to only two offerings. This change has been made so that juniors will be better prepared for the new SBAC test.

The Mt. Spokane teaching community is exploring 21<sup>st</sup> century learning and what school looks like. Students now enter high school as digital natives and schools need to adapt to this reality.

Students are the center of everything that takes place at Mt. Spokane. 60% of last year's senior class attended a 2 or 4-year college. The Mt. Spokane community is concerned about what the other 40% are doing. The school is committed to engaging students in consistent, ongoing conversations about the next step after high school and helping provide intentional direction and support for that next step.

**School Safety:** Under Assistant Principal Jim Preston's leadership phase one of a "single point of entry" is in place. Mr. Preston is thoughtful about analyzing and improving the school's safety plan. Mt. Spokane is very intentional about school safety with regular tabletop meetings scheduled throughout the year.

**Student Support:** In conclusion Mr. Nelson, who is in his first year as Mt. Spokane principal, expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to work with the students, parents and staff of Mt. Spokane. There are so many great things taking place - National History Bowl, the school's mock trial team, 285 students taking part in WDFY (Washington Drug Free Youth), and AVID to name a few.

Mt. Spokane is intent on creating a "college going culture." To that end March 18-22 will be *College Week* at Mt. Spokane with a kick-off event scheduled for March 15 that includes the opportunity for incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade AVID students from Mountainside to come for breakfast. They will then shadow a high school student for the morning. At lunch there will be a college fair set up in the atrium with mascots from various local colleges in attendance (Swoop from EWU, Butch from WSU, etc.)

The board thanked Mr. Nelson for an excellent presentation and positively commented on the outstanding reputation of Mt. Spokane High School.

**VI. Continuing Business - none**

**VII. New Business**

**A. Consent Agenda**

Following a question about the Special Services leave replacement Director position, Director Denholm made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**B. 2014-2015 Calendar Discussion**

Assistant Superintendent of Human Services Ralph Thayer gave a brief explanation of the process the district's calendar committee used to develop the two calendar options for the 2014-2015 school year. These two calendar options were presented to the board for their input prior to distribution to staff for voting purposes.

A primary consideration of the calendar committee in the creation of the two options was to eliminate four-day weekends that include a snow make-up day.

This was a discussion item. No action was requested.

**C. Mt. Spokane Travel Proposal -  
National History Bowl Championships**

On behalf of Jared Hoadley (Student Services Executive Director), Assistant Superintendent Ralph Thayer presented a student travel proposal from the Mt. Spokane High School History Bowl Team (eleven qualifying members and their coach Luke Thomas and Mt. Spokane teacher Jessica Shoemaker) to travel to Washington D.C. for History Bowl Nationals April 25-27, 2013.

Prior to making a motion to approve qualifying members of the Mt. Spokane History Bowl Team and teachers Luke Thomas and Jessica Shoemaker to travel to Washington D.C. April 25-27, 2013, Director Hunt positively commented on the fact that Luke Thomas was using his own personal airline miles for the trip. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**VIII. Reports**

**A. Superintendent's Report and Discussion Items**

Superintendent Rockefeller reminded board members about the district's STEM Night taking place at Mead High School on March 12 from 6-8 p.m. He additionally positively commented on the outstanding job done by the Mt. Spokane drama department and Jim Brown on the musical *Little Shop of Horrors*. The performance he attended with his wife was wonderfully done with lots of good crowd interaction.

**IX. Executive Session**

At 6:45 p.m. Director Farley called for an Executive Session of approximately 30 minutes for the purpose of reviewing the performance of a public employee.

At 7:15 p.m. Director Farley returned the meeting to open session. No other business was discussed and no action was taken.

**X. Adjourn**

The meeting was immediately adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

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**President**

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**Secretary**