



**Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Monday, October 7, 2013**

The Board of Directors held a Regular Board Meeting on Monday, October 7, 2013. The meeting began at 6 p.m. and was held at Riverpoint Academy. Directors Denholm, O'Connor, Hunt and Olson were present. Director Farley was excused. Also attending were Superintendent Tom Rockefeller and Assistant Superintendents Ralph Thayer, Dorcas Wylder and Wayne Leonard. Assistant Superintendents Susana Reyes and Ken Russell and Executive Director Jared Hoadley were excused.

I. Approval of Agenda

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

II. Approval of Minutes

Director Olson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 23, 2013, as amended (the number of school districts referenced under "Remarks for the Good of the Schools" was corrected from 296 to 84). Director O'Connor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Remarks for the Good of the Schools

Travis Widmer, ASB President, presented a brief review of the academic, athletic, leadership and music events recently completed and upcoming at Mt. Spokane High School. Mt. Spokane defeated Mead High School, 10-0, in the "Battle of the Bell" football game September 27, a record 110 students took part in the first Washington Drug Free Youth (WDFY) testing of the year, the Mt. Spokane Marching Band/Colorguard was the Grand Sweepstakes winner at the Cavalcade of Bands marching band show held in Pasco on October 5 (Mead High School was only 1.48 points behind Mt. Spokane and took first place), and students will have the opportunity to participate in "Breaking Down the Walls," an interactive program that focuses on community building, on October 8 and October 9.

Director Denholm, referring to the "Battle of the Bell" football game, positively commented on the attendance of more than 10,000 and the fun community atmosphere he observed at the pre-game tailgate parties.

Assistant Superintendent of Learning Services Dorcas Wylder announced the good news that the Mead School District was one of only three school districts in the state of Washington to be awarded a Carol M. White Physical Education Program (PEP) Grant by the U.S. Department of Education. The grant is funded over three years and Evergreen physical education teacher Mark Phillips, who was in attendance, will serve as the grant manager. Grant funds will be used to initiate, expand and enhance physical education and nutrition education programs, including after school programs, for students in grades K-12.

Director Hunt positively commented on the excellent attendance at M.E.A.D.'s recent Open House.

Director O'Connor had the opportunity to attend the Mead Education Foundation fundraising event held at the Service Station on October 5, which raised approximately \$4,500. Director Olson also attended this event and commented on the excellent instruction Northwood science teacher Dave Gamon, in conjunction with Whitworth students, is providing to students on the topic of weather balloons.

IV. Council for Learning Improvement Report – Riverpoint Academy

On behalf of the Riverpoint Academy community, principal Danette Driscoll welcomed all in attendance and thanked the board for having the vision to provide this new learning opportunity for Mead School District students. Visitors who come to Riverpoint Academy often comment they are not surprised Mead is supportive of a program like Riverpoint Academy.

A goal for Riverpoint Academy students/graduates is to not only start college but also finish. To that end a focus at Riverpoint Academy is to blend the last two years of high school with the first two years of college.

Science teacher Sarah Pooler talked about the many partnerships Riverpoint Academy has with local colleges and universities in pre-med/dentistry, pharmacy, bioengineering, microbiology, fuel cells, computer science and environmental studies.

Keith Browning, a teacher and counselor, spoke about college and career readiness. Riverpoint Academy students have the opportunity to visit several college campuses and participate in extended (10-12 day) job shadows. At Riverpoint Academy seniors apply to 3-5 colleges/universities and submit a minimum of four scholarship applications.

Veteran English teacher Glenn Williams talked about how teaching is different at Riverpoint Academy as compared to his experiences at a traditional high school. Before joining the Riverpoint Academy staff he taught in a “teacher centered” environment where he was responsible to ask most of the questions. At Riverpoint Academy learning is “student centered.” Content is still important but he is now more fully engaged with each student.

District STEM Director Dan Butler spoke briefly about the school’s need to provide the most current technology available for students. Riverpoint Academy’s goal is to privately raise \$1.5 million and use the interest to provide funding for technology. One upcoming fundraising event is a pizza dinner sponsored by State Representative Kevin Parker and Spokane entrepreneur Tyler Lafferty.

In conclusion Ms. Driscoll shared that because Riverpoint Academy is only in its second year there is currently not a lot of data to share. She went on to explain that when it comes to data they want to be very thoughtful about what data they gather. Riverpoint Academy is open to high school juniors and seniors and is home to 125 students.

The board thanked Ms. Driscoll and her staff for their presentation commenting on the excellent college connections that have been fostered and the relevance of learning for students.

V. Continuing Business - none

VI. New Business

A. Consent Agendas A & B

Following a comment/concern from Director Hunt about the resignation of a certificated staff member after the start of the school year, Director Olson made a motion to approve Consent Agenda A as presented. Director Hunt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Director Hunt made a motion to approve Consent Agenda B as presented. Director O’Connor seconded the motion. The motion carried. Director Olson abstained from the vote.

B. First Reading Policy 2410 Revision Graduation Requirements

Assistant Superintendent of Learning Services Dorcas Wylder presented for first reading a revision to Policy 2410 Graduation Requirements. The last time this policy was updated was January 26, 2009.

In addition to meeting the minimum credit requirements for graduation as established by the school board, students must also pass a number of state assessments. The state assessments a student must take and pass is determined by their graduation year. Rather than including a detailed listing of the state assessments one of the proposed policy revisions is a general

statement about passing state assessments thereby allowing for changes in state assessment requirements, over time, without the need for a policy revision.

Other proposed policy revisions include removal of references to “Certificate of Academic Achievement” and “Certificate of Individual Achievement” and removal of the reference to review of courses and curriculum offerings by the curriculum frameworks committee.

WSSDA sample Policy 2410 was used as a template in preparing the policy revision. Many of the references included in the WSSDA sample policy, while not included in this policy revision, are included in Mead School District Procedure 2410.

No changes were recommended to the presented policy revision.

This was the first reading of a policy revision. No action was requested.

C. Riverpoint Academy ASB Constitution & Bylaws

As set forth in Mead School District Policy 3510 (Associated Student Bodies) Riverpoint Academy seniors Faith Barr (Student Leadership Committee) and Ryan True (Finance Committee) presented the Riverpoint Academy Student Leadership Constitution and Bylaws for board consideration and approval. Ms. Barr and Mr. True explained the process undertaken by Riverpoint Academy students in the writing of the constitution and bylaws emphasizing an “all inclusion” model of student leadership.

Director Hunt made a motion to approve the Riverpoint Academy Student Leadership Constitution and Bylaws as presented. Director O’Connor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Employee Termination

On September 23, 2013, during Executive Session, Assistant Superintendent of Human Services Ralph Thayer reviewed the circumstances surrounding the recommended termination of a classified Mead School District transportation employee.

At this meeting Assistant Superintendent Thayer brought the aforementioned termination before the board for their approval.

Director Hunt made a motion to approve the termination of the classified Mead School District transportation employee. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. Reports

A. Cenergistic Report

Director of Facilities and Planning Ned Wendle introduced Ed Graff, Regional President of Cenergistic, who gave a presentation on how Cenergistic, an energy conservation firm, can assist the Mead School District save money by becoming a self-sufficient, energy-efficient organization.

B. Superintendent’s Report and Discussion Items

Superintendent Rockefeller spoke positively about the recently completed fall community events which included the Catmania volleyball match between Mead and Mt. Spokane, the great crowd who attended the “Battle of the Bell” football game, the Sunset Concert featuring the Mead High School band at Sky Prairie Park and the Neighborhood Sales held at Evergreen and Farwell on October 5.

Superintendent Rockefeller additionally reported that the start of this school year has been difficult. He explained there are lots of pieces that contribute to this including a new timecard system, the implementation of a new financial and personnel management software program, new copiers, new phones, an infusion of new computer technology in many buildings, full implement of TPEP and the move to new Common Core State Standards. He went on to explain that he has no excuses to offer but does have reasons for the many changes taking place at one time. For example, the district phone system was past “end of life,” had been systematically failing for several years, and the phone company said they could not maintain the system even if we wanted to keep it.

Director Denholm thanked Superintendent Rockefeller for keeping the board apprised of the software implementation challenges that have occurred.

VIII. Executive Session

At 7:30 p.m. Director Denholm called for an Executive Session of approximately 45 minutes for the purpose of reviewing the performance of a public employee.

At 8:15 p.m. Director Denholm returned the meeting to open session. No other business was discussed and no action was taken.

IX. Adjourn

The meeting was immediately adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

President

Secretary