The Board of Directors held a Regular Board Meeting on Monday, November 18, 2013. The meeting began at 6 p.m. and was held at the Mead School District Administration Office. Directors Denholm, O’Connor, Hunt and Olson were present. Director Farley was excused. Also attending were Superintendent Tom Rockefeller, Assistant Superintendents Ralph Thayer and Wayne Leonard and Executive Director Jared Hoadley. Assistant Superintendents Dorcas Wylder, Susana Reyes and Ken Russell 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 Olson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of November 4, 2013, and Special Board Meeting of November 8, 2013, as presented. Director Hunt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Remarks for the Good of the Schools
Six members of the Mt. Spokane High School Varsity Cross Country Team (girls) and their coaches, Andy Sonneland and Joan Pringle-Jones, were in attendance. The Washington Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) in the 3A classification recently named the team an Academic State Champion. This distinction was earned with an impressive 3.925 team GPA. Coach Jones proudly reported this award is even more impressive when you consider four of the nine team members are freshmen. The board expressed their congratulations and appreciation for the team’s diligence and hard work.

Max Alley, ASB President, presented a brief review of the academic, athletic, leadership and music events recently completed and upcoming at Mead High School. Falls sports are concluding with winter sports just underway. Highlights from the fall include girls soccer making it to the final four and playing for a state title, and the varsity volleyball team playing in the state tournament. The school drama production, Laughing Stock, is enjoying a successful run, 140 students will attend Fall Leadership Camp November 21-23, and the annual Fall Food Drive is about to begin.

Superintendent Rockefeller invited board members to Mt. Spokane High School on Wednesday, November 17, where, during the break between 2nd and 3rd periods, honor roll students will be recognized and served cinnamon rolls.

Director Denholm positively commented on the recent Spokesman Review article about M.E.A.D. and their reenactment of “Shark Tank” a popular business-themed television show that searches for new businesses and products to invest in.

Director O’Connor highlighted the many other WIAA fall scholastic awards earned by Mead and Mt. Spokane athletic teams.

IV. Continuing Business
A. Public Service Leave Request
At the November 4, 2013, school board meeting the Public Service Leave Request of Mead High School teacher Kevin Swaim was tabled. Assistant Superintendent of Human Services Ralph Thayer distributed an email he received from Mr. Swaim explaining more fully the public service he would be providing should his leave request be granted.
After discussion, including concerns about spending state and local tax payer money meant for teaching on a paid leave to provide assistance to a non-profit entity, Director Hunt made a motion to deny the Public Service Leave Request of Kevin Swain. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The board did, however, express their willingness to entertain a request from Mr. Swain for a non-paid extended leave to participate in the service described in his request letter.

B. Cenergistic Proposal
The board reviewed the information presented by Cenergistic, an energy conservation firm, at their November 8, 2013, Special Board Meeting. Director Denholm stated it appears the Cenergistic proposal would provide good potential to save money and Superintendent Rockefeller reminded that even if the board votes to approve the proposal the contract itself would need to come back to the board for review and approval.

Director O’Connor made a motion to move forward with the next step of negotiating a contract with Cenergistic. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

V. New Business
A. Consent Agenda
Assistant Superintendent of Human Services Ralph Thayer asked that the supplemental contract for Mead High School counselor Mike Phillips be tabled/removed from the consent agenda and Director O’Connor questioned if there was a typo in the amount of the supplemental contract for Northwood teacher Shellie Fetcho (should the amount be $300 rather than $3,000) and asked Mr. Thayer to check into this. With the removal/tableing of Mr. Phillips’ contract and understanding that if there is a typo in the amount of the contract for Ms. Fetcho it will be corrected, Director O’Connor made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. Reports

B. Superintendent’s Report and Discussion Items
Superintendent Rockefeller shared he would be attending a staff meeting at Farwell Elementary the following morning and the honor roll celebration at Mt. Spokane the next day.

Superintendent Rockefeller also reported he has been actively involved with GSI and other area school superintendents as they plan for next year’s bond/levy campaigns. In addition to each school district having an individual bond/levy message their collective goal is to present unified communication in support of regional school bonds and levies. Many area school districts have plans to run a Capital Facilities Bond in conjunction with their replacement M&O Levy. Running the two simultaneously will be a new experience for most school districts. GSI is developing a survey to gather community input/opinions on public school education.

The Mead School District Facilities Planning Committee is fine-tuning their list of recommended projects for inclusion in an upcoming Capital Facilities Bond and will be reporting to the board after the New Year. Flagship projects are expected to be the same as in 2011 – the remodel of Midway and Shiloh Hills and remodel or replacement of Northwood Middle School. Anticipated state match for those three projects is $33 M.

VII. Closed Session
A. Employee Grievance Hearing
At 6:40 p.m. Director Denholm called for a Closed Session for the purpose of hearing an employee grievance.

B. Appeal to the Board
At 7 p.m. Director Denholm continued the Closed Session for the purpose of hearing an appeal.

At 7:15 p.m. Director Denholm returned the meeting to Open Session
VIII. Executive Session
At 7:15 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 8:00 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 8:00 p.m.

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President                                      Secretary