



Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors Monday, October 6, 2014

The Board of Directors held a Regular Board Meeting on Monday, October 6, 2014. The meeting began at 6:00 p.m. and was held at Farwell Elementary School. Directors Farley, O'Connor, Olson and Green were present. Director Denholm was excused. Also attending were Superintendent Tom Rockefeller, Assistant Superintendents Ralph Thayer, Wayne Leonard and Pam Veltri and Executive Directors Jared Hoadley and Heather Havens. Assistant Superintendents Susana Reyes and Ken Russell were excused.

I. Approval of Agenda

Director Green 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 September 22, 2014, and Board Retreat of October 1, 2014, as presented. Director O'Connor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Remarks for the Good of the Schools

ASB President River Baker, wearing the west side of the district *Battle of the Bell* t-shirt, presented a brief review of the academic, athletic, leadership and music events recently completed and upcoming at Mead High School. *Catmania* (volleyball) and *Battle of the Bell* (football) take place on Thursday, October 9 and Friday October 10. Mead students will have the opportunity to take part in *Breaking Down the Walls*, an interactive program that creates a unique environment of self-reflection and community, on Tuesday (October 7) and Wednesday (October 8). The Tuesday session is just for Mead High students but on Wednesday they will join Mt. Spokane students for a combined session. The Mead High School Marching Band was the Grand Sweepstakes winner at the Cavalcade of Bands competition in Pasco on October 4. The fall theatre arts production will be a musical, *Bye Bye Birdie*.

IV. Council for Learning Improvement Report - Farwell Elementary

On behalf of the Farwell Elementary School community principal Barb Pybus welcomed all in attendance stating it is an honor to represent the amazing Farwell staff - many of whom were in attendance.

2014-2015 will be the third year Farwell has taken part in the SOAR (Safety, Ownership, Achievement, Respect) program. The staff continues to see positive results from SOAR participation and they are excited to take the program to deeper levels this year.

This year a school-wide focus at Farwell is writing including keyboarding skills. During spring state testing students are asked to demonstrate their writing abilities when taking the online Smarter Balanced Assessment using a laptop computer. To help make sure the "tool of technology" does not get in the way of student success, all 3rd-6th grade students are participating in and registered for an online keyboarding class.

Last year the Farwell community, and particularly the 6th grade team, explored the possibility and implemented the Farwell School Community Garden. Ms. Pybus introduced 6th grade teachers Marcy Gallinger, Mary Himley and Chris Bontrger who explained how the Farwell Garden came to be including how the various aspects of the garden tie into nearly every aspect of the 6th grade curriculum. They explained the essays students wrote for and against a school garden, the involvement of Riverpoint Academy students in the garden design process and how each grade level at Farwell uses the garden as a vehicle for teaching and learning.

In conclusion, Ms. Pybus proudly shared the Farwell district writing scores from last spring. The percentage of students meeting standard was the highest in the district.

The board thanked Ms. Pybus and the 6th grade teaching team for their presentation positively commenting on the school wide excitement for the community garden and the many learning opportunities it offers students.

V. Continuing Business - None

VI. New Business

A. Consent Agenda

Director Olson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. Director Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

B. 2014-2015 Transitional Bilingual/Alternative Instruction Program Approval

Learning Services Executive Director Heather Havens presented the 2014-2015 Mead School District Transitional Bilingual/Alternative Instruction Program for board approval.

At the September 22, 2014, regularly scheduled school board meeting Ms. Havens presented a report on the district's 2014-2015 English Language Development program. In this report Ms. Havens reviewed the goals of the ELD program, the number of students in program, the number of different languages spoken and the number of ELD staff allocated to serve ELL students. Following this report the board had no recommendations for changes to the ELD program for the 2014-2015 school year.

Director O'Connor made a motion to approve the 2014-2015 Mead School District Transitional Bilingual/Alternative Instruction Program, as presented. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Student Travel Proposal – Mead High School Marching Band

Student Services Executive Director Jared Hoadley presented for board consideration a request from the Mead High School Marching Band to travel to St. George, Utah, October 30 – November 3, 2014, to take part in two marching band competitions. An estimated 130 students will participate. Rob Lewis, Mead HS instrumental music instructor, 11 section instructors and 12 parent chaperones will travel with the students. The estimated cost of the trip is \$280 per student.

Director Olson made a motion to approve the Mead High School Marching Band request to travel to St. George, Utah, October 30 – November 3, 2014, as presented. Director Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. Reports

A. Learning Services Report

Learning Services Assistant Superintendent Pam Veltri distributed information on the upcoming October 10 Learning Improvement Day taking place at Mt. Spokane High School. She additionally shared research/information on “highly effective schools” and a useful survey tool for gathering data on the effectiveness of our schools.

B. Superintendent's Report & Discussion Items

Superintendent Tom Rockefeller reminded board members about the *Catmania* volleyball match at Mead High School on Thursday, October 9 and the *Battle of the Bell* football game on Friday, October 10. Prior to the start of the football game (7:30 p.m.) the Mead and Mt. Spokane athletic booster clubs will each host tailgate parties.

VIII. Executive Session

At 6:50 p.m. Director Farley called for an Executive Session of approximately 1 hour for the purpose of reviewing the performance of a public employee.

At 7:50 p.m. Director Farley returned the meeting to open session. No other business was discussed and no action was taken.

IX. Adjourn

The meeting was immediately adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

President

Secretary