Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Monday, October 20, 2014

The Board of Directors held a Regular Board Meeting on Monday, October 20, 2014. The meeting began at 6:00 p.m. and was held at the Mead School District Administration Office. Directors Farley, Denholm, O’Connor, Olson and Green were present. Also attending were Superintendent Tom Rockefeller and Assistant Superintendents Ralph Thayer, Wayne Leonard, Susana Reyes and Pam Veltri. Assistant Superintendent Ken Russell and Executive Directors Jared Hoadley and Heather Havens were excused.

I. Approval of Agenda
Director Denholm made a motion to approve the agenda, as presented. Director O’Connor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

II. Approval of Minutes
Director O’Connor made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 6, 2014, as presented. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Remarks for the Good of the Schools
ASB President Jacob Lionello presented a brief review of the academic, athletic, leadership and music events recently completed and upcoming at Mt. Spokane High School. The rivalry volleyball match (Catmania) and football game (Battle of the Bell) just took place with Mead prevailing in volleyball and Mt. Spokane in football. Prior to both sporting events Mead and Mt. Spokane students participated in a combined “Breaking Down the Wall” activity that Mr. Lionello credited with helping create good sportsmanship on both sides. The fall Blood Drive will be October 30 and the Veterans Day Assembly will be November 7.

Director Farley positively commented on the large and enthusiastic crowd he observed at the volleyball match.

Director Olson shared the positive feedback he received on the district’s October 10 Learning Improvement Day.

Danielle Flynn presented a brief report from Riverpoint Academy including a summary of the learning taking place in the Prep Studio, Professional Design and Biomechanics classes. She highlighted the design work of Professional Design students on items to be auctioned at an upcoming Spokane Guilds’ School fundraising event.

IV. Continuing Business - None

V. New Business
A. Consent Agendas A & B
Director O’Connor made a motion to approve Consent Agenda A, as presented. Director Denholm seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Director Denholm made a motion to approve Consent Agenda B, as presented. Director Green seconded the motion. The motion carried. Director Olson abstained from the vote.

B. First Reading Policy & Procedure 3247 Revision
Isolation or Restraint of Students with IEPs or Section 504 Plans
Special Services Assistant Superintendent Susana Reyes presented, for first reading consideration, a revision to Policy & Procedure 3247 – Isolation or Restraint of Students with IEPs or Section 504 Plans. The policy and procedure were adopted on February 24, 2014.
The proposed revision involves a title change only for the policy. The new title would be “Required Notification of Isolation and Restraint of Students with IEPs and Section 504 Plans.” The proposed change is the addition of the words “Required Notification of.”

The procedure would also have the same title change plus the addition of clarifying language under Section A. Definitions, and Section B. Authorized Use of Isolation, Restraint or a Restraint Device. The clarifying language states that the definitions are not provided to advocate for, recommend or endorse the use of listed restraint and isolation measures. Rather, they are provided as a trigger for the notification process now required by law.

WSSDA Sample Policy & Procedure 3247 were used as templates for the proposed revisions.

Following discussion there were no first reading changes recommended.

This was the first reading of a policy/procedure revision. No action was taken.

C. Contract/Bargaining Agreement
   Local 1135 - MT

Human Services Assistant Superintendent Ralph Thayer reported that in September 2014, Local 1135 – MT (bus drivers) and the Mead School District reached a tentative five-year contract agreement (September 1, 2014 – August 31, 2019). The association has ratified the tentative agreement. Mr. Thayer additionally provided a brief overview of the agreed upon changes to the contract.

Director Denholm made a motion to approve the five-year contract agreement between Local 1135 - MT and the Mead School District, as presented. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Draft Bond & Levy Resolutions

Business Services Assistant Superintendent Wayne Leonard presented draft resolutions for the February 2015 bond and levy. The district’s bond counsel Roy Koegen prepared the draft resolutions. Mr. Leonard noted that the draft bond resolution needs several corrections and that he will get back with Mr. Koegen’s office about these revisions.

Both resolutions will be presented as action items at the November 3, 2014 board meeting.

The board asked that they receive an updated draft of both resolutions prior to the November 3 meeting.

This was a non-action item.

VII. Reports
   A. September 2014 Financial Report

Business Services Assistant Superintendent Wayne Leonard presented a brief financial report for the month of September 2014.

B. Special Services Report

Assistant Superintendent Susana Reyes reported the goal/purpose of the Special Services Department is to provide appropriate special education services to eligible students, ensuring compliance with state and federal mandates, rules and regulations. As of October 1, 2014, there are 1,157 K-12 students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) – an increase of 61 students over last year at this time. This is 12.7% of the district’s total student population.

There are 258 staff associated with special services programs. Dr. Reyes reported that she and new Assistant Director Suzanne McKibben work very well together and that, while they team many tasks, Ms. McKibben has taken over primary responsibility for state assessments making sure each special education student is signed up to take the correct test. The other major staffing change from last year to this year is the addition of four behavior intervention specialists.
Dr. Reyes reviewed elementary and secondary curriculum, state assessment options, behavior intervention work and professional development.

C. Learning Services Report
Assistant Superintendent Pam Veltri distributed and shared information on three different assessment models the department is investigating to assess students in the fall, mid-winter, and spring. Data obtained from these assessments would allow teachers to look at growth norms and set reasonable and realistic individual student learning goals. All three assessment products are tied to the Common Core State Standards and would provide testing uniformity across a grade level. Critical to the selection of any assessment tool is the amount of time the assessment takes compared to the data provided, the reliability and validity of the assessment and the ability of the tool to make adjustments to the level being testing during the test session. Generated data would additionally provide a good accountability measure for teachers. The department hopes to have an assessment tool recommendation ready to present to the board in early spring.

Discussion included cost estimates for the products, which ranged from $11 to $17 per student.

D. Superintendent's Report & Discussion Items
Superintendent Tom Rockefeller positively reported on the Catmania volleyball match and the Battle of the Bell football game (11,404 were in attendance). Pre-game activities included tailgate parties and the presentation of a $46,000 check to the Mead and Mt. Spokane Athletic Booster Clubs from the Cat Scramble Golf Tournament. Superintendent Rockefeller specifically thanked Cat Scramble co-chairs Renee Fine and Joanie Pringle-Jones.

VIII. Executive Session
At 7:10 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 8:30 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 8:30 p.m.