The Board of Directors held a Regular Board Meeting on Monday, January 12, 2015. The meeting began at 4:00 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, Assistant Superintendents Ralph Thayer, Wayne Leonard, Susana Reyes, Pam Veltri and Ken Russell and Executive Director Jared Hoadley. Executive Director Heather Havens was 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 Olson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of December 8, 2014, and Special Board Meeting of December 15, 2014, as presented. Director Denholm seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Remarks for the Good of the Schools
ASB Treasurer Betsy Todaro, filling in for 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. On January 8th DECA students hosted a fashion show to benefit the Vanessa Behan Crisis Nursery, Pack the Palace, the second of the two rivalry basketball games with Mead High School, takes place on January 23rd and Hoops for Hope the annual basketball game to benefit cancer research, where staffs from Mt. Spokane/Mountainside take on Mead HS/Northwood, is scheduled for February 4th at Mt. Spokane. ASB elections for 2015-2016 officers is underway with students, for the first time, voting in the ASB classroom using iPads to enhance election security. Finals for first semester are the week of January 20-23.

Director O'Connor positively commented on several recent articles in the Spokesman Review that highlighted the accomplishments of former and current Mead School District students including Mead High School junior Keely Liles who won the Spokesman 2014 Outdoor Writing Contest. Two of the three runners-up in this same writing contest were also from Mead High School.

IV. Continuing Business
A. Second Reading Procedure 2161 Revision
Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students
Special Services Education Specialist and Administrative Intern Andrea Staton presented a revision to Procedure 2161 – Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students – for second reading consideration. The last revision to this procedure was March 11, 2010.

Ms. Staton briefly reviewed the nine proposed changes that will update Procedure 2161 in response to several state regulatory changes. She also explained the housekeeping items included in the revision.

No changes were recommended at the first reading.

Following discussion that included Director Olson commenting on the good job the Special Services Department does implementing and adhering to the many state and federal special education regulations, Director Denholm made a motion to approve the revisions to Procedure 2161 – Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students – as presented. Director O'Connor seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
V. Reports
A. Financial Report for the month of November 2014
Business Services Assistant Superintendent Wayne Leonard presented a brief financial report for the month of November 2014.

B. Learning Services Report
Regarding the new state graduation requirements scheduled to go into effect for the class of 2019 (current 8th graders), Learning Services Assistant Superintendent Ken Russell provided context and background on these new requirements and the option available through the State Board of Education for school districts to apply for a temporary (1-2 years) waiver of the requirements. School districts applying for a waiver must describe why the waiver is being requested, the specific impediments preventing timely implementation of the high school graduation requirements and the efforts that will be taken to achieve implementation with the graduating class proposed under the waiver.

It is the recommendation of the Learning Services Department that the Mead School District apply for a one-year waiver. Mr. Russell explained why an additional year is needed including the specific impediments to implementing the new graduation requirements for the class of 2019. Having an additional year prior to implementation would allow for better communication and planning, as well as provide more time to expand CTE equivalencies and counseling services as we move from a graduation requirement of 22.5 credits to 24 credits.

Should a one-year waiver be submitted and receive approval the efforts that would be undertaken by the district to fully meet the new requirements for the class of 2020 were also explained.

A board resolution approving the submission of a temporary waiver from high school graduation requirements must be attached to the application sent to the State Board of Education.

Following discussion the board asked Mr. Russell to bring to the January 26, 2015, regularly scheduled school board meeting a resolution authorizing the submission of a one-year waiver request to the State Board of Education.

C. Superintendent’s Report & Discussion Items
Superintendent Tom Rockefeller commented on the student growth the district has experienced the past few months. He will be visiting with officials from the non-profit Kira’s Kloset in the coming days to talk about the possibility of providing temporary space for the organization because their current space will soon be unavailable. In conclusion, he reported there are three to four upcoming community bond/levy presentations scheduled for the month of January.

VI. New Business
A. Consent Agendas A & B
Following congratulations and acknowledgement of the retirements of Shirley Fairfax and Martin Stoddard by Human Services Assistant Superintendent Ralph Thayer, Director Olson 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 Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried. Director Green abstained from the vote.

B. Student Travel Proposal
Mead High School Marching Band
Student Services Executive Director Jared Hoadley presented a request from the Mead High School Concert and Jazz Bands to travel to Anaheim, California, May 21-26, 2015. These two bands took a similar trip three years ago. The trip will provide performance opportunities at Disneyland and the opportunity to experience a brand new Disney Youth Education class exploring the world of music and learning how Disney incorporates music into the Disneyland attractions.

It is anticipated 100 students will participate. Terry Lack and Rob Lewis (Mead HS instrumental music instructors) will accompany the group, as well as parent chaperones. The estimated cost of the trip is $920.00 per student and fundraising opportunities are available.
Terry Lack was in attendance to answer questions regarding the trip.

Following discussion, Director Denholm made a motion to approve the Mead High School Concert Band and Jazz Band request to travel to Anaheim, California, May 21-26, 2015, as presented. Director Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Superintendent Contract Extension

Following comments from each board member publicly affirming the outstanding job Superintendent Dr. Tom Rockefeller has done leading the Mead School District for the past nine years, Director Denholm made a motion to extend Superintendent Rockefeller's contract to June 30, 2018. Director Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

“It is important to note this contract extension, at Dr. Rockefeller's personal request, includes no increase in pay,” stated Board Vice-President Denholm, “and is further evidence of his high level of integrity, commitment and service to the Mead School District.”

VII. Annual Re-Organization of the Board of Directors

Director Farley called for nominations for the position of President of the Board. Director Denholm made a motion to nominate Director Farley to continue in his role as President of the Board for another year. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Director Farley called for nominations for the position of Vice-President of the Board. Director Olson made a motion to nominate Director Denholm to continue in his role as Vice-President of the Board for another year. Director Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Executive Session

At 5 p.m. Director Farley called for an Executive Session of approximately 20 minutes for the purpose of reviewing the performance of a public employee.

At 5:20 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 5:20 p.m.