



Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors Monday, May 11, 2015

The Board of Directors held a Regular Board Meeting on Monday, May 11, 2015. The meeting began at 6:00 p.m. and was held at Evergreen Elementary School. Directors Farley, Denholm, O'Connor, Olson and Green were present. Also attending were Superintendent Tom Rockefeller, Assistant Superintendents Ralph Thayer, Wayne Leonard, Ken Russell and Pam Veltri and Executive Directors Jared Hoadley and Heather Havens. Assistant Superintendent Susana Reyes was excused.

I. Approval of Agenda

Director Denholm made a motion to approve the agenda, as amended. (Continuing Business Item B - Second Reading Policy & Procedure 5253 Adoption, and Item C - Athletic Code Revision, were removed.) Director Green 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 April 27, 2015, as amended. (Continuing Business, Item B - engageNY Curriculum Adoption - was amended to attribute the statement regarding the possibility of having computers in school libraries available for parents who do not have online access at home to Director Farley rather than Director O'Connor.) Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Remarks for the Good of the Schools

ASB President Bailey O'Conner presented a brief review of the academic, athletic, leadership and music events recently completed and upcoming at Mt. Spokane High School. The baseball team, coached by Alex Schuerman, is the GSL Regular Season Champion, soccer (boys) was crowned District Champion, the April 28th Blood Drive saw a record 53 individuals participate and the Senior Prom was May 2nd at the Masonic Temple. The Mt. Spokane History Bowl Team just returned from Nationals in Washington D.C. where they competed against 300 teams from all over the United States. Graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2015 will be Friday, June 5th, 8 p.m. at GU's McCarthy Athletic Center.

Mead High School CTE teacher Lee Chambers introduced junior Keely Liles who briefly shared her high school experiences competing at local and regional Business Plan competitions. As a freshman Keely won \$2,500 earning first place honors for a business venture involving photographing babies. This year, using feedback from other competitions, she modified the focus of her business venture away from babies to an individualized yearbook for graduating seniors and took first place at the WSU Business Plan Competition earning \$5,000. Ms. Liles thanked Mr. Chambers and Mead High School Digital Photography teacher Brandon Butler for their help and guidance.

Greg Bade, a Mead patron and parent of 10 children who have attended or are currently attending Mead Schools, introduced his son E.J. Bade who is a sophomore at Mead High School. E.J. asked the board why a new head football coach has not been hired. Superintendent Rockefeller explained the non-renewal of the current football coach is being appealed per the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement between the district and the coaches association. In the meantime, Superintendent Rockefeller explained the district is working with the Mead High School Athletic Director regarding summer camp, spring/summer weight training and the hiring of an interim coach.

Kari Layton, parent of a Mead High School senior and 5th grade teacher at Prairie View Elementary School for the past two years, addressed the board regarding the lack of curriculum maps and an official curriculum at 5th and 6th grade for reading and writing. Her comments also included questions regarding the job description of the newly hired (2014-2015 school year) elementary English Language Arts curricular instructional assistant.

Bryan Connall, the parent of a Mead High School sophomore, questioned the board and Superintendent Rockefeller about the timeline associated with the non-renewal of the Mead High School football coach, the appeal of said non-renewal and the hiring of a new football coach. Superintendent Rockefeller reminded Mr. Connall that the two of them had previously talked about the number of appeal steps available to non-renewed coaches via the collective bargaining agreement. He went on to explain an appeal has been filed and is currently being heard at the principal level. From there the collective bargaining agreement provides for an appeal to the superintendent level, with the final step being an appeal to the school board. It is anticipated the appeal process will have run its course on or before July 1, 2015. Superintendent Rockefeller reiterated work has started on the hiring of an interim coach and a plan for summer camp and summer weight training is being finalized. Superintendent Rockefeller invited Mr. Connall to contact Student Services Executive Director Jared Hoadley for updates on the football program at Mead High School.

IV. Council for Learning Improvement Reports

A. Evergreen Elementary School

On behalf of the Evergreen Elementary School community Katie Scott (Title teacher) welcomed all in attendance and introduced Interim Principal Mike Dahmen, Principal Assistant Tony Moser and teachers Diane Kruiswyk and June Lamberd.

Ms. Lamberd highlighted the progress/work around improving student reading. This includes an emphasis on the use of data to identify and then address missing skills. Other innovative activities put into place this year to help struggling readers includes Whitworth University literacy students working with teachers and students and the “Lunch Buddies” program that was featured in the April 2015 issue of Mead Matters. This is a program where retired Mead patrons come for lunch and reading time. Each retiree is partnered with the same student every time they attend.

Ms. Kruiswyk reported students at all grade levels have used the engageNY math curriculum this year. Looking forward Evergreen plans to educate parents on the vocabulary associated with the engageNY curriculum so that both school and home are using the same terminology when helping kids - for example “regrouping” rather than “borrowing” for subtraction. Online links to engageNY materials and videos are accessible to parents.

In conclusion, Ms. Scott reported the Evergreen staff is committed to helping students be successful. They welcome and plan to seek feedback from staff, parents and the community as they continue working to improve student learning at Evergreen.

Director Farley thanked Evergreen for their presentation. Principal Assistant Tony Moser praised the strong teacher leadership at Evergreen and acknowledged the authentic learning provided by Evergreen staff for all students.

B. Shiloh Hills Elementary School

On behalf of the Shiloh Hills Elementary School community first-year principal Laura Ketcham-Duchow welcomed all in attendance and introduced Principal Assistant Mike Danford. She also thanked the many Shiloh Hills teachers/staff in the audience for their attendance/support and expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to lead Shiloh Hills.

Ms. Duchow and Mr. Danford highlighted several goals/areas of concentrated focus at Shiloh Hills. These included:

- **Math** - Goal: 5% cohort increase. Nearly all teachers are piloting engageNY. Professional development in math has focused on the engageNY curriculum.
- **Parent Involvement** - This continues to be a challenge especially with ELL parents. To help connect ELL parents to Shiloh Hills they are exploring the possibility of offering English classes in the evening. In addition to providing English instruction it would help familiarize parents with Shiloh Hills. There are 15 different home languages spoken by Shiloh Hills ELL families. Participation in fall and spring conferences was 88% - just short of their 90% goal.
- **PBIS** (Positive Behavioral Intervention & Supports) - This program continues to positively impact student behavior for the majority of Shiloh Hills students.

- **Celebrations** – (1) Washington State Achievement Award – second year in a row. Honored in two categories: English Language Acquisition and High Progress. (2) Library Media Specialist Nancy Phillips received a \$5,000 grant from CenturyLink to purchase iPads. (3) Teacher Cathi Sigurdson received a \$1,400 grant from the Mead Education Foundation to purchase tablets that will be used primarily by ELL students.
- **Challenges** – (1) Attendance – reducing the number of students with 10+ absences. (2) Behavior interventions for the small number of students (5%) that need additional support. (3) Help for the increasing number of students with mental and/or physical health issues.

In conclusion, Ms. Duchow showed a short video featuring members of the Shiloh Hills student body.

The board thanked Ms. Duchow and Mr. Danford for their presentation.

V. Continuing Business

A. Third Reading Policy & Procedure 3207 Revision Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying

Student Services Executive Director Jared Hoadley presented a revision to Policy & Procedure 3207 – Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying – for third reading consideration. The last time this policy/procedure was updated was August 22, 2011.

During the recent Consolidated Program Review it was brought to the district’s attention this policy and procedure must be updated/revised to comply with OSPI revised rules (effective December 2014).

The changes recommended at the second reading have been incorporated into the presented draft policy and draft procedure.

Discussion included the recommendation of some additional revisions to the policy and procedure, and compliance consistency when Mr. Hoadley is no the district’s compliance officer. Mr. Hoadley explained that, by state law, compliance officers are required to attend state compliance training on an annual basis. There was also discussion regarding the need for some flexibility in order to do the right thing for each student.

Parent/patron/5th grade Prairie View teacher Kari Layton announced she has several concerns regarding this policy and procedure. She was planning to present these to the board but, because of prior commitment, must leave. She was asked to email Mr. Hoadley her comments.

Because Policy & Procedure 3207 is a student policy the board asked that the personnel policies regarding harassment, intimidation and bullying be made available for cross-reference purposes.

This was a non-action item.

VI. New Business

A. Consent Agenda

Human Services Assistant Superintendent Ralph Thayer introduced Teresa Laher, the recommended candidate to be the new Mead High School principal. Director of Facilities and Planning Ned Wendle introduced Travis Bown, the recommended individual to be the new Buildings/Grounds Director.

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

B. Resolution 15-4 Signature Authority Designation

Ned Wendle, Director of Facilities and Planning, presented Resolution 15-4, Signature Authority Designation, for board consideration. WAC 392-344-120 requires the school district to provide the Superintendent of Public Instruction with the certified signatures of district personnel authorized by board resolution to sign any and all documents relating to state construction assistance and other state grant reimbursements.

Director O'Connor made a motion to adopt Resolution 15-4, Signature Authority Designation, as presented. Director Denholm seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**C. Resolution 15-5
New-In-Lieu Replacement Option – Northwood Middle School**

Ned Wendle, Director of Facilities and Planning, presented Resolution 15-5, New-In-Lieu Replacement Option – Northwood Middle School, for board consideration. The Facilities Planning Committee recommended rebuilding Northwood Middle School rather renovating because the cost of modernizing the current space was prohibitive.

The new Northwood Middle School is one of the three flagship projects on the 2015-2021 Capital Facilities Plan. The school will be constructed next to the current Northwood building on the south half of the 36.5 acre “Northwood/Farwell” site. Approximately 2.5 acres is required for the new building.

The total project cost to rebuild Northwood is \$41,444,811 with state matching funds covering \$16,400,000.

Director Green made a motion to adopt Resolution 15-5, New-In-Lieu Replacement Option – Northwood Middle School, as presented. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. Reports

A. Learning Services Report

Assistant Superintendent Ken Russell gave a brief report on changes to instructional hours. New state regulations go into effect in the 2015-2016 school year and require a district average of 1027 hours. The current district average is 1004.5 hours. To meet the new requirements five minutes will be added to the beginning and end of both the high school and elementary bell schedules. High school classes will start at 8:10 a.m. and end at 2:35 p.m. Elementary classes will start at 9:10 a.m. and end at 3:20 p.m. There will be no change to the middle school bell schedule. The start of the middle school day will remain 8:15 a.m. and school will dismiss at 2:30 p.m.

The increase of 10 minutes per day for high school and elementary school students will net 25 additional instructional hours resulting in a district average of 1029.5 hours.

Dr. Russell also reported teachers at Mead High School, Mt. Spokane High School and Mountainside Middle School have approved variances for the 2015-2016 school year related to daily prep time. These variances will be brought to the board for their consideration at the May 26, 2015, school board meeting.

Dr. Russell introduced elementary music specialists Karen Brasch (Midway), Kathy Meredith (Evergreen) and Gail Ridenour (Brentwood) who thanked the board for their support and shared a video celebrating the recent accomplishments of the elementary music program.

Director Denholm thanked the music specialists for their presentation and noted how much he enjoys watching students perform at concerts throughout the year.

B. Business Services Report

Business Services Assistant Superintendent Wayne Leonard shared three items. The first was a recap of the recent state audit. The district received a clean financial report and, with the exception of a minor compliance finding tied to the district's federal PEP grant, there were no other areas of concern.

With the passage of the Capital Facilities Bond in February of 2015 it will be necessary to bring a 2014-2015 Capital Projects Fund Budget Extension resolution to the board on May 26, 2015, increasing the budget appropriation in that fund.

Mr. Leonard, referencing the recently completed Moody's Rating Report, reported the district has maintained their Aa3 bond rating which, for a district of our size and demographics, is very good.

That rating, coupled with the State of Washington guarantee, will result in bonds going on the open market with an Aa1 rating.

C. Superintendent's Report and Discussion Items

Superintendent Rockefeller reported Ned Wendle and Wayne Leonard will be going to Seattle for the sale of the first set of bonds on May 13. He additionally made reference to the six graduation ceremonies taking place in early June.

VIII. Executive Session

At 8:00 p.m. Director Farley called for an executive session of approximately one hour for the purpose of reviewing the performance of a public employee.

At 9:15 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 9:15 p.m.

President

Secretary