



**Minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Monday, April 25, 2016**

The Board of Directors held a Regular Board Meeting on Monday, April 25, 2016. The meeting began at 6 p.m. and was held at the Mead School District Administration Office. Directors Denholm, Olson and Green were present. Director Farley was excused. Also attending were Superintendent Tom Rockefeller, Assistant Superintendents Wayne Leonard, Ralph Thayer, Pam Veltri and Ken Russell and Executive Director Jared Hoadley. Assistant Superintendent Susana Reyes and Executive Director Heather Havens were excused.

I. Approval of Agenda

Director Green made a motion to approve the agenda, as presented. Director Olson 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 April 13, 2016, as presented. Director Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Remarks for the Good of the Schools

Student Services Executive Director Jared Hoadley introduced the district's two Safety Resource Officers Jeff Rogers and Chris Young. The Mead School District, thanks to a grant that covers a substantial portion of the cost, is able to partner with the Spokane County Sheriff's Office for the services of these officers. Deputy Rogers and Deputy Young provide critical support and assistance to district students, teachers and administrators. To thank them for their dedication and hard work Mr. Hoadley presented each officer with a *Certificate of Appreciation* from the Mead School District.

Bryan Connall, parent of a Mead High junior, hosted a foreign exchange student this past fall. Unexpected circumstances made it so the young man had to return to Germany before the end of this school year. Mr. Connall expressed high praise for Mead High principal Teresa Laher and how she handled this early departure. She made the young man feel very special and presented him with a Mead High letter (similar to what is earned by athletes and students involved in music and drama) to commemorate his time at Mead. Mr. Connall additionally praised the noticeable, positive culture changes he has observed at Mead High this year under Ms. Laher's leadership.

Northwood Principal Dave Stenersen first spoke about current Northwood Assistant Principal Sue Hogue who is retiring at the end of this school year. He praised Ms. Hogue and the work she has done for the past eleven years at Northwood stating, "Sue's shoes will be hard to fill." He then spoke about the recently completed hiring process for a new assistant principal including his thanks to both Ken Russell and Jared Hoadley for the fine job they did facilitating the selection. The individual recommended for board approval is Jay Tyus who has been the middle school principal in Tonasket for the past five years. Mr. Stenersen reported Mr. Tyus was the unanimous selection of the Hiring Team and gave him a very positive endorsement.

Superintendent Rockefeller shared the following noteworthy items:

- Brentwood and Mountainside have both earned a 2015 Washington Achievement Award in the “High Progress” category. The official awards ceremony will take place on May 24 at ESD 101.
- U.S. News and World Report just released their 2016 rankings of the Nation’s Best High Schools and Five Mile Prairie School, for the second consecutive year, has earned a Bronze Medal.
- For two years running, Mt. Spokane High School has been named one of America’s Most Challenging High Schools in Washington State by the Washington Post.
- Mt. Spokane teacher/choir director Dave Teal is the April 2016 KHQ/EWU “Teacher of the Month.”
- At the annual Spokane Scholars Banquet Mt. Spokane senior Kate Grossman was the 2nd place winner in the English category earning a \$3,000 grant.

Next year’s ASB President Cade Neuman, along with incoming ASB Vice-President Logan Kimball, presented a brief review of the academic, athletic, leadership and music events recently completed and upcoming at Mt. Spokane High School. The band will participate in the Lilac Parade on May 21, April 28 is the Spring Blood Drive, Prom is May 7 and Mt. Spokane will host a “Block Party” on May 4. All Mt. Spokane feeder schools are invited to this fun evening.

Prior to continuing with “Remarks for the Good of the Schools” regarding the potential housing of Prairie View 6th graders at Northwood Middle School starting in the fall of 2016, Director Denholm quickly reviewed ground rules for said remarks including length of comments and a request that speakers refrain from duplicating items already covered.

Jeff Valley, parent of a current Prairie View 5th grader, read a prepared statement that included:

- Concern with “why and how” this move may be happening and apprehension that there is enough lead-time for implementation in September of 2016.
- The district, on April 14, specifically mentioned 22 considerations indicating there were 75+ additional considerations. Parents believe this number of concerns/considerations is low. They believe the actual number of safety, physical, mental, emotional, educational, etc. items that must be addressed are too many to undertake in 2-4 months. This begs the question . . . “Why? – Why is there such a rush to do this in 4 months? Creating all of these problems and chaos and trying to work through them is counterintuitive in 4 months. You are trying to solve one set of problems by creating another mountain of problems.”
- The pros of this planned relocation of 6th graders does not outweigh the cons by any stretch of the imagination.
- Acknowledgment there is an overcrowding problem and there are currently 88 Prairie View students who must be shuttled to other schools. However, “trying to solve this issue at the expense of the safety, physical, mental, emotional, educational . . . at the expense of our kids by forcing this Northwood Pilot program . . . is definitely not the answer for the next school year. We aren’t opposed to the idea of 6th graders in middle school . . . we are opposed to forcing this in 4 months because of the insurmountable issues it raises.”
- Expressed expectation that the board provide “sufficient, explainable reasons why this MUST happen now (for the 2016-2017 school year). We are expecting answers as to how and why you think creating all of these issues, work, chaos and negative impact on our kids is better than waiting 18-24 months to do this properly.”

Susan Marshall, parent of a current Prairie View 5th grader, read a prepared statement that included:

- Concern with a number of safety issues but mostly bullying and the recent rise in suicide because of being bullied at school and through social media.
- Wants to know if the board, or a committee assigned by the board, “has done any research on bullying issues in middle schools especially the ones with 6th graders?”
- What sort of precautionary steps have been taken or will be taken to assure parents that bullying won’t happen on the buses or at school?
- Assertion that “it is the responsibility of the board to assure the parents that a move to Northwood for our children is best for our children. We want the assurance that this decision has been made with consideration to all the issues not just financial or space issues.”
- Concern that moving too quickly, just because of overcrowding, “leaves not only our children vulnerable to harm but could leave the board and the district subject to potential legal issues in the future!”

Cori Valley, parent of a current Prairie View 5th grader, shared the following:

- Concern with bathroom location and the need for students to have “immediate access.”
- Also shares implementation concerns . . . so many issues and four months is not adequate time to take care of them.
- Concern with unexpected delays . . . asbestos in old portables . . . will the classrooms be ready for occupancy in September of 2016?
- Concern with safety and security . . . fencing around the portables “makes them (students) look like outcasts.”
- Encouragement to “take the time to do it right.”

Jared Stoyko, step-father of a current Prairie View 5th grader, shared the following:

- The news of this potential move took his family by surprise.
- Concern with the use of the term “pilot” when initially it appears there will be little integration with 7th and 8th graders.
- What is the district hoping to learn/discover with this proposed move?
- Questions whether this is the best solution.

Director Denholm thanked all who shared remarks indicating the board would take them into consideration along with the emailed feedback received from a few individuals. He reminded there is another meeting scheduled with 5th grade parents on May 3, 7 p.m. at Northwood in the library. He additionally indicated the board would give a “thumbs up” or “thumbs down” to the proposed move of Prairie View 6th graders to Northwood at the next regularly scheduled school board meeting (May 9).

IV. Continuing Business - None

V. New Business

A. Consent Agenda

Prior to making a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, Director Olson positively commented on the combined number of years of service of the teachers and staff who have announcement their retirements. Director Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**B. Contract/Bargaining Agreement
Mead Principals' Association**

Superintendent Rockefeller presented a tentative three-year contract agreement between the Mead Principals' Association and Mead School District for board consideration. The association has ratified the tentative agreement.

The tentative agreement makes all positions, with the exception of principal assistants, full-time (260 days), adds a 5th step to all full-time positions to compensate for the additional work days added in the transition from 213/216 day positions to full-time, removes the ability to buy-back five vacation days for full-time positions and modifies the career stipend.

Director Green made a motion to approve the three-year tentative agreement between the Mead Principals' Association and the Mead School District, as presented. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**C. Resolution 16-4
Transportation Vehicle Fund Transfer**

Business Services Assistant Superintendent Wayne Leonard presented Resolution 16-4, Transportation Vehicle Fund Transfer, for board consideration.

The 2015-2016 budget adopted by resolution in August of 2015 indicated there would be a transfer of \$400,000 from the General Fund to the Transportation Vehicle Fund for the purchase of school buses. This resolution authorizes the actual transfer of these funds.

Director Green made a motion to adopt Resolution 16-04, Transportation Vehicle Fund Transfer, as presented. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**D. Resolution 16-5
2015-2016 Transportation Vehicle Fund Budget Extension**

Business Services Assistant Superintendent Wayne Leonard presented Resolution 16-5, 2015-2016 Transportation Vehicle Fund Budget Extension, for board consideration.

State law requires fiscal year budgets be adopted by August 31st each year. Extensions to the appropriation level also require board approval. The law further requires that a public hearing be held allowing public comments when considering adoption of the budget or an extension. Resolution 15-11 was presented to the Board in a Public Hearing on August 14, 2015.

Adoption of Resolution 16-5 increases the appropriation level, or spending limits of the Transportation Vehicle Fund by \$575,000. This is due to underestimating the cost of new buses and purchase of additional buses.

Director Olson made a motion to adopt Resolution 16-5, 2015-2016 Transportation Vehicle Fund Budget Extension, as presented. Director Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**E. Resolution 16-6
Value Engineering Study and Accepted Implementation for the
Northwood Middle School Replacement Project**

Facilities and Planning Director Ned Wendle presented Resolution 16-6, Value Engineering Study and Accepted Implementation for the Northwood Middle School Replacement Project, for board consideration.

A Value Engineering Study is an OSPI requirement for state matching funds when a project is larger than 50,000 square feet. This requirement also includes a resolution from the Board of Directors documenting the value analysis has been accepted and will be implemented.

The Value Engineering Study is performed to review the architect's design and make recommendations for cost avoidance, cost verification and added value proposals. The architect is then permitted to comment on, accept, reject or modify, if necessary, each proposal in the report after consultation with the district.

For Northwood the actual dollar value of ideas implemented for project savings is \$456,000. Other items are still under evaluation.

Director Olson made a motion to adopt Resolution 16-6, Value Engineering Study and Accepted Implementation for the Northwood Middle School Replacement Project, as presented. Director Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

F. Midway Elementary School Architect Contract

Facilities and Planning Director Ned Wendle presented the official contract with MMEC Architecture to provide architectural design services for the Midway Elementary Modernization Project for board consideration. On July 20, 2015, the board approved the selection of MMEC Architecture for the project.

The presented contract formalizes the district's agreement with MMEC to complete the design, construction documents, bidding and construction administration phase. Construction of the Midway project is scheduled to start in the summer of 2017 and be completed in the fall of 2018.

Director Olson made a motion to approve the presented contract with MMEC Architects of Spokane to provide architectural design services for the Midway Elementary Modernization Project. Director Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. Reports

A. Financial Report March 2016

Business Services Assistant Superintendent Wayne Leonard presented a brief financial report for the month of March 2016.

B. Technology Report

Technology Director Doug Edmonson presented a technology update highlighting the new Chromebooks that will be leased for use in elementary schools starting next year. The use of Chromebooks was piloted this year in a few locations to determine their suitability for use district-wide. Feedback was positive from teachers and technicians.

The Technology Department investigated three different leasing companies before selecting Insight Financial. Not only does Insight lease the equipment, they also provide free asset management. The company additionally allows for the return of "like" items in the event a device is lost before the end of the lease term. The cost of each Chromebook is \$189 and the plan is for a three-year contract, which is optimal for a three-year refresh cycle.

C. Northwood Design Development Report

Facilities and Planning Director Ned Wendle, using a PowerPoint presentation, reviewed the Northwood Middle School Design Development Report prepared by ALSC Architects. The new Northwood design is the result of one year of planning by ALSC, OAC, Garco Construction, district personnel and the Northwood staff.

Mr. Wendle highlighted the following features of the new Northwood:

- There will be a new bus loop located between Northwood and Farwell. This loop will be completed and operational prior to the start of the 2016-2017 school year.
- A small portion of the old Northwood will be modernized and become part of the new Northwood. The current band and choir rooms will become a tech classroom. The wrestling room will remain and the gym will serve as a second or auxiliary gym.
- The design separates the school into instructional space on the south side and athletic and choir/band space on the north. A multi-purpose room, along with administration and counseling offices, divide these two portions of the building.
- The design incorporates a single-point of entry.
- The instructional wing is two stories.
- There is an outdoor commons adjacent to the multi-purpose room.

In conclusion, Mr. Wendle shared the construction budget has been established and subcontractor bids will be opened at Garco Construction on May 5, 2016.

D. Superintendent's Report and Discussion Items

Superintendent Rockefeller referenced the four "Letters of Interest" submitted by individuals to fill Maureen O'Connor's position on the board and the need to establish a Special Board Meeting to interview these individuals. The dates/times for graduation ceremonies will be sent via email so board members can indicate the commencement exercises they plan to attend.

Dr. Kevin Peterson, who is providing administrative leadership/oversight for the potential move of Prairie View 6th graders to the Northwood campus, provided an update on concerns brought forward at the April 14 parent meeting. The following topics were addressed:

- The daily schedule has been adjusted to include a start time of 8:50 a.m. and an end time of 3 p.m. (Northwood 7th & 8th graders start at 8:15 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m.) With this adjustment students would ride their own dedicated bus to Northwood thereby alleviating concerns regarding the bullying of 6th graders by older students on the bus. This revised schedule also works well for returning to Prairie View for after school sports.
- The new bus loop, scheduled for completion prior to the start of the 2016-2017 school year, addresses drop-off and pick-up traffic concerns.
- The six portable classrooms have been painted and are receiving new roofs and new carpet. As a security measure a chain-link fence will be installed. Much of this work will be completed by May 3rd.
- Dr. Peterson has already met with the Prairie View teachers interested in teaching 6th grade at Northwood and has another meeting scheduled. These teachers are enthusiastic about the prospect of this move and the opportunities it will provide.
- Dr. Peterson talked with Trish Henry who coordinates district library services. They have worked out a plan to transition 6th grade materials from the Prairie View library to the Northwood library. If necessary 6th grade materials can be enhanced.
- Dr. Peterson met with the Northwood CLI team. They are very excited to welcome the Prairie View 6th graders and look forward to exploring ways to work together.
- Dr. Peterson is continuing to work with Special Services.

Superintendent Rockefeller added he is working with Human Services and Business Services to assure adequate staffing and funding are available.

Director Denholm thanked Dr. Peterson for his presentation and reminded patrons to please email Dr. Peterson if they have additional questions or concerns.

VII. Executive Session

At 7:20 p.m. Director Denholm called for an Executive Session of approximately 5 minutes for the purpose of reviewing the performance of a public employee.

At 7:30 p.m. Director Denholm returned the meeting to Open Session. No other business was discussed and no action was taken.

VIII. Adjourn

The meeting was immediately adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

President

Secretary