



**Minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Monday, March 12, 2018**

The Board of Directors held a Regular Board Meeting on Monday, March 12, 2018. The meeting began at 6 p.m. and was held at Mead High School. Directors Denholm, Green, Olson, Burchard and Farley were present. Also attending were Superintendent Tom Rockefeller and Assistant Superintendents Wayne Leonard, Ralph Thayer, Jared Hoadley and Kevin Peterson. Assistant Superintendents Pam Veltri and Heather Havens were excused.

I. Approval of Agenda

Director Green made a motion to approve the agenda, as presented. Director Burchard 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 February 26, 2018, as presented. Director Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Proclamation - Education Support Professionals Week

March 12-16, 2018, is *Education Support Professionals Week*. To acknowledge and thank Mead School District education support staff for their dedication and commitment to district students, staff and the community, Superintendent Rockefeller read a *Proclamation* from Governor Jay Inslee honoring the 62,000 education support employees working with students in Washington's universities and public schools.

IV. Remarks for the Good of the Schools

New ASB President Ike Schneider, presenting for his first time, briefly reviewed the academic, athletic, leadership and music events recently completed and upcoming at Mead High School. The Drama Department just completed a very successful run of the play, *Up the Down Staircase*, the Sadie Hawkins Dance was very well attended as was Incoming 9th Grade Night. Spring Leadership Camp takes place March 18-20, Math Team placed 3rd at a recent competition and, following Spring Break, there will be 12 weeks left in the 2017-2018 school year. 400 students are involved in spring sports.

Jolene Andres reported that at the March 10 Spokane American Advertising Federation's annual awards gala three Mead School District videos received special recognition. *Elaine's Story*, that shares how 7th grade science was instrumental in saving the life of Elaine Scott, produced in conjunction with Ryan Ferguson of Ferguson Films, was the Gold award winner in the Public Service Online Video category and the district's 30-second and 2-minute Bond & Levy animated videos, produced in conjunction with Mitch Davis of Davis Media, both earned Silver awards.

V. Council for Learning Improvement Report - Mead High School

Principal Jeff Naslund welcomed the board and thanked them for the opportunity to present the Mead High 2017-2018 Learning Improvement Plan. Assisting with the presentation were Assistant Principals Rick Pelkie and Coretta Hoffman, Principal Assistant Ray Picicci and Admin Intern AJ Blumel.

Mead High School is in the process of renewing their AESD Accreditation. This exercise has helped formulate the 2017-18 Mead High School Learning Improvement Plan. As part of this process the following questions were considered:

- Who are we?
- Where are we going?
- Why are we going there?
- How are we doing?
- How do we adjust for needs as they present themselves?

The concept/vision of “belonging” is central to every decision made at Mead High School. Mr. Naslund shared research on the importance of belonging and its positive impact on the achievement gap and school safety. To help illustrate the importance of belonging, Mr. Naslund read an email from a parent who shared how the Drama Department at Mead High School, and teacher Karen Brathovde in particular, helped create a space where her two children flourished. Mr. Naslund thanked Mrs. Brathovde, who was in the audience along with several of her drama students, for helping students feel they belong.

Admin Intern AJ Blumel reported on the Street Faire Mead High hosted in October where feeder schools were invited to come enjoy a meal and check out the many, many opportunities for student involvement at Mead High.

Assistant Principal Rick Pelkie explained his commitment to celebrate each Mead High student at an individual level by personally presenting handwritten birthday cards.

Principal Assistant Ray Picicci talked about the formation of a Student Council at Mead High. The idea is to give students a voice in their school, which reinforces belonging.

Assistant Principal Coretta Hoffman reported on the school’s intentional efforts to foster belonging with special education students. There are only seven special education seniors who have yet to meet standard on state tests and she highlighted the positive impact of modified/blended classes on student performance.

Mr. Naslund briefly reviewed goals in the following areas:

- ELA & Math
- Climate & Culture (The ongoing work of ensuring ALL students BELONG at Mead High.)
- College & Career Readiness
- Technology Integration
- Community Connections
- Professional Growth
- Safety & Security

In conclusion, Mr. Naslund thanked the board and Superintendent Rockefeller for their support.

Responding to a question from Director Green about how Mead High helps new students fit in and belong, Mr. Naslund explained current practices and announced the introduction of *Link Crew* at Mead High next year.

The board thanked Mr. Naslund and the admin team for their presentation and the many positive things taking place at Mead High.

VI. Continuing Business

A. Second Reading Policy 6800 Revision Safety, Operations and Maintenance of School Property

Business Services Assistant Superintendent Wayne Leonard presented a revision to Policy 6800, Safety, Operations and Maintenance of School Property, for second reading consideration. This policy was adopted on November 13, 2007.

WSSDA Sample Policy 6800 was used as a template for the presented revision. Sections A-E are identical to the WSSDA sample policy. Section F, Indoor Air Quality, is an addition. Section F recognizes the impact of indoor air quality on a safe and healthy learning environment. It addresses (1) the use of fragrance, scented or essential oils, potpourri, candles or wax warming devices inside Mead School District buildings, (2) requires upholstered furniture, cushions, pillows, area rugs, etc., not supplied by the school district, be evaluated and approved for use, (3) requests open food be properly stored in sealable containers and (4) permits only approved service animals inside Mead School District buildings. At the February 26, 2018, first reading of this policy revision it was recommended miniature horses be added to the policy definition of a service animal. That change was incorporated into the presented second reading draft.

At the first reading the board also requested verification that there is no RCW or ADA regulation that requires public schools to allow emotional support animals and/or comfort animals in schools. A copy of the Washington State Human Rights Commission's *Guide to Service Animals and the Washington State Law Against Discrimination* publication was provided to each board member. While under the Housing section it states emotional support animals and comfort animals would be a reasonable accommodation under HUD rules, there is no such requirement for public schools.

Discussion included a question regarding whether or not bargaining groups were aware of the proposed restrictions outlined in Section F and the need for additional clarification, in the paragraph that addresses strong fragrances, that more clearly defines what is and is not allowed and who makes the final determination.

This was a non-action item.

B. Student Travel Proposal Mt. Spokane Football

Student Services Assistant Superintendent Jared Hoadley presented for board consideration a request from the Mt. Spokane football team to travel to Honolulu, Hawaii, August 27, 2019 – September 1, 2019, to play a football game against Damien Memorial School and visit cultural/historical sites in Honolulu. It is anticipated 40 student-athletes and nine coaches/chaperons will make the trip. The estimated parent/student cost of the trip is \$1,250 and multiple fundraising opportunities will be available to offset some, or up to all, of the cost of the trip.

The trip was first brought to the board for their consideration on February 12, 2018, where a decision on the proposal was tabled. At the February 26, 2018, board meeting representatives from Mt. Spokane were in attendance and answered questions about the proposed trip.

Following discussion that included the recommendation that the board revisit the current student travel policy to determine if changes are warranted, Director Green made a motion to approve the request from the Mt. Spokane football team to travel to Honolulu, Hawaii, August 27, 2019-September 1, 2019, as presented. Director Burchard seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. New Business

A. Consent Agenda

Human Services Assistant Superintendent Ralph Thayer reported that two of the listed *leave without pay* requests do not meet the parameters set by the board for such leaves. Following discussion about leave without pay processes/procedures, Director Burchard made a motion to approve the presented Consent Agenda minus the two leave without pay requests that do not meet established parameters. Director Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

B. First Reading Policy & Procedure 2030 Adoption Service Animals in Schools

Student Services Assistant Superintendent Jared Hoadley presented the adoption of Policy & Procedure 2030, Service Animals in Schools, for first reading consideration. The presented policy and procedure are identical to WSSDA Sample Policy & Procedure 2030.

Policy 2030 governs the presence of service animals in schools, on school property, including school buses and at school activities. Procedure 2030 sets forth procedures to appropriately include a service animal in one of the district's school communities. The requirements and criteria outlined in Procedure 2030 are consistent with current district practices.

Discussion included a concern expressed by Director Farley regarding the "written request" language in the policy/procedure when, by law, the district has a responsibility to permit students and/or adults with disabilities to be accompanied by a service animal.

This was a non-action item.

C. Student Travel Proposal Mead High Yearbook

Student Services Assistant Superintendent Jared Hoadley presented a request from two members of the Mead High yearbook staff, and advisor Makena Busch, to travel to San Francisco, California, April 12-15, 2018, to attend the National High School Journalism Convention. This is an opportunity for students to share and celebrate success stories, see what is new in the media marketplace and network with students and advisors throughout the United States. The estimated per student cost of the trip is \$400 plus money for meals and activities. The remaining costs associated with the trip will be covered by the yearbook ASB budget.

Following discussion, Director Olson made a motion to approve the Mead High Yearbook trip to San Francisco, California, April 12-15, 2018, as presented. Director Burchard seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Reports

A. Special Services Report

Special Services Assistant Superintendent Kevin Peterson provided an update on the work of the Behavior Support Committee. He explained the number of proposed elementary, middle and high school behavior support classrooms, the proposed staffing for each classroom and the costs associated with each room. Identified savings to help offset costs were also explained. It is estimated the proposed initial six classrooms would serve 50 students.

Discussion included how the displacement of para-eds who currently work 1-on-1 with many students would be handled.

B. Nutrition Services Report

Director Kim Elkins, accompanied by newly hired Assistant Director Mark Oswalt, presented a Child Nutrition Services report. The department recently underwent a comprehensive audit (conducted every three years) with no errors reported.

Thanks to the work of previous Assistant Director MaryClare Kelley, all eight Mead School District elementary schools earned the Healthier U.S. School Challenge Bronze Award. Award requirements included: (1) serving nutritious school breakfast & lunch, (2) offering nutrition education, (3) compliance with the district's wellness policy and (4) providing opportunities for physical activity throughout the day. In Washington State only two other school districts (out of 295) are current award holders for each of their elementary schools. The award also includes a \$500 donation to each school.

The board thanked Ms. Elkins and Mr. Oswalt for their presentation.

C. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Rockefeller reported he would be bringing a resolution forward at the next board meeting seeking authorization to form a Safety Committee to study current safety/security protocols and procedures and make recommendations for future enhancements. The board requested the opportunity for one of them serve on this committee.

IX. Executive Session

At 7:50 p.m. Director Denholm called for an Executive Session of approximately 45 minutes for the purpose of reviewing the performance of a public employee.

At 8:50 p.m. Director Denholm returned the meeting to Open Session. No other business was discussed and no action was taken.

X. Adjourn

The meeting was immediately adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

President

Secretary