



Minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors Monday, August 10, 2020

The Board of Directors held a Regular Board Meeting on Monday, August 10, 2020. The meeting began at 6 pm. This was a Zoom Meeting with login information posted on the Mead School District website. Directors Burchard, Olson, Denholm and Cannon were present. Director Green was excused. Also attending were Superintendent Shawn Woodward, Chief Financial Officer Wayne Leonard and Assistant Superintendents Jared Hoadley & Heather Havens.

At the request of Vice-President Burchard, Director Denholm led the meeting. Director Burchard made this request because he was accessing the meeting remotely from North Idaho and was concerned about potentially losing connectivity.

I. Approval of Agenda

Director Cannon made a motion to approve the agenda, as presented. Director Burchard seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

II. Approval of Minutes

Director Cannon made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of July 20, 2020, as presented. Director Burchard seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Remarks for the Good of the Schools

Director Denholm extended his thanks to all who are working to implement the district's Fall 2020 Reopening Plan acknowledging many are working tirelessly on the many details associated with providing both an in-person and at home option for families.

Director Cannon echoed Director Denholm's comments adding he has received a lot of feedback on the board's decision to provide flexible options for families. Much of the feedback has been positive but he knows there are concerns. The board is trying to create the most options for the most people. The board genuinely wants to navigate the reopening process well and get things right.

Director Denholm asked Superintendent Woodward to share why board meetings are conducted remotely rather than in person (Director Green shared this same information at the August 6, 2020, Special Board Meeting). Per amended Proclamation 20-05, Governor Inslee has prohibited conducting public meetings in person and that, instead, public entities should provide options for the public to attend proceedings through, "at minimum, telephone access, and may also include other electronic, internet or other means or remote access, and provides the ability for all persons attending the meeting to hear each other at the same time." If not for the legal mandate set forth in this proclamation Superintendent Woodward shared the board would be holding in-person public meetings.

Several individuals submitted Public Comments/questions via the Zoom "chat" feature. The board/district administration will review these and, where appropriate, get back with answers to those with specific questions.

Comments/concerns included:

- Concern that the secondary remote learning option in the district's Fall 2020 Reopening Plan is not equitable to the hybrid option (Kori Baker).

- Concern that 97,000 children were infected with COVID-19 during the first two weeks of schools reopening in the south. How can the Mead School District justify reopening when it has gone so poorly in so many other schools? (Ethan)
- Could school start in Stage 1 and delay moving to Stage 2 for two weeks? What is the reasoning behind skipping Stage 1? (Amy Randall)
- Shameful that the board is putting politics above lives (Kacie Hoard). Teachers were barely mentioned in the meeting where the Reopening Plan was approved. You are more concerned with passing an upcoming levy and appeasing stakeholders than following recommendations to open remotely.

IV. Continuing Business

A. Athletic/Activities Handbook & Honor Code Revision

As shared at the July 20, 2020, Regular School Board Meeting, Assistant Superintendent Jared Hoadley reported that, at the direction of the school board, Student Services has been working with secondary administrators, coaches and advisors to have students who participate in co-curricular activities (band, choir, orchestra, debate, drama, annual, newspaper, ASB, Pro-Start, HOSA, plus additional ASB recognized clubs/organizations) held to the same participation standards as athletes. To that end, Dr. Hoadley presented for board consideration a revised handbook that now includes both athletics and activities. Changes to the handbook recommended on July 20th have been incorporated into the presented draft.

In addition to the attendance and academic standards set forth in the new handbook, students who participate in co-curricular, extra-curricular and/or other ASB recognized clubs or organizations would be required to submit a fully executed copy of the Mead School District Honor Code prior to participation. The Honor Code includes *Citizenship Expectations* and *Use of Illegal Substance Expectations*.

Another proposed change is the Honor Code violation appeals process. The new three-step process includes:

- #1 - Informal conference with an assistant principal and the coach/director/advisor.
- #2 - Appeal to building principal.
- #3 - Appeal to the Mead School District Activity/Athletic Discipline Appeals Council (final step).

Director Cannon made a motion to approve the presented Mead School District Athletic & Activities Handbook and Extra-Curricular & Co-Curricular Honor Code. Director Burchard seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

B-G. Second Reading

- **Policy 6640 Revision (School District Owned Vehicles)**
- **Policy 6624 Revision (Private Vehicle Transportation)**
- **Procedure 6625 Suspension (Staff Use of Privately Owned Vehicles)**
- **Policy 6620 Revision (Special Transportation)**
- **Policy & Procedure 5202 Adoption (Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Mandated Drug & Alcohol Testing Program)**
- **Policy 6600 Revision (Transportation)**

Transportation Director Brian Liberg presented the revision, suspension or adoption of the transportation policies/procedures listed above for second reading consideration. In the summer of 2019 the board approved Phase I changes to Transportation Department policies. The policies and procedures now being brought forward complete the final phase of the updating process. Proposed revisions are as follows:

Policy 6640 – School District Owned Vehicles – Revision: The presented revision used WSSDA Sample Policy 6640 as a template. The major change is the addition of a paragraph requiring staff members operating district owned vehicles to comply with laws relating to the use of telecommunications devices. No changes were recommended at the July 20, 2020, first reading.

Policy 6625 – Private Vehicle Transportation – Revision: The presented revision used WSSDA Sample Policy 6625 as a template. In addition to updating the policy name, the policy includes a section authorizing the Transportation Department to make a determination and authorize parents, or a responsible adult, to drive children to school under unusual circumstances. No changes were recommended at the July 20, 2020, first reading.

Procedure 6625 – Staff Use of Privately Owned Vehicles – Suspension: With the updating of Policy 6625, and the fact that WSSDA does not have a sample procedure for Policy 6625, the district recommended current Procedure 6625 be suspended. There was no objection to the suspension of this procedure when it was presented on July 20, 2020.

Policy 6620 – Special Transportation – Revision: The presented revision used WSSDA Sample Policy 6620 as a template. WSSDA has significantly expanded this policy since 2007. In addition to using the language supplied by WSSDA, two additional sections, Requests for Transportation and Civil Emergencies, have been incorporated. No changes were recommended at the July 20, 2020, first reading.

Policy & Procedure 5202 – Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Mandated Drug & Alcohol Testing Program – Adoption: This would be a new policy/procedure for the Mead School District. The presented drafts are identical to WSSDA Sample Policy & Procedure 5202. The policy and procedure address the prohibited use of controlled substances, testing requirements, record retention & reporting, as well as education, training & referral services. No changes were recommended at the July 20, 2020, first reading.

Policy 6600 – Transportation – Revision: WSSDA Sample Policy 6600 was used as the template for the presented second reading draft, which updates the policy to reflect the most current WSSDA recommended language. No changes were recommended at the July 20, 2020, first reading.

The board thanked Mr. Liberg and his team for their work on these updates.

Director Burchard made a motion to approve the proposed changes to the Transportation Department policies/procedures set forth above, as presented. Director Cannon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

V. New Business

A. Consent Agenda

Director Olson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. Director Burchard seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

B. 2020-2021 School Calendar Revision

Superintendent Woodward presented for board consideration delaying the start of the 2020-2021 school year until September 14, 2020. This would allow the district time to accurately identify students who will attend for face-to-face instruction, those who will access remote only instruction and the staff who will serve them in each of these learning options.

After soliciting input from other stakeholders, the district will, at the August 24th board meeting, bring forward additional revisions to the 2020-2021 calendar.

Following discussion, which included the hope that the calendar can be adjusted to minimize having school end seven days later than originally advertised, Director Cannon made a motion to delay the start of school until September 14, 2020. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. Reports

A. Legislative Update

Director Cannon provided a brief update on casual conversations he has had with legislative representatives from the 3rd, 6th & 7th legislative districts (parts of the Mead School District are located in each of these areas). Legislators are anxious to get back together to work particularly on anticipated budget issues because of the financial impact to the state from COVID. At this point it is not known how losses in state revenue will impact K-12 education.

B. Superintendent's Report & Discussion Items

Superintendent Woodward, addressing school reopening which happens in 35 days, reported the district will be sponsoring two reopening webinars for parents. The first will be Tuesday, August 11 (elementary focus) and the second will be Wednesday, August 12 (secondary focus). Both will be recorded and links will be posted on the Mead School District homepage.

Superintendent Woodward, sharing his screen, highlighted the reopening information/resources available to families on the district homepage. These include FAQs, the district's detailed Reopening Plan and detailed Safety Plan, as well as overviews of elementary options, secondary options and safety protocols.

VII. Executive Session

At 6:30 pm Director Denholm called for an Executive Session of approximately 30 minutes for the purpose of discussing real estate.

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

VIII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7 pm.

President

Secretary