



**Minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Monday, September 28, 2020**

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The Board of Directors held a Regular Board Meeting on Monday, September 28, 2020. This was a Zoom Meeting with login information posted on the Mead School District website. Directors Green, Burchard, Olson, Denholm and Cannon were present. Also attending were Superintendent Shawn Woodward, Chief Financial Officer Wayne Leonard and Assistant Superintendents Heather Havens and Jared Hoadley.

**I. Approval of Agenda**

Director Denholm 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 August 24, 2020, as presented. Director Cannon seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Director Denholm abstained as he was not in attendance at this meeting.)

Director Cannon made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 14, 2020, as presented. Director Denholm seconded the motion. The motion carried. (Director Burchard abstained as he was not in attendance at this meeting.)

**III. Remarks for the Good of the Schools**

Director Green expressed her deep appreciation for the remarkable effort put forth by district staff, teachers and administrators in preparation for the start of school. She was present on the first day and had the opportunity to witness the tremendous job done by all getting students into school and social distancing appropriately throughout the school day.

Director Olson was in school buildings and also visited the Transportation Department on Monday and Tuesday of the first week of school. All of the staff and students he visited with were very excited to be back in school. He also was very impressed with all of the hard work that went into getting ready for school.

Director Burchard added his thanks to the many, many individuals who worked tirelessly to get ready to welcome students on the first day of school. He specifically thanked those district office administrators and staff who served on the team that negotiated the COVID 19 Memorandum of Understanding with the Mead Education Association.

Director Cannon echoed the appreciative comments made by others. He also had the opportunity to visit several schools on the first day of school and reported the atmosphere/excitement felt electric. He started the day at Mead High School and was initially nervous about the long line of students waiting to check in but it went very quickly and the team work he observed was impressive.

Director Olson shared that he and Director Denholm participated in the *Cat Scramble Golf Tournament* on September 26<sup>th</sup>. While this was a scaled down event when compared to previous years, the mood was very good, everyone wore masks and the community was able to help support the athletic programs at Mt. Spokane and Mead High.

Jennifer Bright asked a question via the Zoom chat feature regarding why students have to bring their Chromebooks home each day when they are face-to-face learners. Learning & Teaching Assistant Superintendent Heather Havens explained that in the event of a school closure the district wants all students to be prepared to access learning remotely from home.

**IV. Continuing Business – none**

**V. New Business**

**A. Consent Agenda**

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

**B. Resolution 20-09**

**Acceptance of the Building Commissioning Report  
for New Transportation Facility**

Facilities & Planning Director Ned Wendle presented Resolution 20-09, Acceptance of the Building Commissioning Report for New Transportation Facility, for board consideration. The Mead School District has received the final Building Commissioning Report for the new transportation facility from McKinstry. (A copy of this report was provided electronically to each board member and Superintendent Shawn Woodward for their review prior to the board meeting.) Adoption of this resolution certifies the Board of Directors approves the final Building Commissioning Report. Accepting the final Building Commissioning Report and adopting this resolution are a part of the process when a capital project receives “state match” monies.

Following discussion, Director Burchard made a motion to adopt Resolution 20-09, Acceptance of the Building Commissioning Report for New Transportation Facility, as presented. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**C. Resolution 20-10**

**Acceptance of the Completion of New Transportation Facility**

Facilities & Planning Director Ned Wendle presented Resolution 20-10, Acceptance of the Completion of New Transportation Facility, for board consideration. The Mead School District has received notification from ALSC Architects confirming the New Transportation Facility project is complete in accordance with contract specification and documents. This has been confirmed by district personnel. Adoption of Resolution 20-10 officially certifies that the work of contractor Garco Construction on this new facility is complete.

Mr. Wendle shared the project was completed on time and within budget. A portion of the owner contingency monies were used to add additional bus canopies.

Director Olson made a motion to adopt Resolution 20-10, Acceptance of the Completion of New Transportation Facility, as presented. Director Denholm seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**D. First Reading Policy 3212 Adoption  
Ensuring Educational Equity**

Superintendent Shawn Woodward presented Policy 3212, Ensuring Educational Equity, for first reading consideration. If adopted this would be a new policy for the Mead School District.

As a system the Mead School District is committed to the success of every student in each of its schools and to achieving the mission of each student being future ready. The concept of educational equity goes beyond formal equality, where all students are treated the same, to fostering a barrier-free environment where all students have the opportunity to benefit equally.

Superintendent Woodward summarized the key elements of the proposed policy including:

- Statement of beliefs regarding educational equity.
- List of commitments to address opportunity and achievement gaps.
- Equity goals, accountability, implementation, monitoring and reporting.

The policy directs the Superintendent to develop and implement a system-wide equity plan within the district's strategic plan with clear accountability and metrics. It additionally requires the Superintendent to regularly report progress on the plan and outcomes to the school board and community.

While no suggested changes to the policy were recommended, discussion centered around implementation/follow-through and the desire that this policy not "slip off the radar." Superintendent Woodward shared that equity would be a part of the district's Strategic Plan and as such would be regularly visited.

Regarding implementation, once the policy is formally adopted, Superintendent Woodward plans to convene a Steering Committee with a parent representative from each of the district's 16 school sites. The goal is to bring together individuals with diverse backgrounds. The adoption of any new curriculum recommended by the Steering Committee would follow the procedures outlined in the district's current curriculum adoption policy.

An Equity Audit will help identify highest need areas and these will receive initial focus. Superintendent Woodward acknowledged the work of assuring equity will take time and that some schools are further along in the process than others.

Adoption of the policy will be brought forward as an action item at the next board meeting. Director Green shared that she welcomes the challenge and is excited for the district to intentionally address ensuring educational equity for all students.

#### **E. Resolution 20-11 Air Quality Waiver Days**

Superintendent Shawn Woodward presented Resolution 20-11, Air Quality Waiver Days, for board consideration. The district was forced to close schools September 14-18, 2020, because of very hazardous air quality in the region caused by on-going wildfires in Washington and Oregon. Because of the severity of the situation Governor Inslee declared a state-wide State of Emergency (Proclamation No. 20-68).

The governor's State of Emergency Declaration allows the district to request waiver days from the 180-day attendance requirement provided state mandated instructional hours are met. Adoption of Resolution 20-11 would authorize the submission of a two-day waiver request to OSPI. The remaining three days missed would be made up on March 19, 2021 (snow make-up day), Thursday, June 24, 2021 and Friday, June 25, 2021. The district has the required instructional hours in a 178 day calendar to request this two-day waiver for the 2020-2021 school year.

Revising the calendar as set forth above means there would be no "snow make-up days" in the calendar. Superintendent Woodward shared all students could attend school virtually in the event in-person instruction is not possible because of poor weather conditions. The district will be fine-tuning plans for virtual snow days in the very near future.

Answering a question from Director Burchard, Learning & Teaching Assistant Superintendent Heather Havens shared that even though requesting a two-day waiver reduces the calendar from

180 days to 178 days, the majority of Mead teachers were in buildings on their own time the week of September 14-18, 2020, preparing for the start of school.

Director Cannon made a motion to adopt Resolution 20-11, Air Quality Waiver Days, as presented. Director Denholm seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## **VI. Reports**

### **A. Facilities & Planning Department – Union Stadium Update**

Facilities & Planning Director Ned Wendle presented an update on the Union Stadium project.

Union Stadium will be ready for use in mid-October. The project, approved by voters as part of the February 2018 Bond, is on schedule and within budget. To showcase the project Mr. Wendle shared a drone video of the stadium that also included an aerial view of Creekside Elementary, the new Maintenance Facility and new Transportation Facility. These four projects have dramatically changed the skyline in the town of Mead.

One final aspect of the stadium project is a “Walk of Fame.” Working in conjunction with the Mt. Spokane and Mead High athletic booster clubs, 800 red bricks (400 allotted to each school) will be available to purchase for \$100 each. Each brick will be engraved with the name of the purchasing family or individual. This fundraiser will generate \$50 per brick for each high school booster club. Other potential money generating items associated with Union Stadium are scoreboard advertising and fence banners.

Discussion included the number of parking spots available at or near Union Stadium.

The board expressed its thanks to Mr. Wendle for his work on this project. Director Burchard commented, “Ned has been very busy the last five years.” Mr. Wendle thanked the board for the opportunity to work on the Union Stadium project.

### **B. Superintendent’s Report & Discussion Items**

Superintendent Woodward also expressed his sincere gratitude to all Mead School District staff members for the thousands and thousands of hours of work that resulted in a great first day of school for students. Regarding enrollment, initial numbers show a loss of approximately 500 students. This decrease in enrollment is not unique to the Mead School District. It is something happening nationwide. While this is sobering news, the district will make adjustments. More information will be shared at the next board meeting once there has been time to more accurately analyze enrollment and the impact of decreased enrollment on the budget.

In an effort to be very transparent, new Public Information Officer Todd Zeidler has created a COVID Dashboard that is posted on the Mead School District homepage. The dashboard includes current positive cases at each district school, the number of quarantined students/staff and the total number of students attending at each location for face-to-face instruction.

Assistant Superintendent Jared Hoadley provided an explanation of how quarantining works at both the elementary and secondary levels when a positive case is confirmed. The district and Spokane Regional Health District continue to work closely on COVID health/safety protocols.

Director Cannon recommended the COVID Dashboard at the secondary level report cases separately for “A” students and “B” students.

## **VII. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7 pm.

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**President**

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**Secretary**