



Minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors Monday, June 28, 2021

The Board of Directors held a Regular Board Meeting on Monday, June 28, 2021. The meeting began at 6 pm and was held in the theatre at Mead High School. The meeting was also available via a Zoom webinar link with login information posted on the Mead School District website. Directors Burchard, Denholm, Olson, Cannon and Green were present. Also attending were Superintendent Shawn Woodward, Chief Financial Officer Wayne Leonard and Assistant Superintendent Jared Hoadley. Assistant Superintendent Heather Havens was excused.

I. Approval of Agenda

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

II. Approval of Minutes

Director Cannon made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2021, Regular Board Meeting, as presented. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Retiree Recognition

To date, there are 39 individuals retiring from the Mead School District. Business & Operations Assistant Superintendent Jared Hoadley introduced and presented a *Certificate of Appreciation* to those retirees who were in attendance. Board members extended congratulations, thanks and best wishes to the following men and women who represent a combined 909 years of service to the Mead School District:

Donna Anderson (Kitchen Manager, Midway, 8 years), **Jodie Ash** (Education Specialist, Special Services, 20 years), **John Baker** (Bus Driver, 11 years), **Doug Beckman** (Teacher, Brentwood, 42 years), **Teresa Buddington** (Teacher, Colbert, 29 years), **Alice Chapman** (Teacher, Mead High, 42.5 years), **Michael Cook** (Bus Driver, 7.5 years), **Laura Cowart** (Student Records Coordinator, 32 years), **Rebecca Danica** (Teacher, Prairie View, 6 years), **Doreena Dobson** (Admin Assistant, Northwood, 23 years), **Rochelle Fetcho** (Teacher, Northwood, 27 years), **Jim Fischer** (Teacher, Mountainside, 32 years), **Rhonda Fischer** (SLP, Special Services/Mead High, 30 years), **Teresa Fogarty** (Education Specialist, Special Services, 4 years), **Opal Guillotte** (Bus Assistant, 17 years), **Richard Headley** (Custodian, Midway, 18 years), **Teresa Hiatt** (Technology Specialist, 29 years), **Brenda Lacey-Scholze** (SLP, Special Services/Farwell, 33.5 years), **Gail Lange** (Teacher, Northwood, 24 years), **Wayne Leonard** (Chief Financial Officer, 16 years), **Carol Mashtare** (Payroll Specialist, 32.5 years), **Laura McCune** (Education Specialist, Special Services, 25 years), **Suzette McGonigal** (Teacher, Farwell, 24 years), **Randy Mickelsen** (Teacher, Mead High, 36.5 years), **Maxie Mills** (Para Educator, Shiloh Hills, 14 years), **Randy Osterback** (Painter, Maintenance, 35 years), **Terri Peterson** (Teacher, Northwood, 38.5 years), **Robin Rash** (SLP, Special Services/Midway, 15 years), **Sherry Reisbig** (Admin Assistant, Midway, 9 years), **Martha Rough** (Teacher, Mt. Spokane, 22.5 years), **Karen Sand** (Teacher, Farwell, 21 years), **Bonnie Sicilia** (Admin Assistant, Highland, 30 years), **Ronald "Mark" Smith** (Bus Driver, 6 years), **James Steiner** (Bus Driver, 14 years), **Janet Stump** (Admin Assistant, Nutrition Services, 28 years), **Craig Taylor** (Counselor, Five Mile Prairie, 17 years), **Julie Thayer** (Admin Assistant, Evergreen, 25 years), **Elaine Willis** (Bus Driver, 29.5 years) & **Kirk Willis** (Teacher, Midway, 35 years).

IV. Remarks for the Good of the Schools

Transportation Director Brian Liberg introduced Chandra Fox, Deputy Director for the Spokane County Department of Emergency Management. Ms. Fox shared historical background on the

upcoming Emergency Management Full Scale Exercise the Mead School District will be hosting on October 16th that included a review of the 2017 shooting at Freeman High School and an “after action review” where the team looked at what went well in that incident response and where improvements can be made. The purpose of the October 16th exercise is to simulate/practice the changes recommended by the review committee. On behalf of the Spokane County Department of Emergency Management Ms. Fox thanked the Mead School District and Board for agreeing to host this very important training exercise. Director Burchard expressed his appreciation for this partnership between the Mead School District and Spokane County Department of Emergency Management.

Danny Cole, who has a daughter who attends Prairie View, first thanked the board for providing in-person options for families this past school year, followed by a request that the board “lead the state” and not mandate the wearing of masks in the upcoming school year. Mr. Cole referenced the effectiveness of the vaccine, the fact that the majority of individuals are not wearing masks in other public places and the impact of COVID and wearing masks on children.

Rich Gockley, a graduate of Mead High School, also addressed the board regarding the wearing of masks. He referenced the psychological issues associated with requiring students to wear masks stating, “100% of students are being harmed.” He additionally addressed principals “shaming” parents for not wearing masks on school property, pointed out lies from Dr. Fauci and the infections found in masks. As elected officials he believes the board has a moral obligation to protect the life and liberty of students and has the authority to make wearing of masks optional.

Sarah Rober, a parent of children who attend school in the Mead School District, concurred with the mask sentiments expressed by Mr. Cole and Mr. Gockley. She shared a couple of anecdotal mask instances from this past school year and implored the board to “think of the kids . . . let them breath.”

Parent Lauren Gooler also expressed her desire that there be no mask mandate for the upcoming school year.

Tiare Schlenker, mother of two graduates and two children who currently attend school in the Mead School District, expressed concern regarding the teaching of Critical Race Theory. She believes this will promote division rather than promote unity and belonging. Expanding on this topic Kitara Johnson, also a Mead School District parent who works at Excelsior, talked about her upbringing in Chicago’s inner city and the positive impact teachers had on who she is today. She shared that diversity should be celebrated and that the teaching of Critical Race Theory will not be inclusive. She advocates being solution focused and treating all students as a protected class.

Public Information Officer Todd Zeidler shared that Shiloh Hills Lead Custodian Keven Gedeke is the ESD 101 region *Classified Employee of the Year* qualifying him for state *Classified Employee of the Year* consideration.

V. Continuing Business

A. 3rd Reading Policy & Procedure 3510 Revision Associated Student Bodies

Student & Family Services Director Josh Westermann presented a revision to Policy & Procedure 3510, Associated Student Bodies, for third reading consideration. This policy/procedure was last revised on March 12, 2012. WSSDA Sample Policy/Procedure 3510 is the template for the presented revision. The presented revision brings the policy/procedure into compliance with House Bill 1660.

The policy revision includes the addition of a new paragraph that states if a fee is established for participation in any optional, noncredit extracurricular event/activity the district will establish a procedure for waiving said fee for students who are eligible to participate in the federal free or reduced-price meals program and students who are eligible for the College Bound Scholarship program.

The procedure revision includes the addition of a “Waiver or Reduction of Fees” section in compliance with House Bill 1660. Information on House Bill 1660, including answers to frequently asked questions, was provided to board members.

No first reading (May 24, 2021) or second reading (June 14, 2021) changes were recommended.

Director Cannon made a motion to approve the revision to Policy & Procedure 3510, Associated Student Bodies, as presented. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**B. 3rd Reading Policy 3126 Adoption (Replaces Old Policy 5429)
Child Custody**

Background – Several years ago WSSDA implemented a new numbering system for school board policies. Since that time the Mead School District has been systematically updating its policies and procedures to align with this new numbering system.

Student & Family Services Director Josh Westermann presented the adoption of Policy 3126, Child Custody, for third reading consideration. The adoption of this policy would replace old Policy 5429, which was adopted on February 26, 1992, with no revisions approved since that date.

WSSDA Sample Policy 3126 is the template for the presented policy adoption. The presented policy aligns with current district practices and complies with current state and federal statutes.

The presented policy sets forth the district presumption that the person who enrolls a student in school is the residential parent. The residential parent is responsible for decisions regarding the day-to-day care and control of the student. Information contained in school records cannot be disclosed to others unless authorized by the residential parent.

Unless otherwise informed, the district assumes the nonresidential parent has the right to be kept informed of the student’s school progress and activities. If nonresidential parent restrictions are in place the residential parent will be requested to submit a certified copy of the court order that curtails these rights.

No first reading (May 24, 2021) or second reading (June 14, 2021) changes were recommended. Director Cannon, referencing the terms “residential parent” and “nonresidential parent”, for clarity and the record, reminded that the “nonresidential parent” also has the right to receive information. A court order is required to restrict information to the nonresidential parent.

Director Cannon made a motion to adopt Policy 3126, Child Custody, as presented. Director Denholm seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**C. 3rd Reading Policy/Procedure 3124 Adoption (Replaces Old Policy 5428)
Removal-Release of Student During School Hours**

Background – Several years ago WSSDA implemented a new numbering system for school board policies. Since that time the Mead School District has been systematically updating its policies and procedures to align with this new numbering system.

Student & Family Services Director Josh Westermann presented the adoption of Policy/Procedure 3124, Removal-Release of Student During School Hours, for third reading consideration. The adoption of this policy/procedure would replace old Policy 5428, which was adopted on May 24, 1978, with no revisions approved since that date.

WSSDA Sample Policy/Procedure 3124 is the template for the presented policy/procedure adoption. The presented policy/procedure aligns with current district practices and complies with current state and federal statutes.

The presented policy recognizes the district's responsibility to properly care for students during school hours and states that students will not be removed except by a person authorized according to district procedures. It additionally states the parent will be contacted before a student is sent home for illness, discipline or a corrective action. If the parent cannot be reached the student will remain at the school until the close of the school day.

The removal of a student during the school day may be authorized in accordance with the processes set forth in the presented procedure.

No first reading (May 24, 2021) or second reading (June 14, 2021) changes were recommended.

Director Green made a motion to adopt Policy/Procedure 3124, Removal-Release of Student During School Hours, as presented. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**D. 3rd Reading Policy 3114 Adoption (Replaces Old Policy 5212)
Part-Time, Home-Based or Off-Campus Students**

Background - Several years ago WSSDA implemented a new numbering system for school board policies. Since that time the Mead School District has been systematically updating its policies and procedures to align with this new numbering system.

Student & Family Services Director Josh Westermann presented the adoption of Policy 3114, Part-Time, Home-Based or Off-Campus Students, for third reading consideration. The adoption of this policy would replace old Policy 5212, which was last revised on December 12, 1995.

WSSDA Sample Policy 3114 is the template for the presented policy adoption. The presented policy aligns with current district practices and complies with current state and federal statutes.

The presented policy allows part-time students to enroll and receive ancillary services provided they are eligible for full-time enrollment in the district and the courses or services they are accessing are not available in their private school or an approved extension. Part-time status also applies to students who are receiving home-based instruction and taking courses at or receiving ancillary services from the district, or any student involved in an approved work training program.

Regarding home-based instruction, the policy addresses the need to file a Declaration of Intent and the timeline for this submission.

No first reading (May 24, 2021) or second reading (June 14, 2021) changes were recommended.

Director Denholm made a motion to adopt Policy 3114, Part-Time, Home-Based or Off-Campus Students, as presented. Director Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**E. 2nd Reading Policy 3520 Adoption (Replaces Old Policy 5900)
Student Fees, Fines or Charges**

Background - Several years ago WSSDA implemented a new numbering system for school board policies. Since that time the Mead School District has been systematically updating its policies and procedures to align with this new numbering system.

Student & Family Services Director Josh Westermann presented the adoption of Policy 3520, Student Fees, Fines or Charges, for second reading consideration. The adoption of this policy would replace old Policy 5900, which was last revised on November 8, 2000.

WSSDA Sample Policy 3520 is the template for the presented policy adoption. The presented policy aligns with current district practices and complies with current state and federal statutes.

The policy authorizes the superintendent to establish appropriate fees and procedures governing the collection of such fees with the requirement that fee schedules are shared annually with the board. Reduction or waiver of fees will follow the guidelines set forth in Policy/Procedure 3510, Associated Student Bodies.

The policy additionally addresses how the non-payment of fees associated with loss or damage due to negligence will be handled. This includes the potential of a student's grades, transcript or diploma being withheld until restitution is made by payment or the equivalency through voluntary work. The policy additionally includes an appeal process for fines under and over \$100.

No first reading (June 14, 2021) changes were recommended.

Director Denholm made a motion to adopt Policy 3520, Student Fees, Fines or Charges, as presented. Director Cannon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**F. 2nd Reading Policy/Procedure 3226 Adoption
(Replaces Old Policy/Procedure 5432)
Interviews & Interrogations of Students on School Premises**

Background - Several years ago WSSDA implemented a new numbering system for school board policies. Since that time the Mead School District has been systematically updating its policies and procedures to align with this new numbering system.

Student & Family Services Director Josh Westermann presented the adoption of Policy/Procedure 3226, Interviews & Interrogations of Students on School Premises, for second reading consideration. The adoption of this policy/procedure would replace old Policy/Procedure 5432, which was adopted on January 24, 1995, with no revisions approved since that date.

WSSDA Sample Policy/Procedure 3226 is the template for the presented policy/procedure adoption. The presented policy/procedure aligns with current district practices and complies with current state and federal statutes.

The policy states the district's preference that interviews and interrogations of students by any agency, including law enforcement, DSHS and county health departments, not take place at school. However, understanding there are limited circumstances when an interview or interrogation is warranted while the student is at school, the presented procedure sets forth district protocols for a variety of interview scenarios.

No first reading (June 14, 2021) changes were recommended.

Director Olson made a motion to adopt Policy/Procedure 3226, Interviews & Interrogations of Students on School Premises, as presented. Director Cannon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. New Business

A. Consent Agenda

Following clarification that the *Inclusion/Yes We Can* Supplemental Contracts are being paid via a grant, Director Green made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. Director Cannon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Establish Calendar for 2021-2022 (August – June) Board Meeting Dates

A draft calendar for 2021-2022 (August – June) board meetings was provided for board consideration. Two public meetings are planned each month with the exception of December. Board meetings traditionally take place on the second and last Monday of each month.

Director Cannon made a motion to approve the presented draft 2021-2022 Board Meetings Calendar. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Student Series Policy/Procedure Suspensions

Background – Several years ago WSSDA implemented a new numbering system for school board policies. Since that time the Mead School District has been systematically updating its policies and procedures to align with this new numbering system.

Student & Family Services Director Josh Westermann presented the suspension of fifteen “old” *Student Series* policies/procedures (set forth below) for board consideration. The subject matter of each proposed suspension is covered in an updated Mead School District policy/procedure or standard operating procedure.

- **5620 – Release of Student Directory Information** (covered in current Policy/Procedure 3231 – Student Records)
- **5530 – Student Publications** (covered in current Policy/Procedure 3220 – Freedom of Expression)
- **5520 – Activity Funds Management** (covered in current Policy/Procedure 3510 – Associated Student Bodies, Policy 6020 System of Funds & Accounts and Business Services Standard Operating Procedures)
- **5512 – Appeals of Student Organizations** (covered in Student Handbooks referenced in current Policy/Procedure 3200 – Rights & Responsibilities)
- **5426 – Use of Motor Vehicles** (covered in current Policy/Procedure 3240 – Student Conduct Expectations & Reasonable Sanctions)
- **5420 – Emergency Care** (covered in current Policy 3418 – Emergency Treatment)
- **5415 – Aids Prevention Education** (covered in current Policy/Procedure 2125 – Sexual Health Education)
- **5382 – Detaining of Pupils** (covered in current Policy/Procedure 3241 – Classroom Management, Discipline & Corrective Action)
- **5360 – Restitution for Vandalism & Theft** (covered in current Policy/Procedure 3240 – Student Conduct Expectations & Reasonable Sanctions)
- **5110 – Equal Education Opportunities** (covered in current Policy 3212 – Ensuring Educational Equity)
- **5214 – Prayer and Devotional Activities** (covered in current Policy 2340 – Religious-Related Activities & Practices)
- **5215 – Due Process Procedure for Mandatory Education Law** (covered in current Policy/Procedure 2161 – Special Education & Related Services)
- **5220 – Entrance Age** (covered in current Policy 3110 – Qualifications of Attendance & Placement)

- **5310 – Alcohol and Other Drugs Program** (covered in current Policy 2121 – Substance Abuse Program)
- **5312 – Student Grievances** (covered in a number of current policies . . . 3200 Rights & Responsibilities, 3205 Sexual Harassment of Students Prohibited, 3207 Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying, 3210 Nondiscrimination, 3230 Student Privacy & Searches, 3240 Student Conduct Expectations & Reasonable Sanctions, 3241 Classroom Management, Discipline & Corrective Action)

Director Cannon made a motion to approve the suspension of the fifteen presented *Student Series* policies/procedures. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Athletic Participation Fees (2021-2022)

Business Services Director Heather Ellingson presented the approval of Athletic Participation Fees for the 2021-2022 school year for board consideration. For the past eleven school years the board has approved participation fees for students taking part in extra-curricular athletics. The current and proposed annual fee for high school students is \$45.00 and the fee for middle school students is \$35.00. Students who are eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch will have their Participation Fee waived.

Director Cannon made a motion to approve athletic participation fees for the 2021-2022 school year, as presented. Director Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Resolution 21-7

Acceptance of the Completion of the New Maintenance Facility

Facilities & Planning Director Ned Wendle presented Resolution 21-7, Acceptance of the Completion of the New Maintenance Facility, for board consideration.

The Mead School District has received notification from ALSC Architects confirming that the new Maintenance Facility project is complete in accordance with contract specifications and documents. This has been confirmed by district personnel. The adoption of Resolution 21-7 officially certifies that the work of contractor Garco Construction on the New Maintenance Facility is complete.

Director Olson made a motion to adopt Resolution 21-7, Acceptance of the Completion of the New Maintenance Facility, as presented. Director Green seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. Reports

A. Financial Report for the Month of May 2021

Prior to the presentation of the May 2021 Financial Report the board acknowledged and thanked Chief Financial Officer Wayne Leonard for his dedicated service to the Mead School District for the past 16 years. Mr. Leonard is retiring June 30th and, therefore, this was his last board meeting.

Following the May 2021 Financial Report, Mr. Leonard reminded the district will bring forward a Budget Extension resolution for consideration at the next board meeting. This is necessary due to the financial impact of the decline in enrollment the district experienced in 2020/2021 and COVID relief funds. Regarding the projected ending fund balance for 2020/2021, Mr. Leonard shared it is estimated to be \$13.3 million which is a bit short of the target percentage set in the district's newly revised Fund Balance policy. Mr. Leonard additionally reminded that if enrollment does not rebound a portion of the fund balance will be needed to cover salaries for those already under contract for the 2021/2022 school year.

B. ALE Report

Principal Nick Edwards, who oversees the district's ALE programs, shared the learning options that are currently and will be available for families in 2021/2022. These include:

- Five Mile Prairie Elementary K-6
- Five Mile Prairie Secondary 7-12
- North Star K-12
- Aspire Learning Center 9-12
- Mead Virtual Program K-12 (starting in 21/22)

In the past the ALE programs offered in the district have been “stand alone” options. Moving forward the emphasis will be on program collaboration to better meet student needs and efficiently utilize district resources. Mr. Edwards emphasized this year's collaboration between all programs that resulted in the decision to rebrand ALE offerings by moving away from the term “alternative education” and instead refer to the programs as “Mead Learning Options”.

In conclusion Mr. Edwards shared the following action steps for the upcoming school year:

1. Integrate Virtual Program staff, students and families into the Mead Learning Options community.
2. Continue to build a shared system of support for ALL students across ALL programs.
3. Communicate the shared Mission/Vision and Supports with the Mead Learning Options community.

The board thanked Mr. Edwards for the very informative presentation and the excellent work taking place under his leadership. In answer to a question regarding program capacity, Mr. Edwards shared there is room for growth in some of the programs but physical space is an issue in others. An important consideration is the need to maintain a “small school setting” that helps these programs thrive. Expanding too much could impact the success of the programs.

Director Green positively commented on the Aspire Learning Center that serves students who previously attended M.E.A.D. She attended this program's recent graduation and was very impressed with the level of student achievement.

C. Superintendent's Report and Discussion Items

Reflecting on the past school year Superintendent Woodward shared it felt like the “longest school year in the history of school years.” The Mead School District provided in-person learning options for families all year – something available to only 3% of Washington students. He thanked the school board for their leadership and all Mead families who partnered with the district this past year. In particular he acknowledged Assistant Superintendent Jared Hoadley and the district COVID Committee (Dr. Hoadley, nurse Carrie Dinwoodie, nurse Ruth Erb, PIO Todd Zeidler & Transportation Director Brian Liberg) for their work developing and implementing COVID protocols. Throughout the year this team developed a strong and collaborative working relationship with Spokane Regional Health District. One example of how the district worked to keep schools open and students and staff safe is the 1900 COVID tests administered at Mead High School in May and June this spring.

In closing, Superintendent Woodward shared how pleased and appreciative he is of the work done by so many to make this past year a meaningful learning experience for students. He expressed his hope next year will be as “normal” as possible and that COVID will not be the dominant topic of conversation. The district will be looking for updated Department of Health guidance regarding masks, etc. in July.

Director Burchard added his thanks to the entire community for their collaborative efforts this past year.

VIII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

President

Secretary