



**Minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Monday, November 21, 2022**

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The Board of Directors held a Regular Board Meeting on Monday, November 21, 2022. This meeting was held in-person and virtually via a Zoom link posted on the Mead School District website. Directors Burchard, Denholm, Olson, Cannon and Gray were present. Also attending were Superintendent Shawn Woodward, Chief Financial Officer Heather Ellingson and Assistant Superintendents Heather Havens and Jared Hoadley.

**I. Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting began with President Burchard asking all to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

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

**III. Approval of Minutes**

Director Cannon made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 7, 2022, Regular Board Meeting, as presented. Director Gray seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**IV. Remarks for the Good of the Schools – Public Comment**

Noting there were representatives from the Mead High School ASB class in attendance to report on school activities/athletics and one community member present who signed-up to speak on an agenda topic, President Burchard first opened the floor for board/staff comments.

*Board/Staff Comments*

Director Denholm, who along with Director Cannon, recently attended the sold-out WSSDA Annual Conference held at the Spokane Convention Center, noted it was a good event. It was very nice to see and talk with school board members from other school districts. The conference theme was “belonging” and at the conclusion of the event he felt like he belonged.

Director Olson attended the 3A State Volleyball Tournament in Yakima where the Mead School District was very well represented. Mead High School placed 2<sup>nd</sup> and Mt. Spokane High School placed 4<sup>th</sup>.

Regarding the WSSDA Conference, Director Cannon concurred that it was a great event. He knows many people pay attention to WSSDA policies and shared the Mead School District has used these policies as templates, making changes as needed. That being said, Director Cannon shared he was not wildly impressed with WSSDA. He felt there was a lot of symbolism over substance, which is something commonly seen in education. There was no discussion of improving learning following COVID or addressing achievement gaps. In his opinion the conference was lacking when it came to looking at the substance of education. He knows members of the community wonder about the district’s connection with WSSDA and the role they play with regard to state mandates, etc.

Director Gray shared she attended the Mead High School Theatre Arts Department performance of *Leaving Iowa*, which was a very fun event. Students did a great job. After Thanksgiving Break she looks forward to attending a performance of *A Christmas Carol* at Mt. Spokane.

## Mead High School Report

Students Nyah Hill and Dani Boharski presented a brief review of the academic, athletic, leadership and music events recently completed and upcoming at Mead High School. Recapping Fall Sports, the Volleyball team placed 2<sup>nd</sup> at state with football, cross-country and softball also doing very well. The Marching Band season has concluded with Mead placing 3<sup>rd</sup> at most of their competitions and the fall play, *Leaving Iowa*, just concluded a very successful run. Looking forward, Winter Sports and the competitive dance and cheer seasons are underway, *Eggnog Evening* (talent show activity) takes place in December, *Catmania* (rivalry basketball games between Mead and Mt. Spokane) is scheduled for January 6<sup>th</sup> and leadership students are in the process of planning the January MLK Assembly.

### Public Comments

Tim Ellingson, father of two Mead School District students, one at Meadow Ridge and one at Farwell in the Gifted Program, expressed his appreciation that the Mead School District now has full-time elementary classes for gifted students. While appreciative of the differentiation provided at Meadow Ridge, it did not meet his gifted son's needs. Mr. Ellingson noted both he and his son are very satisfied with their decision to transition from Meadow Ridge to the Gifted Program. His son loves his teacher Ms. Hartwig and is learning with kids who are like him and understand him. Mr. Ellingson thanked the district and board for keeping all students in mind when providing learning options.

#### V. Continuing Business - none

#### VI. 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.

### Consent Agenda

#### 1. Hired Certificated Personnel:

Emily Glutting	Special Services	Cert	1.0 FTE Continuing Elementary Compass teacher effective 10/17/22
Jessica Yates	Special Services	Cert	.6 FTE Leave Replacement SLP 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester 22/23 in addition to .6 FTE Leave Replacement SLP 1 <sup>st</sup> semester 22/23
Sarah Crecelius	Mt. Spokane	Cert	.2 FTE Continuing teacher in addition to .6 FTE Continuing effective 8/30/22

#### 2. Hired Classified Personnel:

Brenda Chappell	Colbert	Class	6.1 hrs/day DLC Para Ed effective 10/17/22
Tracy Lundquist	Shiloh Hills	Class	4.75 hrs/day Para Ed effective 10/27/22
Jason Welch	Mead High	Class	6.15 hrs/day DLC Para Ed effective 11/1/22
Shelly Bower	Custodial Services	Class	8 hrs/day Custodian effective 11/3/22
Christine Axas	Mt. Spokane	Class	6 hrs/day DLC Para Ed effective 11/1/22
Melanie Gee	Evergreen	Class	6.25 hrs/day Para Ed effective 11/1/22
Courtney Gilbreath	Mountainside	Class	6.1 hrs/day Para Ed effective 10/27/22
Michelyn Phelps	Evergreen	Class	6.25 hrs/day Para Ed effective 11/1/22

#### 3. Hired Certificated Substitutes:

Benjamin Alva	Aaron Bagnall	Gareth Goans	Amanda Long
Kimberly Smith	Michael Bartlett	McKinlee Baum	Jason Wortmann
Brianna Bazaldua			

#### 4. Hired Classified Substitutes:

Kyler Kanzler	Micah Johnson	Michell Sicilia	Hailey Johnson
Samantha Rose			

5. **Approved AP Vouchers for General Fund, Capitol Projects, Private Purpose Trust & ASB.**

Vouchers audited and certified by auditing officers as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the Board. As of this day, **November 21, 2022**, the Board, by a unanimous vote does approve for payment the vouchers included in the above referenced list and further described as **Warrant Numbers 108583 and 108842 to 109605** in the following amounts:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>
General Fund - AP	\$ 664,727.99
General Fund - PR	157,564.94
ASB Fund	109,937.79
Capital Projects Fund	127,138.57

6. **Approved Co-Curricular, Extra-Curricular and Supplemental Contracts.**

7. **Approved Request for Unpaid Leave (i.e., parenting, medical Good of the District, etc.):**

Kaprina Reed	Mt. Spokane	Cert	.2 FTE 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester 22/23
Marcella Lybbert	Mead Learning Options	Cert	.4 FTE 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester 22/23
Andrea Anderson	Mountainside	Cert	2 <sup>nd</sup> semester 22/23

8. **Approved Requests for Retirement/Resignation:**

Stephanie Kuest	Mead High	Class	Resignation effective 11/18/22 (Para Ed)
Marcus Peschel	Transportation	Class	Resignation effective 11/25/22 (Bus Driver)
Dillon Lamb	Custodial Services	Class	Resignation effective 11/9/22 (Custodian)
Angela Ridgley	Creekside	Class	Resignation effective 11/22/22 (Para Ed)

9. **Approved Request to Release from Employment during Probationary Period:**

Aiden Niblock	Warehouse	Class	Released 11/8/22
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10. **Approved Request to Rescind Unpaid Leave (i.e., parenting, medical, Good of the District, etc.):**

Wayne Hartwig	Mead High	Class	11/21/22-12/19/22
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**B. Highly Capable Program Update and Grant Renewal Authorization**

Rob Haugen, Director of Elementary Education, presented an update on the district's Highly Capable Program followed by a request for the board to authorize submission of the Highly Capable Program Grant renewal paperwork for the 2022-2023 school year.

Washington's Highly Capable Program is a component of basic education with school districts providing instruction, activities and services that accelerate learning for young learners identified as Highly Capable. In the Mead School District a continuum of programming supports is provided to all learners, including those who are identified as Highly Capable.

For K-1 students HiCap support is provided via differentiated classroom instruction as part of the school's MTSS structure. Each HiCap student has an Individualized Learning Plan (ILP) and students participate in two annual observational activities.

In grades 2-5 HiCap support for students demonstrating highly capable aptitudes in at least one domain is provided via a building-based model similar to the K-1 model. Additionally, beginning in the 2022-2023 school year, the district offers full-time HiCap instruction for 2-5 grade students who meet eligibility requirements based on established criteria and determined through a process of evaluation and review of student data by a Multidisciplinary Team. The full-time program, that includes a 2-3 class and a 4-5 class, is housed at Farwell Elementary.

At middle school and high school HiCap students engage in a wide range of honors, arts and advanced coursework.

The amount of funding provided via the Highly Capable Program Grant is anticipated to be \$311,000, which is 5.5% more than in 2021/2022. These funds will be used to cover the stipend

cost associated with having a HiCap Coordinator at each elementary school and the salary for the two full-time HiCap teachers. Elementary HiCap Coordinators, in addition to sharing resources with classroom teachers and assisting with HiCap testing, will help transition elementary students to middle school.

Families with students in the district's full-time elementary program were asked to provide feedback on their experience thus far in the program. Overwhelmingly responses were positive with families sharing their children, many for the first time, are engaged/excited to go to school and are being challenged instead of being frustrated and bored.

In conclusion, Mr. Haugen shared the HiCap Nomination and Evaluation Process timeline and noted he personally is very excited to be a part of Mead's Highly Capable Program.

In response to a question from President Burchard, Mr. Haugen reported the two full-time elementary classes are not full at this time. To be considered for enrollment students must score at the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile in both the verbal and quantitative domains. Invitations to be included were extended to enough students to fill both classrooms but some, because of connections at their current elementary school, declined the offer. That was particularly true at the 5<sup>th</sup> grade level. Currently there are a total of 30 enrolled in two classrooms. In future years it is anticipated enrollment will grow. At semester the district may consider adding students new to the district and/or enrolling those who qualified last spring but initially chose not to attend. Director Cannon inquired about the caseload for the two full-time classes. The 2/3 class is capped at 24 and the 4/5 class limit is 26.

Director Gray made a motion to authorize the submission of the Highly Capable Program Grant renewal paperwork for the 2022/2023 school year. Director Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## **VII. Reports**

### **A. Financial Report for the Month of October 2022**

Chief Financial Officer Heather Ellingson presented a brief financial report for the month of October 2022. This report focused primarily on the Debt Service Fund. In December the district must make a principal and interest payment of approximately \$9.5 million. Debt Service Fund monies come from property tax payments which are due in October and April of each year. The Debt Service Fund is currently short \$1 million with \$1.4 million outstanding/still to be collected. Ms. Ellingson reported she is monitoring the situation closely. If collections continue to lag there may be a need for the board to approve a short-term interfund loan at the next board meeting in order for the district to make the required principal and interest payment. Ms. Ellingson noted that in 2023/24 adjustments will be made to assure there will not be a need for a similar interfund loan in the future.

Like last year, November 1<sup>st</sup> enrollment is down slightly from October. September-December state apportionment payments are based on budgeted enrollment. Beginning in January payments will increase based on actual enrollment (74 over budget). As shared at the November 7, 2022, meeting, the financial increase resulting from higher enrollment will be offset by a decrease in LEA funding. The current Fund Balance of approximately \$15 million is most likely the highest it will be for 2022/23. It is anticipated expenditures will exceed revenue by \$5 million in 2022/23. While not a concern for the current school year, the district is already looking for ways to reduce for next year. It will be important to begin discussions around the Levy Rate the district will ask voters to consider in February 2024 in the very near future.

In conclusion, Ms. Ellingson noted Governor Inslee will release his budget in December giving a first glimpse at what state funding priorities might be.

## **B. Superintendent's Report**

Following up on the *Future Ready* event the district hosted at Union Event Center on November 9<sup>th</sup> where 70+ individuals gathered to brainstorm ideas around providing pathways for students that will guarantee employment in a number of fields, Superintendent Woodward shared a sample *Healthcare, Nursing Future Ready Pathway* document.

Information contained in the sample document included Academic Courses to be considered at grades 6-8, 9-10 and 11-12, and a list of *exploring* opportunities in middle school, that are *expanded* as a freshman and sophomore and *experienced* the last two years of high school. In the sample document pathways included: (1) Apprenticeship or Workforce Entry, (2) 4-Year University, (3) Military Service (4) Community & Technical Colleges.

Superintendent Woodward noted those who attended the first *Future Ready* event are already reaching out to find out when the next event will take place. The plan is to hold an event every three months.

Director Cannon inquired about the development of pathways in other areas. Superintendent Woodward replied other pathways are in the brainstorming phase and will take time to establish based on the district's internal capacity to do the work.

President Burchard noted that currently in Spokane getting accepted into a four-year nursing program is very competitive with only 25% of those who apply being admitted. This is due in large measure to a lack of instructors.

In response to a timeline question from Director Gray, Superintendent Woodward shared the hope is to have four pathways dialed in by 2030. He acknowledged being overly ambitious last year with regard to offering on-site CNA certification so is now being more cautious about predictions.

Regarding apprenticeship opportunities, Director Olson noted the importance of talking to someone already working in a particular field before launching down a pathway.

## **VIII. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

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**President**

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**Secretary**