

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, EAST HELENA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 9

Call to Order: Trustees of School District No. 9 met in regular session on April 11, 2011 at East Valley Middle School Library. Chairman Ann Marie Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance and Introduction of Board Members

Trustees Present: Chairman Ann Marie Thompson, Mark Diehl, Debbie Hunsaker, Kit Johnson, Breck Scheet, Marcia Ellermeyer, and Scott Walter. Superintendent Ron Whitmoyer and Clerk Kim Aarstad.

Principals present: Joe McMahon, Jill Miller, Mike Agostinelli, Dan Rispens.

Visitors: Alana Listoe, Joe Cohenour, Katy Hauer, Scott Ireland, Kerry Logan, Tracey Rogstad, Robyn Arntson, K.D. Jones, Rachel Bright, Thomas Baumeister, Charles Houk.

Agenda

Motion by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Hunsaker to accept the agenda as presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Reports

Student Report

E.J. Lowney reported that a student council dance will be held on April 15, 2011. On May 2-16 students will be working on blankets for Fire and Police departments. Bullying bracelets have not arrived so they will not be sold until next year. 2011-2012 student council elections will be held on April 20th and students will be putting together May Day baskets on April 20th.

High School Trustee Report

Joe Cohenour, High School Trustee, reported that the district has 3 trustee positions open, two positions are for a three year term and one is for a two year term. The high school district will be asking for a \$170,000.00 levy. Current high school budget is broken down as follows:

87% wages and benefits

9% operating and maintenance

4% utilities

The district currently has several positions open for the current school year.

Principal and Technology Report

Reports were submitted with the agenda packet.

Community Reports of the Board

Negotiations are still on-going with Classified and Certified staff.

Consent Action Items

- A. Minutes of the Regular and Special meeting – March 14, 2011.
- B. Approval of February 2011 former and new warrants (Warrant #34073 – 34159 and Payroll # 41333 - 41434)
- C. Personnel Resignations Accepted
 - i. Peggy Chappius – Teacher
 - ii. Mike Miller - CustodianRecommended Employment of Personnel
 - i. Koleman Gross – Substitue
 - ii. Robyn Hayes-Hernandez – Substitute
 - iii. Kathleen Johnson – Substitute

March minutes were removed from the consent agenda.

Motion by Trustee Diehl, seconded by Trustee Walter to approve the consent action items with the removal of the March minutes. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Chairman Thompson made the following change to the March minutes. Minutes stated that the meeting was at the East Valley Middle School Library when it was at the Eastgate Library.

Trustee Scheet made the following change to the March minutes. Under Budget Update and Consideration of Levy Election, Trustee Walter was listed as voting for and against the Levy Election. Trustee Walter voted “no”.

Motion by Trustee Walter, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to approve the corrected March 14, 2011 minutes. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Unfinished Business

Legislative Issues Update

Superintendent Whitmoyer presented a press release from MTSBA, MREA, SAM and MQEC on Key K-12 education advocacy groups that have called on legislators to resist attempts by some to hijack and hold K-12 school funding hostage as a means of seeking advantage for flawed policy proposals before the 2011 Legislature. Superintendent Whitmoyer also updated the Board on several bills before the legislature.

Budget Update

Superintendent Whitmoyer updated the Board on district budget and current school funding bills that are being considered by the current Legislature.

New Business

District School Improvement Planning Committee Update

Rachel Bright, Dan Rispens and Jill Miller discussed the District School Improvement Planning Committee. The committee has established four objectives to follow, they are:

1. Build and improve sustainable student and family relationships for all students
2. Increase math computational proficiency by building self-confidence in mathematics through positive incentives and enthusiasm for math.
3. Use technology to expand background knowledge of students
4. Ensure the district's staff with most extensive training are working with our neediest students as frequently as possible.

Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks Hunter Education Program Renewal

Superintendent Whitmoyer introduced Charles Houk, East Helena Lead Trainer, Hunters Safety Program and Thomas Baumeisler, Fish Wildlife and Parks, to the Board. Mr. Baumeisler addressed the board on the current Hunters Safety Program and discussed the issue that the district had with a hand gun being left in a classroom after a hunter's safety class.

Mr. Baumeisler agreed to draft up a procedure for gun check in and check out for the Boards approval.

Motion by Trustee Ellermeyer, seconded by Trustee Diehl to continue the relationship with the Hunters Safety Program, contingent upon the Board being satisfied with the procedure Mr. Baumeisler drafts up. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Social Studies Curriculum Adoption

Mike Agostinelli presented the Social Studies Curriculum for the Boards consideration. Mr. Agostinelli reported that new text books will not need to be purchased if the Board approves the curriculum and that a Montana History elective class has been added at the middle school level.

Motion by Trustee Walter, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to adopt the Social Studies curriculum as presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

Trustee Election Cancellation

Clerk Aarstad announced that because the district received nominating petitions equal to the number of positions to be elected the Trustee Election has been cancelled.

School Accreditation Status Report

Superintendent Whitmoyer reported that the District has been awarded full accreditation status with no deviations again this school year.

Hear the Public

No one addressed the Board.

Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items

The next regular board meeting will be held on May 9, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. in the East Valley Middle School Library.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Clerk, Kim Aarstad

Approved by: _____ Date _____
Chairman, Board of Trustee