

## 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 December 13, 2010 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, Breck Scheet, Marcia Ellermeyer, Debbie Hunsaker, Scott Walter and Kit Johnson. Superintendent Ron Whitmoyer and Clerk Kim Aarstad.

Principals present: Joe McMahon, Jill Miller & Dan Rispens.

Visitors: Tricia Haines, Erin Manchester, K.D. Jones, John Jones, Marne Davenport, Serra Scheet, Alana Listoe and Jana Nygaard.

#### **Agenda**

**Motion** by Trustee Walter, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to remove the high school trustee and student report and to accept the agenda as presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

#### **Reports**

#### **Community Reports of the Board**

Chairman Thompson reported that a sub-committee had met to discuss insurance issues within the district.

#### **Consent Action Items**

- A. Minutes of the Regular meeting – November 8, 2010
- B. Approval of October 2010 former and new warrants (Warrant #33691 – 33\_\_\_\_\_ and Payroll #40901- 4\_\_\_\_\_).
- C. Personnel Resignations Accepted  
None  
Recommended Employment of Personnel
  - i. Dona Dobler – Substitute
  - ii. Jessica Fox – Substitute
  - iii. Stephanie Padavich – Substitute

**Motion** by Trustee Walter, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to accept the consent items as presented. Unanimous vote for the motion.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Strategic Planning Review and Update**

**Motion** by Trustee Scheet, seconded by Trustee Walter to accept the first reading of the Strategic Plan. Unanimous vote for the motion.

### **Collection of Superintendent's Evaluation**

Chairman Thompson asked that the board members turn in the Superintendent evaluation.

## **New Business**

### **Classroom Technology Demonstration**

Marne Davenport and Todd Samson demonstrated new classroom technology that is being used in their classrooms.

### **Budget Considerations for FY12**

Superintendent Whitmoyer went over the proposed 2011-2012 budget.

### **Vehicle Replacement Consideration**

Superintendent Whitmoyer reported that the mail van was in need of some major repairs. While checking on options to repair this van he found that Placier Motors had a 2001 Chrysler Voyager for sale for around \$6000.00. The van only has 44,000 miles on it. Trustee Johnson expressed concern that the cost for the van might be a little high and would like to see if Superintendent Whitmoyer could look at the blue book value of the van. Trustee Johnson also stated that he would be happy to check the van over if Superintendent Whitmoyer would like him to.

Superintendent Whitmoyer also reported that the Maintenance Department would like to purchase a pickup sander for the Dodge pickup. This sander would be used for the school and bus parking lots.

**Motion** by Trustee Ellermeyer, seconded by Trustee Hunsaker to have the Superintendent pick up the van, to look up the blue book value and to make a decision on whether the van is at the correct cost. Unanimous vote for the motion.

**Motion** by Trustee Johnson, seconded by Trustee Scheet to allow the maintenance department to purchase a new sander. Unanimous vote for the motion.

### **Solar Panel Installation**

John Jones, NorthWestern Energy, reported to the board that Northwestern Energy (NWE) has donated a 4 /12 kWh PV system (Solar) to the East Helena School District. This system will be installed on the Gym at East Valley Middle School. The system will produce electricity that will be returned to the building for usage in lieu of metered electricity or for the times of low usage, the electricity will be sold back to Northwestern Energy. The system will be installed on December 15, 2010.

Mr. Jones also announced that International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) has also donated a weather station for students and teachers to use for learning and instruction.

### **School Property Discussion**

Superintendent Whitmoyer discussed the availability of adjoining properties to the School District. These properties could be used for a future building site or athletic fields, which would be for the betterment of the district and the community. Contiguous property purchase has a special allowance for school district (MCA 20-6-621).

Chairman Thompson asked that the Infrastructure Committee look into this further.

### **Audit Results and Strategy Related to GASB 45**

Superintendent Whitmoyer went over the 2010 audit. The findings were favorable, showing no significant deficiencies in internal controls and not that are considered to be of material weakness. Superintendent Whitmoyer also discussed the GASB 45 requirements that stipulate that district will need to hire an actuary to perform an actuary for the districts health insurance. The total cost to the district will be \$4,000.00 and it has to be done every two years.

Clerk Aarstad stated that she had a lengthy discussion with Paul Strom, the district auditor, when he was in to do the 2010 audit. After looking over the 2010 actuary report, the auditor felt that some of the information that was used by the actuary was a little high or not correct. And that the actuarial review of unfunded liabilities in the health insurance will not vary significantly in the coming years, unless the board changes their policy. Clerk Aarstad stated that she would like to cancel the contract with Actuaries Northwest, but by cancelling this contract the district could possibly have a non-qualified opinion on the next audit.

**Motion** by Trustee Walter, seconded by Trustee Scheet to forgo the actuary for the 2012-2013 and 2015-2016 school year. Unanimous vote for the motion.

## **Response to Intervention**

Dan Rispens, EVMS Principal, discussed the significant changes in instructional organization at the school. Response to Intervention (RTI) is a prescriptive intervention process that adjusts instructional levels for students to more adequately meet their individual learning needs. This program has been a large part of the turnaround in academic achievement of East Helena Schools.

## **Hear the Public**

No one addressed the board.

## **Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items**

The next regular meeting will be held on January 10, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the East Valley Middle School Library.

## **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
District Clerk, Kim Aarstad

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, Board of Trustees

\_\_\_\_\_ Date