

## 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 November 09, 2009 at Radley Elementary Gym. 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, Trustees Mark Diehl, Debbie Hunsaker, Marcia Ellermeyer, Kit Johnson, Breck Scheet and Scott Walter.

Principals: Joe McMahon, Keith Obert & Dan Rispens, Vice Principal, Mike Agostinelli, Superintendent, Ron Whitmoyer and Clerk, Kim Aarstad.

Visitors: Jill Miller, Alana Listoe, Jana Nygaard, Callie Kanthack and Robyn Arntson.

#### **Agenda**

Chairman Thompson reported that item #2; High School Trustee Report should be deleted from the agenda.

**Motion** by Trustee Ellermeyer, seconded by Trustee Diehl to accept the agenda as presented, deleting item #2 under reports. Unanimous vote for the motion.

#### **Reports**

##### **Student Report**

Callie Kantheck, Student Body President, reported that Boys basketball started on October 12, 2009, 7<sup>th</sup> grade boys have a record of 7-0, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys have a record of 5-1. Mr. Samson will be coaching archery this year. The yearbook staff is currently working on pictures and getting sponsors. The Paw Team will be traveling to Bozeman for MBI Youth Days on November 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>. The 2009-2010 sign wall has been completed. Student council will be holding a movie night on December 12, 2009. A dance will be held on November 20, 2009. Students will be making pies and donating them to God's Love for Thanksgiving. Sucker sales has begun to raise funds for the JMG sucker fund, funds will be used to buy helium for balloon sales. Students will be going out to Fort Harrison for Christmas Caroling and students will be making blankets and bears for children who have had something bad happen to them.

## **High School Trustee Report**

No report.

## **Principals', Vice Principal, & Technology Reports Questions**

Reports were submitted with the agenda package.

## **Committee Reports of the Board**

Chairman Thomson and Trustee Diehl reported that they had attended the 5 year strategic planning meeting on October 27, 2009. The next meeting will be held on November 16, 2009.

## **Consent Action Items**

- A. Minutes of Regular Meeting October 12, 2009
- B. Approval of September 2009 former and New Warrants (Warrant # 32456 – 32566 and payroll 39233- 39356)
- C. Personnel Resignations Accepted
  - None were received
  - Recommended Employment of Personnel
    - i. Richard Coe– Substitute
    - ii. Nick Kravas – Substitute
    - iii. Peter Gradzina – Substitute
    - iv. Alex Lemieux – Substitute
    - v. Joseph Maness - Substitute
    - vi. Lee Olsen – Substitute
    - vii. Michelle Tuttle – Substitute
    - viii. Kerri Ann Vaughn - Paraprofessional

**Motion** by Trustee Walter, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to accept the consent items as presented. Motion Carried.

## **Unfinished Business**

## **MCEL Reflections & Update**

Board members discussed some of the classes they were able to attend at the MCEL Conference.

## **Board Policy Revisions**

**Motion** by Trustee Diehl, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to adopt the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the board policy revisions. Unanimous vote for the motion.

## **Superintendent Evaluation Form Distribution and Discussion**

Chairman Thompson asked that the board members work on Superintendent Whitmoyer's evaluation and that the evaluation be submitted to Clerk Aarstad by the next meeting.

Trustee Walter stated that if the board would like to establish a committee to look over the superintendent evaluation tools that he would be happy to sit on the committee. Chairman Thompson asked that board members contact Trustee Walter if they were interested in establishing a committee.

## **New Business**

### **School Board of the Year Consolation Plaque Award**

Superintendent Whitmoyer presented a plaque to the Board members who were recognized at the annual MCEL Conference as nominees for School Board of the Year, for their exceptional service to the school district over the course of the last year.

### **Establish a JMG Business Fund Student Activity Account**

Superintendent Whitmoyer asked that the board establish a new student activity account, Jobs for Montana Grads (JMG) Business Fund Account. JMG represents real life situations for students who will be starting a balloon business, they will advertise, take orders, sell and deliver balloons.

**Motion** by Trustee Diehl, seconded by Trustee Scheet to establish the JMG Business Fund student activity account. Unanimous vote for the motion.

### **Commercial Energy Contract Extension**

Superintendent Whitmoyer submitted the new commercial energy natural gas contract. The contract is offering the district a \$5.76 lock price for one year. Superintendent Whitmoyer explained that the current going price for natural gas as of the middle of September for Northwestern Energy was \$5.276.

Superintendent Whitmoyer recommended that the district sign the commercial energy contract for natural gas for one year at the lock price of \$5.76.

**Motion** by Trustee Walter, seconded by Trustee Ellermeyer to accept the energy safe locked price by Commercial Energy. Unanimous vote for the motion.

## **Early Retirement Incentive Discussion and Committee Work**

Superintendent Whitmoyer asked that the board consider the possibility of offering future early retirement incentive that may be a cost saving for the district budget. Consideration of these incentives for certified, classified and administrative personnel may be a means to deal with future short falls in the budget. Superintendent Whitmoyer asked for three board members to serve on a committee to discuss the districts options.

Trustee Diehl, Trustee Scheet and Trustee Thompson will serve on this committee.

## **Montana Unified School Trust (MUST) Semi-Annual Report**

Superintendent Whitmoyer submitted the districts health information profile report issued by MUST for board review. The district paid contributions for FY 2010 was \$727,346.00, the paid claims and administrative costs equal \$533,894.00. So the district had a gain of \$193,453.00. He also submitted the Montana Unified School Trust annual health information profile. Total paid contributions for FY 2010 was \$66,660,592.00, the paid claims and administrative costs equal \$72,131,811.00, which is a loss of \$6,501,616.00. Superintendent Whitmoyer explained that because MUST has such a loss in monies the district should expect an insurance rate increase in FY 2011 school year.

## **Resolution #153 – Seeking NWREL Membership**

Superintendent Whitmoyer asked that the board consider the possibility of gaining membership to the Northwest Regional Education Laboratory (NWREL). A resolution is needed for this membership.

**Motion** by Trustee Scheet, seconded by Trustee Thompson to adopt Resolution #153. Unanimous vote for the motion.

## **Hear the Public**

No one address the board.

## **Future Meeting Dates and agenda Items**

The next regular meeting will be held on December 14, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the East Valley Middle School Library.

## **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

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

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