

Joint Meeting MCSD2 & Mt. Valley School District Boards of Education

Friday, December 6, 2024 5:00 PM

Broadmoor Hotel, 1 Lake Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80906

1. Call to Order

Discussion: December 6, 2024,

Call to Order 5:08pm

In attendance: Mike Booth, Virginia Drake, Tina Eastman, Lynn Ertle and Thomas Cleary via phone in
Mountain Valley BOE: Stan Neilsen, Lisa Hammel, Dave Smittle, Jim Jaminet, Melissa Armenta Absent

2. Joint Meeting MCSD2 Mt. Valley School District to discuss potential collaboration opportunities.

Discussion: Motion to approve agenda by Mike Booth, 2nd by Patte Smith. Motion carried.

Discussion with Mountain Valley BOE in consideration of pros and cons

of consolidation of the Moffat and Mountain Valley School Districts.

MVS input

- Budget could become more restrictive
- No building closures
- Discussion has been ongoing for over 30 years. Now is the time to move from discussion to action.
- Mountain Valley had a work session and agreed to prioritize the consideration of consolidation. The Mountain Valley school district community is aware of the discussion. Nothing has been decided.
- Consolidation could offer more diversity, more students in the classroom.
- Its time to make a plan.

Moffat Input

- There has never been a consolidation of districts in Colorado. To clarify, there has been consolidation of school buildings within districts.
- Would like to consider collaboration between schools. Collaboration could give the districts the opportunity to build a plan around shared resources. Examples: Athletics, certificate programs, FFA, ROTC, FBLA.
- Look from the view of "How might we open up more opportunities for our kids".
- Moffat would like to advocate for more collaborating.
- Gain/Give

- This could become a county wide collaborative effort.

Discussion

- Teachers wearing multiple hats could focus on their area of expertise.
- Offer more learning opportunities, such as, shop, trade, clinical pathways, junior college, military service, construction trades.
- Mention of the need for housing, this could cover multiple areas, and perhaps opportunities for students to have an apprenticeship within the construction trades.
- Could be a collaborative effort where we come together to address teacher housing and student learning.
- Cirraco (spelling?) School District and Yampa/Oak Creek consolidated and it was rough the first 2 years, but things smoothed out. With larger class sizes Mr. Smittle felt the students got a better educational result with the increase in class sizes.
- Positives for consolidation could be financial benefits. One superintendent, consolidated classrooms would need fewer teachers. Natural attrition would occur.
- Cons for consolidation could be 3 Bonds for the 3 new school buildings. ML are at max. Moffat has a ML override. MV does not.
- Discussion regarding a longer day could be beneficial especially if the district was able to serve more students.
- Smittle shared that Moffat County/Craig, had long bus rides, but put a teacher on the bus to teacher a class the 1st and last hour of the day.
- Think outside the box.
- Frustration was expressed that students were not as prepared for college.
- Less opportunities are available for our students.
- Our districts were rivals at one point but is not a huge issue for our students as they plan sports together.

Suggestion is to bring in a Collaborative entity to sort things out and help align different issues.

This entity could guide us in moving forward with a Collaboration.

Mountain Valley and Moffat will meet in February TBD.

3. **Adjourn**

Discussion: meeting discussion concluded at meeting adjourned at 6:16p.m.

Board Secretary