

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SD #4

The trustees met in regular session, January 16, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the library. Those present throughout the meeting were Rhonda Hogstad Chairman, Business Manager Jeanne Carroll, Mark Berg Trustee, Brent Lipp, Superintendent, and Joel Junso Trustee.

The chairman called the meeting to order and led the group in the pledge of allegiance. **CONSENT AGENDA**
Public comment was added to the agenda. Mark moved to accept the Consent Agenda. Billie seconded. Mark asked about the American Playground bill. Brent said the PTO is paying for all but \$1000. Brent described what was ordered. All in favor.

Public Comment

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jodi Walter commented on Wiz of the West, she asked about Wednesday family night for practice, which was incorrect on the newsletter. She said she visited with Mr Rice about the 5th grade basketball coach missing practices. Mr. Lipp asked how many times that has happened. Mr. Lipp was not notified this was happening. Mr. Rice said there have been some cancelled practices. He said the coach is probably overcommitted. She is also all for increasing the trip to 5 days if someone is willing to do it.

Mr. Rice said he is here for the increased trip days. Mark had asked for an itinerary as well. Mike said the trip itinery is very loose as he's not going to plan it, if they are not going to get the 5 days. This was planned off the existing itinerary.

8th Grade Trip

8TH GRADE TRIP

Mark made a motion for discussion and action. Mark said he's been thinking about it and it is over Memorial Day and if parents are willing to give up their weekend, and student are only missing 3 days of school. Billie feels the same and seconded. Rhonda said her concern was Mike's comment about students that are more difficult. There will always be those kids. She said as board members that liability must be taken into account. She said she worries greatly about that. Her daughter went on the 5 day trip and really enjoyed it. Mark said as a professional educator, kids are done and so are teachers by the time of this trip and he feels they've earned it. Rhonda said she visited with some parents and most were for it. All in favor of changing the 3 day trip to a 5 day trip and it will remain a 5 day trip. The board feels this should not come up with the negotiations team. Brent would like to be fully aware of those meetings for tournaments. Mike brought up Brent's decision to have the trip go away. Brent said he made this decision last month. There will be a detailed itinerary later in the spring.

Month in Review

Mr. Lipp included his administrative report in the packet:

ADMIN REPORT

- Brent said in his report that today was a PIR day and the focus is on professional learning communities with multi district groups. Teachers worked on how to effectively use data. The K-8 administrators will be doing a 3 year strategic plan from ideas from these. Mark asked if all schools do NWEA in the winter. Brent said no. There was some discussion about that today. The state test is required and so we do it. A lot of collaboration with other same grade level teachers.
- The PTO combined with Missoula Children's Theatre is hosting a production called the Wiz of The West. This is always a great way for students to try out their expertise in acting.

PTO has decided to incorporate the kindergarten and first grades back into the production. He thinks this is a great idea and fun for the kids. He will look into the scheduling issue he was unaware of. They are not doing the Saturday morning rehearsal so he feels that will help. They also talked about increasing supervision for those kids.

- Brent said he and Jeanne have been working alongside Rimrock Computers to itemize a list for technology infrastructure upgrades. This process is through ERate and allows for a grant to help the school provide better technology to our students. Erate covers such items like internet bandwidth, hardware like wiring, switches and ports. He believes this would take place this summer and at a fraction of the cost to the district.

- Our students are in the process of taking MAP tests this month. He said our staff does a very good job in getting this done efficiently and without a great deal of interruption to class time. He said he always appreciates how well everyone works together to get this task accomplished. The testing that is complete looks very good in regards to student performance. Academically, our students are doing really well.

- He has been following the State Legislature in regards to key bills that will impact the district. He said Special Education funding was of great interest to him because of the high impact that it has on our budget. Unfortunately, most of the bills that would have helped us in this matter, didn't make it out of committee. Currently, we really need to keep an eye on education's general fund. If the budget that has been proposed were to pass legislation at this time we would be looking at a shortfall of \$35,870 in the general budget. He is hopeful that during the legislative session, we will see some increases to the projected budget.

- He attended a day of professional development with ACE on classroom walkthroughs this past week. The workshop was very informative and was good to see some new techniques in visiting classrooms. He hopes to give some of these ideas a try in the months ahead.

- He has asked staff to inform him if they are interested in looking at a new text for Reading and Language K-8. We are in need of some new materials and resources for ELA. He will keep the curriculum committee informed of the meetings and progress. Also, a writing program needs to be looked at.

- He split the first grade over Christmas and it's gone pretty well. The students are doing well. Teachers are doing great. He commends all the staff for making it work. He paid two teachers a couple of days over break to get set up. We had 12 kids start on the first day back. Brent said it was not perfect timing, but time was short and not ideal.

- Earl is installing a rail system for signs. Brent went to Elysian and Elder Grove and then went with Sign Pro and they are donating also for the \$500 bracket. He'd like them up before the first tournament. The t-shirts have been ordered as well. Sign Pro is going to do a new thank you supporter sign. The board likes his idea to do that. This will be mounted under and around the scoreboard. They will be banners that won't break during volleyball.

NEW BUSINESS

5. Trustee Position Vacancy

Jeanne said there is a vacancy ad that was on the website. Brent has not contacted anyone since the notice was posted. There may be a gentleman that is interested, with a good background.

TRUSTEE POSITION VACANCY

6. Legislative Update

This was already done above.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

7. Variance Request

VARIANCE REQUEST

Mark made a motion to approve a variance request to ARM Standards 10-55-604(4). Brent said This is for a portion of a principal due to accreditation standards. Basically his variance will say we would like to continue as we currently are. Brent said it's a concern, but he doesn't see how it is possible with our finances to add a part-time administrator. Billie seconded. All in favor.

8. Superintendent Evaluation
Executive Session, see below.

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUTION

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9. STRATEGIC PLAN

STRATEGIC PLAN

Brent made the requested changes at the last board meeting and passed out the corrected plan. He'd also like to talk about it during his evaluation in executive session in case there are some changes The board might want to do. There will be action on this during the February meeting.

The board adjourned into executive session at 7:25 pm for the superintendents evaluation. Back into regular session at 8:25 pm.

9. Superintendent Renewal

Mark moved to renew Brent's contract, adding another year to his contract with the 3% increase. Billie seconded. All in favor.

There being no further business, Mark moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm. All in favor. .

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Carroll, District Clerk

Rhonda Hogstad, Chair