

**Unofficial Minutes
Special Board of Directors Meeting
August 4, 2020**

These are minutes of the Morrow County School District Board of Directors special meeting on Tuesday, August 4, 2020, at the North District Office and via Zoom in Irrigon, OR at 7:00 pm.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Barney Lindsay, Richard Cole, Andy Fletcher, Mary Killion, Becky Kindle, Brian Kollman, Marcie Rodelo

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Dirk Dirksen, Marie Shimer, Erin Stocker, Cheryl Costello, Beth O’Hanlon, Aaron Gosiak, Kaira Rysdam, John Christy, David Norton, Kyle Aurdahl, Jill Ledbetter, Matt Combe, Dieter Waite, Stephanie Ewing, Rose Palmer

OTHERS PRESENT: as per roster

Call to Order:

Chair Barney Lindsay called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the North District Office in Irrigon, OR (via Zoom). The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a quorum was established.

Public Forum

Mr. Tim Dickenson provided (via e-mail) a letter related to reopening of schools and the COVID crisis. The letter expressed his questions/concerns/challenges related to getting kids in the classroom.

Mr. Justin Nelson requested more information related to the topics/discussion items on the agenda of the special meeting. Mr. Dirksen reviewed what will be discussed and invited Mr. Nelson the opportunity for public comment at the August 10, 2020 board meeting.

New Business:

- **Comprehensive Distance Learning Plan (CDL)** – Mr. Dirksen explained how the district went from planning for a hybrid learning model to a Comprehensive Distance Learning Plan with the new metrics set in place. He shared the district Comprehensive Distance Learning Plan and Virtual School Program plan for 2020/21. Emphasizing the differences from what the district did in the fall when we quickly transitioned to online learning. At the next Board meeting, the district will present the hybrid learning model to be used once we are allowed to have students back in buildings. The goal is for students to achieve 1 year of growth. We are confident we can address the challenge and create an environment with staff working from the building (not home) 100% of the time to meet our goals.

Everyone wants to get kids back in school face to face as soon as it is safe. Mr. Mark Mulvihill is working with a group trying to get rural schools back in session via a waiver. We have placed a moratorium on the interdistrict transfer of students for the school year. These are some first steps for getting smaller districts/schools back in session.

The current food service program (approximately 700 meals a day served this summer) will end August 14th and will resume September 8th with delivery via bus routes.

Mary Killion expressed her concern with the CDL program, asking if there is any other option available. She expressed her appreciation for the work that has been put in to the program. Mary asked what the board can do to advocate for our students to get back into the classroom.

Marcie Rodelo expressed concern with students going backwards academically.

Mr. Dirksen acknowledged the district had restrictions we had to follow last spring and expressed his faith in MCSD staff to create an environment and learning experience for our students to be successful when distance learning begins in September.

Board Letter of Support

Motion:	Mary Killion made a motion requesting a letter be written in support of getting students back into the classroom. Marcie Rodelo seconded the motion.
Ayes:	Lindsay, Cole, Fletcher, Kindle, Killion, Kollman, Rodelo
Noes:	n/a
Motion Passed	

- **2020/21 Adjusted School Calendar** – The adjustment moves the student start date to September 8, 2020 to give staff an additional week to prepare for online learning. No additional students will be added to the calendar.

2020/21 Adjusted School Calendar

Motion:	Brian Kollman made a motion to readopt the district calendar for 2020/21 with a September 8, 2020 student start date. Mary Killion seconded the motion.
Ayes:	Lindsay, Cole, Fletcher, Kindle, Killion, Kollman, Rodelo
Noes:	n/a
Motion Passed	

- **Staff Professional Development**

A select group of teachers, coaches and union executive members will participate in professional development with IMESD staff to develop individual school PD plans. Administrators will work with their team to provide professional development at the building level to their staff (licensed and classified) in preparation for online learning.

Parent professional development will include virtual modules and tip sheets in addition to support staff working with parents answering questions and trouble shooting. IMESD tech staff will also support parents with technical issues.

Tech support for teachers includes new chrome books, high quality cameras (audio/visual) to create better quality lessons for students.

- **Broadband Internet**

MCSD will receive \$350,000 from the state in support of our schools. These funds will be spent to help support internet services (wireless) to our students. Pat Kerrigan is working on an idea to provide wireless to our students with filters that will monitor student access. Andy Fletcher and Melissa Lindsay are also working on a countywide effort to provide internet for everyone. HEROS funds (\$500,000) coming out soon from the federal government will also be used for this effort. We need to move forward as quickly as possible.

Distance learning will also include packets and hands on materials at the K-3 level.

Reopening plans/blueprints still have to go through a county health review, board review, and county commissioners review before being sent to ODE and placed on websites.

Chairman Lindsay read announcements:

- Board Work Session – Monday, August 10, 2020, 5:30pm - District Office/HES and via Zoom
- Next Board Meeting – Monday, August 10, 2020, 7:00pm – District Office/HES and via Zoom

Chairman Lindsay adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Cheryl Costello, Board Secretary

Barney Lindsay, Board Chair

Date Approved: _____

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