

Official Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting, September 9, 2024

These are minutes of the Morrow County School District Board of Directors meeting on Monday, September 9, 2024, 6:00 pm held at Windy River Elementary/Zoom.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Erin Anderson, Richard Cole, Rosa Delgado, Becky Kindle, Brian Kollman

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Mary Killion, Ashley Lindsay

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Matt Combe, Barbara Phillips, Marie Shimer, Erin Stocker, Marissa Turner, Gabe Hansen, John Christy, Karen Shelton, Jami Carbray, Sarah Christy, Steve Sheller, Ryan Gerry, Laura Winters, Maria Ortega, Karen Frenette, Jill Ledbetter, Rachel Herron, Patrick Kerrigan, Brandi Sweeney, Dave Fowler, Bart Prouty, Paul Keefer, Charlene Baker

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeanette Myers, Paul Keefer, Lindsay Grogan, Jessica Britt, Katie Murray

Call to Order:

Board Chair, Richard Cole called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a quorum was established.

Public Comment

None

Delegations:

MCEA – Dave Fowler

OSEA – Bart Prouty

Presentation – Windy River Elementary – Mr. Sheller along with Maggie Scanlan and the 2023/24 WRE Student Council presented what they are excited about in the 2024-25 school year. WRE has been focused and working hard on improving Staff Culture by spending time together outside of school doing fun activities such as yard sales, pedicures, payday gatherings, and an escape room. Staff successes and celebrations at school include monthly potlucks, birthdays, baby celebrations, attaways, donut Fridays and much more. Focusing on community and PARENT partnerships WRE students are excited about upcoming Parent Nights at WRE which include: The Living Wax Museum, Art Show and Paint Night, and Multicultural Night. They are also proud of the amazing field trips the students will be attending this year: the Oregon Zoo, OMSI or Air and Auto Museum in Hood River, Outdoor School, and the Planetarium at CBC. A few other things the council is proud of/excited about are: iReady Student Effort Prize Extravaganza, Wise WOLF Awards, Read Across America Week, and Math Fact Champions Wall. The student council thanked the Board for their dedication to MCSD.

Presentation – Heppner Daycare Request – Katie Murray, Lindsay Grogan, and Jessica Britt presented to the Board a request for possible land acquisition and partnership for a new facility expansion. The Daycare is looking to increase maximum capacity of 3–8-year-olds to 40 children and expand the service to include an infant and toddler center with a capacity of 28. In addition, a new facility would provide staff with sufficient space for their roles as teachers and caregivers, and as administrators of the facility. Heppner Daycare is requesting a negotiation of land acquisition of the current tennis courts adjacent to Heppner Elementary School. This space would meet the community needs and would only strengthen their partnership with the Morrow County School District. They are looking at putting new tennis courts at the community athletic facilities. The board was in agreement with administration moving forward and accepting proposals from Heppner Daycare.

Consent Agenda

- Motion: Rosa Delgado made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Erin Anderson seconded the motion.
- A. Approved minutes of the work session and regular meeting of August 12, 2024
 - B. Approved Financial Report, Employment Action;
 - C. 1st Reading of Rescinded, New or Revised Policies: EBBA, JGAB

D. Adoption of Rescinded, New or Revised Policies:
E. Adoption of New, Revised or Rescinded AR's: JGAB-AR, KBA-AR
F. Physical Restraint and Seclusion 2023/24 Annual Report
Ayes: Anderson, Cole, Delgado, Kindle, Kollman
Noes:
Motion Passed

Superintendent Report

- The 2024-24 school year is off to a great start. I've enjoyed seeing our MCSD students and staff back in buildings and classrooms during my building walkthroughs during the past couple of weeks.
- Our preliminary start up enrollment number is currently about 2270. We will have a better idea after the 10 day drop occurs later this week. This is up from 2222 where we ended last June.
- Financial talking points for the Board: Since June 30, 2024 a majority of year-end adjustments for financial reporting have been completed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. The general fund net position decreased from \$8 million dollars to \$6.2 million, a change of about \$1.8 million. A couple of unforeseen contributors to this change was the shoring work at Irrigon Junior-Senior High School at a cost of just short of \$400 thousand dollars. Other factors include increased athletic programs and related inflationary costs including; subs for coaches, transportation costs and increased hotel prices which overall contributed to an additional \$400 thousand dollars. The remaining difference of \$1 million is a combination of payroll and state school funding reconciliation timing. We did recently receive the MC Ed Foundation check of \$1 million, which is usually received prior to the end of June each year. Additionally, we will also receive the MCURD funding & some special project awards again this fiscal year. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the district will receive the second year's funding of the state biennium budget amount. The current estimate of the state school funding is based on a weighted student count of 3,006 down from last year of 3,100. As reported earlier, the current years enrollment is trending up from where we ended last year. At a preliminary high level of current estimating, dependent on enrollment numbers, continued inflation, and other increasing costs could potentially lead to another year of deficit spending. Please refer to the financial reports monthly for estimates and please be conscious of the forward-looking nature of these estimates.
- The plan moving forward for this school year is a Needs vs Wants mindset to help reduce overall spending and help offset inflation/increasing costs as we await the SSF/Budgeting number estimates for the next biennium and the MCSD Bond Vote results in May of 2025.
- SSF - The COSA funding group's advocacy work on reprioritization of K-12th grade State School Funding will continue leading up to the legislative session, which will begin in January of 2025. Financials & Spending during the 2024/25 school year as it relates to our "needs vs wants" spending plan and our end of year fund balance based on past investments (staff negotiations) as well as maintenance related project/prioritized planning (WRE Roof & HHS Gymnasium) will help safeguard for other unforeseen emergent issues such as the IJSHS structural work last school year.
- Maintenance/Facilities update, the majority of our 2024 summer projects have wrapped up and we are now strategically planning projects and timelines for spring and summer of 2025.
- Fall sports and extracurricular activities are in full swing with good participation numbers across the district within all of our programs. I've enjoyed making my rounds to some of the different contests and events and I look forward to more upcoming contests as the Fall season progresses.
- A reminder about the Regional Board Conference which will be held on September 19th at IMESD in Pendleton.
- As follow-up reminder from my August report, Our MCSD Bond work with the Wenaha Group and CBAC will continue next Wednesday evening when we meet at Irrigon Elementary School as we progress with our MCSD future bond plans and future recommendations. Focusing our spending on needs versus wants and maintenance related project/prioritized planning, not knowing what might happen with the bond vote in May of 2025?

Executive Director of Human Resources Report

- Hiring Update – There are currently 7 classified positions open, offered employment for 3 classified positions today. Open positions are spread across the three communities. The music position is still open and we have a long-term sub through December.

- Upcoming Professional Development opportunities: August 23rd- Classroom Management Plan Workshop, September 20 - Math PD in Heppner, September 27th - Classified Student Management PD.
- Mentor Mentee program has expanded this year with Mr. Sheller and Instructional Coaches working together modeling good teaching strategies. This is a program MCS D should be proud of.

Director of Educational Services Report

- Summer School Program – MCS D received a significant amount of grant dollars. Jumpstart served 354 students and High School served 214 students. Received just over ½ million dollars for additional summer activities which the district partnered with the recreation districts and served an additional 800 students.

Special Education Coordinator Report

- Recently attended Collaborative Problem Solving PD which will be utilized throughout the next few months and continued coaching will be available.
- We have four new SPED teachers for the 2024-25 school year and will be holding monthly SPED meetings with them.
- Children’s Rodeo is tomorrow September 10th.

Unfinished Business - None

New Business:

- **Resolution #2024-25-04– Unanticipated Revenue**
 - \$5,000.00 from Irrigon Community Park & Rec District for the ACH Reader Board
 - \$5,000.00 from Weatherford Wind for Irrigon JR/Sr High School Baseball Cages and Gravel

Motion: Rosa Delgado made a motion to approve the resolution for unanticipated revenue. Erin Anderson seconded the motion.
 Ayes: Anderson, Cole, Delgado, Kindle, Kollman
 Noes:
 Motion Passed

- **OSAA Collective Sponsorship – Umatilla/Irrigon Boys Cross Country**

Motion: Erin Anderson made a motion to approve the Collective Sponsorship for Umatilla and Irrigon Boys Cross Country. Rosa Delgado seconded the motion.
 Ayes: Anderson, Cole, Delgado, Kindle, Kollman
 Noes:
 Motion Passed

- **MCS D Annual Division 22 Report** – Marie Shimer presented on the Division 22 Annual ODE report that is submitted in the Fall, highlighting key rules and programs in place to be in compliance. MCS D is compliant in all categories.

Motion: Erin Anderson made a motion to approve the MCS D Annual Division 22 Report. Rosa Delgado seconded the motion.
 Ayes: Anderson, Cole, Delgado, Kindle, Kollman
 Noes:
 Motion Passed

- **Regional Board Conference** – Conference will be held on September 19, 2024 at the IMESD - Pendleton

Chair Kindle read the announcements:

- CBAC Meeting – September 18, 2024, 5:30pm, Irrigon Elementary
- Regional Board Conference – September 19, 2024
- STEAM Friday – October 4, 2024
- Next Regular Board Meeting – October 14, 2024 – Irrigon Jr/Sr High School
- OSBA Legislative Road Show – October 24, 2024 – Pendleton Convention Center

Chair Cole adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Barbara Phillips, Board Secretary

Richard Cole, Board Chair

Date Approved: _____