

**Unofficial Minutes
Morrow County School District
Work Session
February 17, 2015**

These are minutes of a work session of the Morrow County School District Board of Directors held on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at the District Office in Heppner, OR.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Barney Lindsay, Thad Killingbeck, Becky Kindle, Rhonda Hamby

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Mark Pratt, Brian Kollman, Bill Kuhn

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Dirk Dirksen

OTHERS PRESENT: n/a

Call to Order

The work session was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman Thad Killingbeck. The purpose of the work session was for Mr. Dirksen to discuss with the board the district's current state of affairs from the stand point of 4 years ago and looking forward 10 years.

When I started we were one year away from having payroll being larger than our entire budget, computers average age was 8 years old, vehicles all had 100,000+ miles, and there was no long term plan for facilities, etc.

Currently I am working on:

1. Financials:

- A. Staffing
- B. Facilities
- C. Vehicles
- D. Technology

2. Rigger/Academic Priority:

- A. College credits, advanced classes at younger grade levels.
- B. Stem, Robotics, FFA/AG at Riverside.
- C. Graduation rates, we have a story about every student that did not graduate from a Morrow County school.

3. Online classes:

- A. Greenways for elective options and homeschool students.
- B. Acellus online curriculum for our alternative school and homeschool students taught by Morrow County teachers.
- C. Graduation Alliance is a last chance opportunity for students that have dropped out or are on the way to dropping out.

4. Community partners:

- A. Care Coordinator and multiple partners.
- B. Community Counseling, hiring counselors.
- C. Health Department
- D. Department of Human Services.
- E. Police departments: working collaboratively towards hiring an SRO and collaboratively working on safety plans.
- F. BMCC Bond, OCDC, Umatilla/Morrow Head Start, IMESD, collaboration for early childhood and work force training facility.
- G. Eastern Oregon State University GO Stem partnership
- H. Education Foundation

My 10 year plan includes continued work on the above four bullet points and the following additional items:

1. ODE Mandates: teacher evaluations, common core, etc.. Creating a process for integration/acceptance from staff.
2. Superintendent Evaluation
Reflection with executive session for the evaluation and providing feedback/clarification. I am very busy with the list mentioned earlier and yet to be introduced. Do you want me to change anything from this list? I have worked on that list because of the direction of the last four years as well as the previous 34 years of what I saw was needed in Morrow County School District.
3. Business office
 - A. The decision to go with IMESD was to hire the best people I could for Morrow County School District. Their knowledge and background is unprecedented in regards to moving Morrow County forward with the present and future vision in regards to finance, insurance, and business office support.
 - B. The added bonus of the IMESD doing the business service gives us the opportunity to hire an additional administrative position in Heppner for students and staff. If I had made any other decision then I would not have been able to make that additional administration support in Heppner.
 - C. The final added bonus of the IMESD taking on the business office services is that Andy Fletcher is going to stay on as a consultant with the purpose of helping us with the vision on facilities, vehicles and technology.
4. Property
Andy and I were approached by Community Counseling about the possibility of buying property up by the high school in Heppner for a facility for Community Counseling Services. I decided that there was little to no advantage for Morrow County School District for that building to be across the street from the junior-senior high school. I talked to Kimberly and explained that to her, she said she understood. All decisions that I have made in these last four years have been made with only the district in mind. I am very pleased with our working relationship with Community Counseling and I'm looking forward to continued work with them in our buildings.

5. Facilities

- A. Jan, Matt, and Andy
- B. DLR ten year plan
- C. McKinistry: Energy savings, preventative maintenance, repair and replace HVAC systems including boilers.

6. Staffing:

Review the email.

7. Vehicles:

I have a plan for a 3 to 5 year rotation of cars and vans so that we will always send our staff and students in safe and reliable vehicles.

8. Technology Plan

A rotation of purchasing new computers and technology upgrades every three years in all of the buildings so that we don't fall behind.

9. Safety Plan

- A. Continue to develop and refine the present plan that we are using from John Michael Keys, including a better building evacuation plan in collaboration with Mid-Columbia Bus Company.
- B. Improve the safety of our facilities with more cameras, and improved lock and unlocked system on our doors.

10. Education plan

- A. Essential skills at every level for high school.
- B. Track students - college and career ready using smarter balance test scores.

Chairman Killingbeck adjourned the work session at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Dirk Dirksen
Superintendent

Thad Killingbeck
Board Chairman

Date Approved: _____