

Unofficial Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting
March 12th, 2007

These are minutes of the Morrow County School District Board of Directors regular meeting of March 12th, 2007 held in the board room at the District Office in Lexington, OR

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ken Matlack, Nancy Vander Does, Craig Miles, Bill Kuhn, Pat McNamee, and Barney Lindsay

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Berto Hernandez

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mark Burrows, Wade Smith, Rhonda Lorenz, Julie Ashbeck, Dirk Dirksen, BJ Wilson, Daye Stone, Matt Combe, John Sebastian, Tom Crane, Phyllis Danielson, Jack Thompson, Joel Chavez, Thad Killingbeck and Mark Jones

OTHERS PRESENT:

MCEA – Dave Fowler; OSEA- no representation; ESD – Mike Palmlblad; Public Forum – Carrie Muniz

Call to Order

Chairman Craig Miles called the regular board meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the board room at the District Office in Lexington, OR; a quorum was established; and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, following the presentation of the flag by Cub Scout Pack 661 from the Heppner-Lexington area. Two items were added under New Business: C – Recognition of Support of MCSDD by UM-ESD Superintendent, George Murdock; D – Facilities Use.

Delegations

Dave Fowler representing MCEA – no comment; Mike Palmlblad representing the ESD reported on the resignation of George Murdock, ESD Superintendent, to take the position as editor/publisher of the East Oregonian; No representation from OSEA; Carrie Muniz, was present to ask about home referrals for SpEd services, and the criteria for those referrals. Her concerns will be addressed by the SpEd director and the principal.

2.C. Consent Agenda - The consent agenda was approved as presented:

Motion:	On a motion by Bill Kuhn and a second by Nancy Vander Does, the Consent Agenda was approved as presented:
A.	Approved minutes of regular, executive and work session of February 12 th , 2007
B.	Approved financial report
C.	Resignations: Eva Randolph, language arts teacher at Irrigon High School; Robin Mulder, SpEd assistant at SBE and volleyball coach at IJH; Jake McElligott, head girls basketball coach at IJH; Gerald Smith, assistant custodian at RHS; Elaine Miller, secretary at HES; Dean Peck, social studies teacher at RHS
D.	Employment: David Chavez, assistant custodian at IHS, replacing Norma Smith; Jose DeLoera, assistant custodian at SBE, replacing Juan Ayala; Larry Berry, assistant custodian at RHS, replacing Gerald Smith
E.	Transfers/Promotions; Lloyd Bowman, from WRE assistant custodian to head custodian at IHS, replacing Grace Sandlin; Norma Smith, from assistant custodian at IHS to assistant custodian at WRE, replacing Lloyd Bowman;
F.	Extra Duty Contracts: Eric Lougee, head tennis coach at IHS; Abel Burnett, assistant track coach at IHS; Susan Hisler, head track coach at HJH; Larry Palmer, assistant track coach at HJH
G.	Approved Employment of Licensed Staff for 2007-08
H.	Accepted Donation of \$491.35 to Heppner FFA Program from the Helix FFA Alumni
Ayes	Kuhn, Miles, Vander Does, Matlack, McNamee, Lindsay
Noes	n/a
Motion passed	

3.A Reports & Presentations – Superintendent & Board

- 1. School Board Award:** On behalf of the school board, the staff from Heppner Elementary School were presented with this month's achievement award for being named an Exceptional school by the Oregon Department of Education. Additionally, the Heppner Parent-Teacher Club awarded Mr. Thompson and Mr. Smith with nice wooden plaques for their leadership during the two years that HES was named an Exceptional school. These awards will be on display at HES.
- 2. TESA:** Superintendent Burrows reported that Oregon school districts have been notified that the online testing instrument, TESA has crashed. Vantage, which is the out-of-state vendor, has been in a financial dispute with ODE and the two entities have failed to resolve their issues. Districts have been informed that the spring tests will have to be paper and pencil tests, rather than online. Mr. Burrows stated that the children of Oregon are the real losers in this dispute.
- 3. School Funding:** Mr. Burrows reported that the financial projections coming in so far are not as optimistic as he had hoped, based on the \$6 billion dollar budget. This is only a modest increase, and with mandatory increased PERS costs, obligatory steps as per collective bargaining agreements, increased maintenance and sub costs, and the LA textbook adoption, coupled with decreases in federal programs, at this point, it looks like a "break-even" scenario. It is still early in the financial game, and he expects to have more information when the March projections come in.
- 4. High-Tech Safety Demonstration:** Mr. Burrows reported on the success of the high tech safety demonstration held on March 7th, 2007 at AC Houghton Elementary. It showcased state-of-the-art technology, including a bus equipped with GPS and real time cameras. The Sheriff's Department also demonstrated an intruder in the schools, and how the patrol car could see what was happening on a camera in their vehicle, before actually arriving at the scene.
- 5. Winter Sports:** Superintendent Burrows reported that winter sports have now concluded and highlighted several athletic achievements among the 3 high schools: 3 wrestling qualifiers from Irrigon High School – one 2nd place finisher and one champion; RHS wrestler named league and state champion; 3 RHS boys basketball team members were named to either all-tournament or all-league teams; RHS won the boys 3-A sportsmanship trophy; RHS, HHS and IHS girls basketball teams were named in the Top 10 Dairy Farmers Academic teams, as was the HHS boys team; and, the HHS pep band took 1st place in the playoffs in Pendleton.
- 6. Academic Happenings:** Reported that the 1st Annual District Writing Festival was held at WRE for district 5th and 6th graders. The festival featured high-interest mini-writing lessons with Oregon author, Rick Steber, and featured great instruction and a wonderful opportunity to see the different communities all enjoying the experience. Kudos to Anna Browne for putting this together. Mr. Burrows reported that Betsy Shane, RHS math teacher, has been recognized by the Oregon Council of Math Teachers for leadership.
- 7. Sports Pavilion:** John Sebastian reported on the 3 acres across the back fence from ACH, and the process for developing a sports pavilion. The City of Irrigon would like the district to deed this piece of land to them for the development of the sports park.

3.A Reports & Presentations – (Continued)

- 8. Increased Reporting Requirements:** Wade Smith reported on the Title I Site Audit coming up in the fall of 2007, and the massive amount of paperwork involved in making sure the district is in compliance with federal requirements. Julie Ashbeck reported on how what used to be 10-15 annual reports to ODE, has now evolved into 70+ reports and notifications. NCLB is responsible for many of the increased reporting requirements.
- 9. Principal Reports:** Board members commented on the wonderful things going on in our schools and thanked staff and administration. Several thank you cards will be sent on behalf of the board.

4. Unfinished Business

A. Adopt Policy KAB & KAB-AR – Parental Rights

Motion:	Bill Kuhn moved and Pat McNamee seconded to adopt policy KAB & KAB-AR, <u>Parental Rights</u>
Ayes	Miles, McNamee, Matlack, Kuhn, Vander Does, Lindsay
Noes	n/a
Motion passed	

5. New Business

A. Cooperative Sponsorship for Tennis:

Motion:	Pat McNamee moved and Ken Matlack seconded to approve the cooperative sponsorship for tennis between Heppner High School and Ione High School for the 2006-07 and 2007-08 school years.
Ayes	Miles, McNamee, Matlack, Kuhn, Vander Does, Lindsay
Noes	n/a
Motion passed	

- B. 2007-08 School Calendar Options:** Three calendar options were presented to the board for consideration for the 2007-08 school year. After discussion, it was recommended that a 4th option should be presented to the staff with a Pre-Labor Day start. The options will be sent to the staff for their consideration, with results coming back to the board for action at the April meeting.

C. Resolution in Recognition of Support to MCSD from ESD Superintendent, George Murdock

Motion:	Barney Lindsay made a motion that the board adopt a resolution in recognition of the support that Morrow County School District has received from UM-ESD Superintendent, George Murdock. The motion was seconded by Nancy Vander Does and passed unanimously.
Ayes	Miles, McNamee, Matlack, Kuhn, Vander Does, Lindsay
Noes	n/a
Motion passed	

4. New Business (Continued)

D. Facilities Use: Board member, Ken Matlack went over the district's current Facilities Use policy for a discussion surrounding the limitations of the policy and how it hampers one of the board goals concerning increasing participation in activities for students. Chairman Miles said that he would agree to open the policy for review, with two board members and administration possibly re-writing the policy to satisfy everyone's needs and concerns.

Chairman Miles read the announcements. The board then recommended changing the joint April CEC meeting to 6:00 pm prior to the regular board meeting scheduled for April 9th, at Irrigon High School. Mr. Miles recessed the meeting at 8:55 p.m.. At 9:05 pm, Executive Session was called to order under ORS 192.660(2)(a)(b) to discuss employment/personnel and discipline. At 9:28 pm, Chairman Miles closed executive session, returned to open session and immediately adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Julie Ashbeck, Board Secretary

Craig Miles, Chairman of the Board

Date Approved: _____