

**Unofficial Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting
March 9, 2009**

These are minutes of the Morrow County School District Board of Directors regular meeting of March 9, 2009 held in the library at AC Houghton Elementary School in Irrigon, OR

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Nancy Vander Does, Bill Kuhn, Pat McNamee, Barney Lindsay, and Daniel Daltoso

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Craig Miles and Berto Hernandez

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mark Burrows, Phyllis Danielson, Rhonda Lorenz, Julie Ashbeck, Dirk Dirksen, Matthew Matz, Craig Bensen, Daye Stone, John Sebastian, Joel Chavez, Jacque Johnson, Matt Combe and Mark Jones.

OTHERS PRESENT:

MCEA – Marilyn Post; OSEA – No representation; ESD – No representation. Patrons – n/a; Press

Call to Order

Vice Chairman Barney Lindsay called the regular board meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the library at AC Houghton Elementary School in Irrigon, OR; a quorum was established; and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Additions to the Agenda: Executive Session under ORS 192.660(2)(f)(h) with Action to Follow, was added along with the OSBA Spring Regional Meeting added to Announcements.

Public

MCEA – Marilyn Post commented on the economic crisis with school funding and also the volunteer work recently completed by ACH staff.

2.C. Consent Agenda

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 meeting of February 9, 2009; Executive Session minutes of February 9, 2009
B.	Approved Financial Report
C.	Resignations/Retirements: David Boor, asst football coach at RHS; Clair Costello, head football coach at RJH.
D.	Termination: Jeff Whitbeck, assistant custodian at ACH
E.	Employment/Promotion: n/a
E.	Extra Duty Contracts: Kyle Carpenter, assistant baseball coach at RHS; Rebecca Renfro, tennis coach at RHS
F.	Approved Licensed Staff Renewals and Extensions for the 2009-10 school year
Ayes	Kuhn, Vander Does, Daltoso, Lindsay, McNamee
Noes	n/a
Motion passed	

3.A Reports & Presentations

AC Houghton Community Report: Erin Stocker, administrative intern, commented on the ACH Community Report and the planning of a dual event for Irrigon for the opening ceremonies and dedication of the Irrigon Youth Sports Complex. She stated that this project would not have been realized without the generous donation of the property that it is on and the collaboration of the district and the park board.

Bal-A Vis-X Presentation: Jill Wright and Deb Sherman, ACH teachers made a presentation on Bal-A-Vis-X along with students and volunteer board members. They expressed gratitude for the workshop that they all attended in October and wanted to give credit to the board for thinking this project was a worthwhile endeavor.

Classified Employees Week: Superintendent Burrows reported that the first week of March was Classified Employees Week and that cakes were delivered to each school to show appreciation to this very important part of the educational team. Events were planned to honor classified staff in each of the schools.

School Finance: : Reported that the forecast that came out on February 28th was not good and that the state as a whole is down \$855 million. That amount has to be removed from the budget by 6-30-09. K-12 education owns \$330 million of that reduction. The state took \$115 million from the federal stimulus program and the other \$116 million cuts go to the individual districts. That means \$350-\$400K less for our district for this year. This includes the \$200K that was reported earlier. The district has some savings measures in place and hopefully won't hit the ending fund balance; however, the district will need to make immediate corrections in the 2009-2011 biennium. The superintendent is recommending beginning the budget with \$800K less than the current budget.

Local Option Serial Levy: : Reported that the superintendent is giving talks to Chambers, Booster Clubs and various other civic organizations on the 3 year levy that is being put up to a vote of the people on May 19th. This levy should generate approximately \$560,000 per year for 3 years. Mr. Burrows further reported what things the district has accomplished in the last couple of years without additional assistance from the taxpayers, and is hopeful that with the successful passage of this levy that the district will be able to keep educational programs intact. A countywide committee has been formed to help in getting the word out about this important election.

Staffing Formula: Assistant superintendent, Phyllis Danielson handed out a staffing formula which takes into consideration the specific weighting of students in each school. Starting with the school population and then adding in double weighting for SpEd students; ELL students at 1.5 weighting; and small school allowance, free and reduced counts at the elementary schools and the migrant population, and has come up with a weighted population. At this point, the administrative team has all agreed that the formula is fair and balanced. The allocation of staff then can be awarded fairly to all schools and is adjustable as finances change in the district. With the rollup of students the numbers will change slightly.

Principal Reports: Principals reported on their AP classes as well as the parental support of the 236 Plan. The principals are still in the process of educating the students and parents. Each school weighed in on their efforts to communicate with the patrons.

Unfinished Business – None at this time

New Business

2009-10 School Calendar Options: Presented the 2009-10 School Calendar Options to the board for a first reading. The four options presented will next go out to staff for their vote. The tally of this vote will be presented to the board at the April meeting, and the board will adopt the calendar for next school year. The options featured a pre and post-Labor Day start, as well as a 1½ and 2 week winter break.

After reading the announcements, Vice Chairman Lindsay recessed the meeting at 8:45 pm. At 8:52 pm the meeting reconvened and the board went directly into Executive Session under ORS 192.660(2)(f)(h) – negotiations & legal.

At 9:20 pm Executive Session closed and the regular meeting reconvened and took the following action:

Offer Early Retirement Incentive

Motion: Daniel Daltoso made a motion to offer a \$10,000 early retirement incentive to five (5) teachers. Nancy Vander Does seconded the motion. Following discussion, Daniel Daltoso amended the motion from five (5) teachers to no more than seven (7) teachers. Nancy Vander Does seconded the amended motion.

Vote – Original Motion
Ayes: Vander Does, Lindsay, Daltoso, McNamee
Noes: Kuhn

Vote – Amended Motion
Ayes Vander Does, Lindsay, Daltoso, McNamee
Noes Kuhn
Motion passed

At 9:25 pm, Vice Chairman Lindsay adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Julie Ashbeck, Executive Secretary

Barney Lindsay, Vice-Chairman of the Board

Date Approved: _____