

**School Board of Trustees
Monthly Session Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2008**

The regular monthly board meeting which was held at the Minico High School Library, 292 West 100 South, Rupert, Idaho was called to order by Chairman Brian Duncan.

Board Members Present

The following trustees were present: Brian Duncan, Chairman; Greer Copeland, Vice Chairman; George MacDonald, Trustee; Doyle Price, Trustee, and Tammy Stevenson, Trustee. The Clerk of the Board reported a quorum was present.

First Executive Session

A motion was made by Trustee George MacDonald and seconded by Vice Chairman Greer Copeland to go into Executive Session. Executive session began at 5:37 p.m. for the purposes of consideration of school personnel Idaho Code 67-2345 (a), (b), labor negotiations or interest in real property (c), and legal questions (f). The poll of the trustees follows: Duncan – Yes; Copeland – Yes; Price – Yes; MacDonald – Yes; Stevenson – Yes.

Trustee MacDonald moved to close the Executive Session and return into Open Session. Trustee Doyle Price seconded the motion which was unanimously approved. Brian Duncan, Chairman of the Board, declared the Executive Session closed at 7:03 p.m.

Open Session

Chairman Duncan called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Poll of the Board

The poll of the trustees follows: Duncan – Yes; Copeland – Yes; Price – Yes; MacDonald – Yes; Stevenson – Yes.

Others Attending

The following were also present: Dr. Scott Rogers, Superintendent; John Fennell, Assistant Superintendent; Michael Tribe, School Counsel; and Betty Miller, Board Clerk. Others attending were: Building Principals: Suzette Miller, Colleen Johnson, Assistant Principal, Mike Hale; Federal Programs Director, Michele Widmier; Maintenance Supervisor, Theo Schut; Business Manager, Michelle DeLuna, and MCEA Co-Presidents, Teresa Lowder and Helen Wyant. Rich Greene was present from South Idaho Press.

Pledge of Allegiance and Welcome to Meeting

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Brian Duncan. Following the pledge, Chairman Duncan welcomed staff and patrons.

Agenda Approved

George MacDonald, Trustee, moved to approve the agenda as presented. Vice Chairman Copeland seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Good News Report

Shanan Aston, Discovery Teacher, presented students who have been participating in the “Opera for Children” program, sponsored by Utah State. These students have researched a topic of their choice, learned opera terms, learned elements of poetry, and have actually written & performed an opera to the theme of Cinderella. Students performing for the Board were: King – Chase Chandler; Chamberlain – Colton Wilson; Prince – Todd Wilson; and Narrator – Jacob Dayley.

Michele Widmier, Federal Programs Director, reported that the district has been awarded \$75,000 for an EETT (Enhancing Education Through Technology) grant. The grant will benefit students at East, West, and Mt. Harrison and will allow for the purchase of fifteen new computers, a new computer program, and high quality staff development. A letter of congratulations from the State Department of Education for award of the grant is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference to exhibit #1.

Student Representative Report

Student Council Representative, Melanie Fennell, reported that the Sweetheart Dance is scheduled for February 16 and plans are being made for the Spring Fling. Miss Fennell explained that the school is working on improving their cheers to make them more positive without putting down the opposing team. Chairman Duncan applauded these efforts for good sportsmanship. Miss Fennell announced that the All-State Choir will perform in Pocatello on January 24-26; the Booster Club will sponsor a potato bar on January 30th for the Minico versus Burley game; and presented several upcoming dates for sports events.

Annual Accountability Report & Student Achievement/Learning

The Annual Building Accountability Report for Paul Elementary School was given by Principal, Colleen Johnson. Mrs. Johnson discussed the following programs which are “New and Unique at Paul Elementary”: 1) Paul Orfans, a program which involves eighteen fifth graders who are learning to play Orf musical instruments; 2) Breakfast in the Classroom – a new program which serves 430 meals each day; 3) Parent Class; 4) Friday Science, a program where seven volunteers teach a hands-on science class each week; 5) Can It Math Class, a club for 3rd-5th grades, where teachers work with students in math facts and problem solving; 6) A the brand new program entitled “Food for Thought” which partners with a local church to provide backpacks filled with food to assist needy families in the area; and 7) Grant It – dedicated staff members write at least 4-5 grants per year which have brought in approximately \$56,000 in revenue this year. Mrs. Johnson commended her staff for their creativity and visionary qualities, their willingness to try new things, and for their efforts in overseeing all of the above programs. Mrs. Johnson then reviewed goals, concerns, needs, and challenges. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference to exhibit #2.

Patron Comments

There were no patron comments.

Consent Agenda

The board moved to adopt the Consent Agenda with a unanimous consent.

Minutes of Previous Board Minutes Approved

Minutes of previous board minutes were unanimously approved for:

December 17, 2007, Regular Board Meeting

January 10, 2008, Special Board Meeting

The minutes noted above are herein incorporated into the board minutes by reference to the date of the board meeting.

Bills and Payroll Were Approved

The School Board approved bills and payroll for payment:

Accounts Payable: \$ 585,770.90

Payroll: \$

The monthly reports and bills are herein incorporated into these minutes by reference to Exhibits: "Board Revenue Report", and "Accounts Payable Runs.

Correspondence and Information

Michele Widmier, Federal Programs Director, presented a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Are We There Yet?" which reviewed fall data test scores. Mrs. Widmier explained that although fall scores suggest that schools are near or above spring proficiency scores, the reliability of these scores cannot be confirmed until they can be compared with spring data. However, a comparison at the historical grade level performance shows that fall scores are fairly consistent with prior year performance. Reading scores indicate that we are in a much more positive position, with language scores being the most worrisome. It is important that we meet or exceed last year's scores. Mrs. Widmier then discussed how close we are to achieving these goals. A copy of the fall data test scores are hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference to exhibit #3.

Michelle DeLuna, Business Manager, presented a Mid-year Budget Expenditures Report to the Board which gives a summary report of the beginning budget and an explanation of where the budget stands now. Chairman Duncan complimented Mrs. DeLuna and asked if the report could be run on a monthly basis. Dr. Rogers reported that the Mrs. DeLuna has applied for the National Meritorious Award. A copy of the Mid-year Budget Expenditures Report is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference to exhibit #4.

Dr. Scott Rogers reviewed district policies for snow closures. He reported that the Sheriff and Highway Departments now determine whether roads are safe to run the buses. On Friday, January 11th, a call came in at 6:50 a.m. from the highway department stating that they could not keep the roads open. An Emergency Calling List went into effect and within ten minutes all personnel were notified of the closure. Dr. Rogers stated that it had been more difficult to notify staff and the Board on the evening prior to the January 9th closure. He recommended that patrons and staff tune in to the radio and TV channels, and that closures will also be posted on the school website. Dr. Rogers emphasized that snow closures are for students and that all staff members should come in if possible. School events will be held if reasoned safe by the building

principal and Superintendent or events will be rescheduled if possible. If parents deem conditions to be unsafe, there are to be no adverse student repercussions. Dr. Rogers asked the Board if they had suggestions for revision of these policies or for changes regarding prioritizing of the emergency call list. Theo Schut, Maintenance Supervisor, stated that his staff has a hard time clearing the snow for the next school day when the parking lot is full for practices or games. Trustee Copeland suggested that the school principal should designate a parking area. Copies of Policy #504.72 "School Events on Snow Closure" and Policy #410.52 "Emergency Closure Days" are hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference to exhibit #5.

Business:

ISTARS Resolution Approved

A DVD presentation was viewed which gave information regarding Superintendent Tom Luna's ISTARS plan. ISTARS creates a way for the state to recognize and reward Idaho's excellent teachers. It will give local school districts the funding and flexibility to attract and retain quality and innovative teachers. Under ISTARS, teachers and other certificated staff in a school will have the opportunity to earn increases in pay for demonstrating student growth and/or performance, fill hard-to-fill positions, chose to work under multi-year contracts and gain expertise in multiple areas, and take on additional leadership responsibilities. Discussion also took place comparing ISTARS – Senate Bill 1310 to IEA – Senate Bill 1290. A copy of this handout is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference to exhibit #6. A copy of the ISTARS DVD is available for viewing at the District Office.

A motion to approve the ISBA Resolution for ISTARS (Idaho State Teacher Advancement and Recognition System) was made by Trustee Tammy Stevenson, duly seconded by Vice Chairman Greer Copeland, put to a vote and carried, the vote being as follows: Duncan – Yes; Copeland – Yes; Stevenson – Yes; MacDonald – No; Price – No. A copy of the resolution is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference to exhibit #7.

Emergency Closure Approved for January 11, 2008

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Copeland to approve the emergency closure of January 11, 2008 due to inclement weather. The motion was seconded by Trustee Price and unanimously approved. A copy of the Certificate of Closure is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference to exhibit #8.

Selection of Exterior Colors for New Schools Approved

Integral block has been chosen for the Paul Multi-purpose building. The New Acequia and Heyburn Elementary Schools will also use the same material. The construction committee has recommended a neutral color for the roofs and color on color rather than contrasting colors for the buildings. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Copeland, seconded by Trustee Stevenson and unanimously approved for the color choices of: "Cinder Buff" for Heyburn; "Mudd" for the Paul project; and "Nutmeg" for Acequia.

Attendance for Kindergarten, 6th & 9th Grade Students for First Day of School Approved

Trustee MacDonald moved to adopt an orientation day for kindergarten, sixth and ninth grade students for the 2008-2009 school year on a one year pilot basis. Mike Hale, representing the

middle schools, explained that the 6th Grade Orientation would benefit students in numerous ways and would help make the transition from elementary to middle school much easier. Students would attend for a minimum full day. Students will be given help with their lockers, learn about assemblies, emergency drills, learn lunchroom procedures, would be taught rules and expectations, and would feel more prepared for the second day of school. Vice Chairman Copeland suggested that student council members could be involved. Colleen Johnson explained the kindergarten orientation process. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman and unanimously approved. Elementary administrators are to discuss with parents and staff members the merits of having an orientation for first graders as well. A copy of the proposed sixth grade orientation schedule is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference to exhibit #9.

Amended/Revised/Deleted Policies:

Revision of Policy #605.29 “District Testing” Held as First Reading

The revision of Policy #605.29 “District Testing” was held as a first reading. A copy of the policy revision is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference to exhibit #10.

Disposition of Fixed Assets Approved

A motion to approve the Disposition of Fixed Assets was made by Vice Chairman Copeland, seconded by Trustee MacDonald, and unanimously approved. A copy of the form is hereby incorporated into minutes by reference to exhibit #11.

Travel Approved

A motion was made from Trustee MacDonald to approve an out of state travel request for Joanne Rogers to attend the High School Rodeo in Denver, Colorado on January 21-27, 2008. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Copeland and unanimously approved. A copy of the travel request is hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference to exhibit #12.

Personnel

Trustee MacDonald moved to approve all personnel recommendations and requests as hereby incorporated into these minutes by reference to exhibit “January 21, 2008” including the addendum. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Copeland and unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Trustee MacDonald, seconded by Vice Chairman Copeland and was approved with one abstaining vote from Trustee Stevenson to accept the recommendation of the DDRC (District Discipline Review Committee) to uphold the expulsion of student #012108. The Board directed Dr. Rogers to write a letter of notification regarding the Board’s decision.

Meeting Adjourned

A motion to adjourn the regular board meeting was made by Trustee George MacDonald at 10:09 p.m. Vice Chairman Copeland seconded the motion which was approved unanimously. Brian Duncan, Chairman, declared the meeting adjourned.

Brian Duncan, Chairman of School Board

Attest: January 21, 2008, bkm

Betty Miller, Board Clerk