

Unofficial Minutes
Morrow County School District
Work Session
September 22nd, 2005

These are minutes of the Morrow County School District Board of Directors work session meeting of September 22nd, 2005, held at the District Office in Lexington, OR.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ken Matlack, Barney Lindsay, Bill Kuhn, Craig Miles, Nancy Vander Does

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Berto Hernandez & Pat McNamee

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Burrows, Wade Smith, and Julie Ashbeck.

OTHERS PRESENT: David Allen – Morrow County District Attorney
Tammy Campbell – ESD
Carolyn Holt – Morrow County Juvenile Dept
Tony Barnhart – MidCo Transportation

Call to Order

Chairman Miles called the work session to order at 7:08 pm at the district office board room in Lexington, OR. The main theme of this work session was to deal with safety issues.

Tony Barnhart, representing MidCo Transportation was present and reported on the screening process involved in the hiring of bus drivers. He discussed at length the various procedures including: Oregon driving record check; preliminary ODE criminal history check; interviews and reference checks; OSP and FBI criminal history records check and fingerprinting at District Office; pre-employment drug screen; behind-the-wheel training; 3rd party testing. Questions rose about different states and their criminal checks process, noting that something could be missed in out-of-state applicants. Ken asked about a 10 year employment history along with residency for those 10 years, noting that he would like to see more in the way of background checks on drivers. Barney asked about what happens when a driver has been charged with something, but it has not yet gone to court. Tony replied that it depends on what the charge is, noting that certainly anything that were detrimental to children the driver would be suspended pending court action.

Tammy Campbell was present from the ESD to speak about risky behavior and at-risk kids. She talked about various programs including the CARE Team. These are community partners who meet weekly to work with families in offering services, support and direction in identifying children's needs, including counseling services, housing, medical care, in-home service, financial assistance and transportation. She noted that about 600 students were referred last year in Umatilla County, mostly meth related.

It was asked whether or not the district was participating in the MDT meetings. Carolyn Holt reported that only G. Ann Thomas, RHS counselor has been attending, and that was sporadically. Dave Allen noted that in the past Mike Keown had attended meetings, but there is now very little school presence. He stated that without the administrators and counselors, there is a definite void on the team. Mr. Burrows stated that the district is extremely anxious to be able to participate in this and is willing to resume MCS D presence on the team. Dave Allen stated that he would begin putting into place protocols necessary to facilitate district participation.

The question arose about students and violent behavior happening over the weekend and whether or not the schools could be notified of this activity by law enforcement by Sunday night to take necessary steps to ensure safety at school. The DA stated that Judge Tallman could have a standard detention order directing law enforcement to make all reports available to the schools. Carolyn Holt spoke about placing students in the detention center and conditional releases. It would take action from Judge Tallman signing a standing order to have the Juvenile Director conditionally release and notify the schools of particulars of the release so they can be alerted and the student can be closely monitored when he returns to school.

Minutes (Continued)

Superintendent Burrows will contact OSBA for sample policies on Off-Campus Violence, Investigation and Re-Entry.

At 9:50 pm, Chairman Miles thanked all participants and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Ashbeck, Board Secretary

Craig Miles, Chairman of the Board

Date Approved: _____