

Unofficial Minutes
Work Session & Board of Directors Meeting
April 13, 2009

These are minutes of the Morrow County School District Board of Directors work session and regular meeting of April 13, 2009 held in the library at Windy River Elementary School in Boardman, OR

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Craig Miles, Bill Kuhn, Pat McNamee, Barney Lindsay, and Daniel Daltoso

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Nancy Vander Does 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 – Michael Lasher. Patrons – n/a; Press

Call to Order

Chairman Craig Miles called the work session to order at 6:05 pm in a conference room at Windy River Elementary. The purpose of the work session was to discuss staffing levels and school funding scenarios. The work session concluded at 6:55 pm. The regular board meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm in the library at Windy River Elementary School in Boardman, OR; a quorum was established; and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Comments/Public

MCEA – Marilyn Post – no comment from MCEA at this time; OSEA – no representation; ESD – Michael Lasher, commented on the consolidation of the 22 ESDs down to 13 statewide, and also on the progress of the Virtual Academy for the Umatilla-Morrow consortium of school districts.

2.C. Consent Agenda

Motion: On a motion by Daniel Daltoso and a second by Barney Lindsay the Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

- A. Approved minutes of regular meeting of March 9, 2009; Executive Session minutes of March 9, 2009
- B. Approved Financial Report
- C. Resignations/Retirements: Jean Strange, PE & Art teacher at HHS; Kathy Simonis, LA teacher at RHS; Cody Booth, Spanish/LA at IJSH; Helen Walty, assistant custodian at RHs
- D. Employment/Promotion: n/a
- E. Extra Duty Contracts: David Boor, head football at RJH; Kyle Carpenter, assistant football coach at RHS
- F. Approved the Following Attendance Variances: Cheyenne & Shannon Colvin to Umatilla SD; Tyson Stocker from Hermiston SD to AC Houghton; Kelli Jones to Hermiston HS;
- G. Approved Leave of Absence for Mary Koertje for the remainder of the school year.
- H. Approved Resolution 2008-09-06 to Accept & Appropriate Unanticipated Revenues
- I. Approve Resolution 2008-09-07 to Transfer Budget Appropriations
- J. Accept & Acknowledge \$500 Donations to ACH, IES and IJSH from the Washington Defense Group

Ayes Kuhn, Miles, Daltoso, Lindsay, McNamee

Noes n/a

Motion passed

3.A Reports & Presentations

Windy River Elementary Report: WRE teachers, Cathie Prindle and Michelle Gaede reported on the 4th grade parent parties that are held monthly at Windy River. Each month there is a different theme. These events are designed to have students show their parents what they are doing in school as well as to get parents engaged in the school environment. The teachers are working on a survey to go out to parents to gather input on days and times, or other items of interest that they would like to see at the parties.

Virtual Academy: Superintendent Burrows voiced his support of all that Dr. Mulvihill and the ESD are doing in getting the virtual academy going in the UM-ESD consortium.

HES Construction: Reported that the district is very thankful for all the work that the City of Heppner, MidCo Bus and the County Road Department did in making sure that all of our buses were able to pass safely and quickly through the construction near Heppner Elementary School. The county and city worked together to build a bridge over Hinton Creek to get safely outside of the construction area. The Ledbetter, Wright and Coiner families all allowed trespassing across their property in order to take care of the bus situation.

School Funding: School finances were discussed with Superintendent Burrows stressing that these are not ordinary times and noted that the projections are at the 2001 funding levels. He further stated that he had recently received a letter from the Governor notifying districts to prepare for the worst with funding levels likely at \$5.4 billion. This translates to \$1.5 million in decreased revenue for MCSD. Since over 80% of the district’s budget is in staff, it is likely that this is where the majority of the cuts will need to be made. Mr. Burrows noted that if the district is not successful in the May 19th serial levy, in addition to the staff layoffs, less maintenance, no math textbook adoption, reduced athletics and 2 days furlough....we will also add a reduction of 5 student days and ask all employees to freeze their wages for the 2009-10 school year.

Principal Reports: Mr. Dirksen was asked about his grant for AP courses and how he has applied that to the program. Board members will receive a detailed report in either May or June as to the success of the programs in each high school.

Math Textbook Adoption: Administrative intern, Erin Stocker reported on the process for the recommendation and adoption of the math textbooks. She started with the development of the committee, the book caravan in the fall and the numerous books from vendors that were previewed. This year due to budget constraints, the district will request a waiver to not adopt the math textbooks.

Unfinished Business

Adoption of 2009-10 School Calendar

Motion:	Daniel Daltoso made a motion to adopt Option A with the Pre-Labor Day start for the 2009-10 School Calendar. The motion was seconded by Pat McNamee.
Ayes	Kuhn, Lindsay, Daltoso, McNamee, Miles
Noes	n/a
Motion passed	

New Business – None at this time.

After reading the announcements, Chairman Miles recessed the meeting at 7:55 pm. At 8:05 pm the meeting reconvened and the board went directly into Executive Session under ORS 192.660(2)(a)(d)(h) – employment, negotiations & legal.

At 8:10 pm Executive Session closed and the regular meeting reconvened and took the following action:

Elimination of Art Programs at Irrigon and Heppner High Schools

Motion:	Barney Lindsay moved, seconded by Pat McNamee to eliminate the art programs at Irrigon High School and Heppner High School at the end of the 2008-09 school year.
Ayes:	Kuhn, Lindsay, Daltoso, McNamee, Miles
Noes:	n/a
Motion passed	

There being no further business to come before the board, Chairman Miles adjourned the meeting at 8:11 p.m..

Respectfully submitted:

Julie Ashbeck, Executive Secretary

Craig Miles, Chairman of the Board

Date Approved: _____

