

Unofficial Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting

January 15, 2015

These are minutes of the Morrow County School District Board of Directors regular meeting of Monday, January 15, 2015 held in the Library at Sam Boardman Elementary School in Boardman, OR at 7:00 pm.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Thad Killingbeck, Brian Kollman, Barney Lindsay, Mark Pratt,
Rhonda Hamby, Becky Kindle

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Bill Kuhn

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dirk Dirksen, George Mendoza, Cheryl Costello, Erin Stocker, Beth
O'Hanlon, Marie Shimer, Craig Bensen, Joel Chavez, Matt Matz,
Mark Jones

OTHERS PRESENT:

as per roster

Call to Order:

Chairman Thad Killingbeck called the regular meeting to order in the Library at Sam Boardman Elementary School at 7:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a quorum was established. There was one correction to the agenda; 6. A. 1. There will be no recess for board recognition, will adjourn the meeting prior to serving refreshments.

Delegations: MCEA – Brenda Kittleson. Brenda thanked the board for their time and hard work. She read a few works from the book “Thank You Mr. Falker” by Patricia Pulacco. The book is a true story and was related to the love of reading and teaching children to think outside the box. Mrs. Kittleson presented the board with book marks, reminding them “you are part of the village it takes to raise a child”.; OSEA – Kathie Goad. Kathie shared with the board that students have made positive comments during lunch detention regarding the lunch program and how good lunch has been. She thanked Kim Mabry for great food service and thanked the board for all they do.

Mr. Killingbeck thanked Kim Mabry for the nice dinner that was served during the board work session this evening.

Presentations:

Sam Boardman Elementary 2nd Grade Team – Debra Kennedy, Rachelle Dow and Laura Thompson.

The second grade team made a presentation on Engage New York. They discussed how the program operates, what it makes students do mentally, the benefits and the struggles. They provided the board with a worksheet that they are currently using with their students (1 minute sprint) and asked the board to complete the 1 minute sprint. They work on fluency with students; this helps students learn to explain their answers as this will be expected with the Smarter Balance test. The application problem takes what they are learning and puts it in a real life situation. The problem starts out easy, gradually gets complicated and ends with an exit ticket to see what they have learned. The benefits of Engage NY are that it goes right at what Smarter Balance is looking for. It allows students freedom to create their solutions and strategies to get the correct answer. The Smarter Balance test has 2-3 correct answers and students need to know/explain how they got to their answer. The program does take teacher preparation time and is a new way of thinking.

Mr. Lindsay asked the team if there are students that struggle with this. Yes, we discuss different strategies with them and this helps. It depends on the skill set of students if they struggle. The team has made math tool kits that they utilize with struggling students. Students use the method that works best for them to explain their answer. Are you the only group using Engage NY? 3/4 of Sam Boardman staff is using Engage NY. Engage NY is common core aligned.

2. **Consent Agenda**

Motion: On a motion by Becky Kindle, and a second by Mark Pratt, the Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

- A. Approved minutes of the regular meeting of December 8, 2014;
- B. Approved Financial Report, Enrollment Report and Employment Action for January 2015
- C. 1st Reading of Rescinded, New or Revised Policies: DJC
- D. Adoption of Rescinded, New or Revised Policies: None
- E. Adoption of New, Revised or Rescinded AR's: None

Ayes: Killingbeck, Kindle, Pratt, Kollman, Lindsay, Hamby

Noes: n/a

Motion Passed

3. **Reports & Presentations**

IMESD: Hermiston is pulling out of the local IMESD. Due to this, the local service plan has been delayed. IMESD will talk to superintends and will go back to boards in March for a vote. All efforts are being made for this to have no impact on students.

Budget: The legislature is looking at a 7.2 million dollar budget. Hopefully we will know the final budget by July 1st.

Education Foundation: The Education Foundation is looking at donating funds to the district soon. Funds will go to technology upgrades, educational field trips, and we will pay 100% of Eastern Promise classes through this donation. This is an exciting opportunity for our students. We will have students on the edge of receiving their AA degree; this is an exciting time for our district.

DLR Group: DLR Group has been busy preparing their 10 year facility plan. They will present their report at the March board meeting. Mr. Dirksen is excited to hear what they have to report.

Activities: There are many activities happening in schools around the district. Please visit school websites; some have been updated and have a new look.

Administration Report: Mr. Dirksen asked if there were any questions regarding the 236 Plan. Mr. Killingbeck thanked administrators for their reports that are always well done.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

2015/16 Calendar Options: Four calendar options were presented to the board. All options have school starting before Labor Day. Mr. Dirksen reviewed and explained all four options. Friday's after a Monday holiday are our worst attendance day. There are other schools in our region that do not attend school on Friday when there is a holiday on Monday. We will solicit feedback from staff, site councils and parents, with feedback from these groups presented at the next board meeting. The question was asked about school on Friday if there is a snow day during the week. There is no plan for school on Friday if there is a snow day during the week. Snow days do not have an impact on the calendar options.

OSBA/COSA Legislative Day – Willamette University: This is an opportunity for school board members to attend, Mr. Dirksen will be attending. A decision will be made at the February board meeting as to attendance.

Oster Professional Group, Mitch Saul: Mitch explained that the purpose of the audit is to issue an opinion as to whether or not the financial statements of the district are presented fairly in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The district does not have the option of reporting its financial activity any way it chooses. It must follow specific reporting principles. The audit opinion is an independent stamp of approval, a verification or confirmation that these principles have been followed. The audit also provides accountability to district taxpayers and satisfies the requirements set forth in state statutes. He explained that Andy sent electronic files of what the district did last year. Oster then reviewed all items; testing ADM, check writing, etc. Over all, the results of the audit were 99% positive. Andy made a lot of procedural changes with good results. MCSD has a good business office staff. Mitch also expressed his support of Beth O'Hanlon and IMESD as a replacement for Andy.

An overview of the auditor's report:

- Independent Auditor's Report – The audit indicated that the Financial Statements are presented fairly in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United State of America, with the exception of presentation of liabilities for the Other Post-Employment Benefits. The District needs to hire an accountant to review this and make a report.
- Oregon Comments and Disclosures – As municipal auditors Oster is also working for the state and are required to make certain comments to them related to specific issues. Oster is not communicating any deficiencies to the state.
- Single Audit Summary of Auditors' Results – The summary indicates that we are reporting no deficiencies in internal control over compliance with direct and material compliance requirements of major programs.
- Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs (Federal Awards) – This summary indicates that we are reporting no internal control deficiencies and no findings or questioned costs for federal awards.
- Report on Compliance and on Internal Control over Financial Reporting – This report indicates that Oster found no instances of noncompliance with laws, regulations, contract, and grants. Additionally, noted there were no deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting.
- Report on Compliance and Internal Control for major Federal Programs – This report indicates we found no instances of noncompliance and no deficiencies in internal control related to compliance requirements of major federal programs.
- SAS 114 Communication – This is information we are required to communicate to you. All of our comments are positive affirmation with nothing to report.

Mitch thanked the board for the opportunity to share the audit results and asked that he be contacted should there be questions regarding the report. He expressed appreciation to everyone involved in the audit process, especially to Andy, Autumn and Linda in the business office. Mitch shared with the board that MCSD is one of his favorite places to work. He also handed out a 5 year financial analysis of revenue and expenditure trends.

Mr. Killingbeck thanked Mitch for the detailed information.

Chairman Killingbeck read the announcements:

Martin Luther King Holiday	Monday, January 19, 2015
End of Semester 1	Thursday, January 22, 2015
Next Board Meeting – Morrow Ed Center	Monday, February 9, 2015

Mr. Dirksen thanked the board for their work and efforts in support of students and staff. On a personal level, he appreciates the working relationship he has with the board. Mr. Dirksen read the Proclamation from the Governor in honor of School Board Recognition Month.

Chairman Thad Killingbeck thanked everyone for their kind words, expressing how much he enjoyed the meeting. Chair Killingbeck recessed the regular meeting at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Cheryl Costello, Board Secretary

Thad Killingbeck, Chairman

Date Approved: _____