

MINUTES
March 11, 2008

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, School District #14, Toole County, Montana, was held in the Board Room of the Administrative Offices at 1010 Oilfield Avenue. The meeting was called to order at 6:58 p.m. by Chairman Kevin Mitchell.

Members present were: Kevin Mitchell, Barb Mercer, Greg Matteson, Elda Nichols, Joe Larsen, Joe Sisk, and Mark Grotbo. The superintendent and clerk were present throughout the entire proceedings. Visitors present were Joe Rapkoch, Shawn Clark, Carla McNamara, Peggy Taylor, Gayle Fenger, Jennifer Klette, Sara Kincaid, Cris Steinbacher, Kristin Wiederrick, Molly Springer, Janessa Hurtig, Janelle Lutke, Pru Hulman, Janet Flesch, Kim Hayes, Kelly Hayes, Vicky Warila, Chase McCubbins, Tom Flesch, Jessica Krahn, Amanda Miller, Patrick Christiaens, Emily Christiaens, Jim Becker, Val Becker, Sue Hough, John Hough, Thane Tokerud, JoEve Aikins, Brad Wanken, Eric Tokerud, Donna Sparks, Ron Gruber, Marla Hasquet, Sharol O'Brien, George Waldner, Pete Hofer, Brandy Kiefer, Karen Dobson, and Charlotte Hanson.

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2008, regular meeting as submitted.

Motion: Greg Matteson

Second: Joe Larsen – passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Comment on any public matter

None

Community Positive Comment on District Operations

Mark Grotbo said he appreciated all the hard work the 6th Grade Science teachers put into preparing for the Science Fair on March 12th. He also said he was disappointed that the High School Science students were not participating.

Joe Larsen thanked the Junior High History teachers for the excellent job they did putting on the History fair and also thanked them and their students for their hard work on preparing for the Science Fair.

Barb Mercer commented that the band and choir concert was fantastic.

Elda Nichols commented that she was very impressed with our students behavior at the State Boys Basketball Tournament. Peggy Taylor also commented that our students were very well mannered and we should be proud of them.

Joe Rapkoch recognized the Spelling Bee participants and congratulated them. We had 8 of our students in the top 10.

Kevin Mitchell commented that he thought the student body was well mannered throughout all the sport seasons and that they were an exceptional group.

REPORTS

Elementary

Mr. Rapkoch reported that it is CRT testing week and thanked his staff for rallying around the event. The 6th graders will be going on a field trip to Crossroads Correctional Center. There will be a drug assembly on April 10th.

Middle/High School

Mr. Clark recognized the Spelling Bee participants and congratulated them. This years winner was Emily Christiaens from Shelby. Mr. Clark also congratulated Shelby High School student Eli Martin for tying for 1st place at the online Principal’s Cup Academic Challenge. He added that all questions asked at the Principal’s Cup are based on Golden Triangle Cooperative objectives that are aligned to the Montana State Standards. Mr. Clark said that this is the 2nd year that the Junior High school students have put on a history fair. He introduced Tom Flesch and Chase McCubbins and they presented their history project to the board. Mr. Clark thanked them for their presentation. Barb Mercer expressed her concern that background checks need to be done on Senior Projects as agreed upon. Mr. Clark said Mrs. Tokerud will hold her Hands Across the Border assembly on March 26th at 8:30 a.m. in the auditorium. There will be a leadership conference May 6-8 with Bruce Brown as keynote speaker.

Superintendent

Mr. Genger reported that Wadsworth Builders, Inc. will be removing the old boiler soon and the cost will be \$15,000. Funds from OTO (one time only) money will be used to pay for the removal of the old boiler. Mr. Genger said the reason the gym wasn’t very warm this winter was because the boiler couldn’t operate at full capacity. The horseshoe in the gym has been measured and it will cost \$15,000.00 to take out all of the floor tiles. The floor will be painted, not retiled. Mr. Genger will not be approving any purchase order requests unless that line item has funds. Mr. Genger said that utility costs took a lot out of the budget due to high energy costs and an inefficient High School boiler.

Negotiations Committee

Joe Larsen said the committee is making progress and will be finished by the next board meeting.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Preliminary Budget Information

Mr. Genger reported that Mrs. Flesch attended a budget workshop in Great Falls to calculate and verify that our budget figures from OPI are correct for the 2008-2009 school year. The district will need to run 4 levies at the School Election May 6th to get the general fund as high as we can get it. The budget has been frozen in Shelby’s past history and Mr. Genger said it is better to max out the budget every year. The levies are as follows:

- Mill levy proposition(s) to finance the Elementary School’s General Fund in the amount of \$60,377
- Mill levy proposition(s) to finance the High School’s General Fund in the amount of \$22,558
- Mill levy proposition(s) to finance the Elementary School’s Technology Fund in the amount of \$50,000
- Mill levy proposition(s) to finance the High School’s Technology Fund in the amount of \$48,000

Budget(s)	Elementary Highest Budget with a vote:	\$2,442,174.44
	Highest Voted Amount	\$ 60,377.70
	Decrease of:	\$ 955.80

	High School Highest Budget with a vote:	\$1,523,229.76
	Highest Voted Amount	\$ 22,558.09
	Increase of:	\$ 38,313.70 (2.5%)

High School Technology Fund \$48,000.00 (3%) gain to GF Budget

Elementary Technology Fund \$50,000.00 (2%) gain to GF Budget

Total gain to budgets combined=3.4% increase

John Hough, Technology Coordinator, reported that the district will need \$150,000.00 to keep the computers, software, and hardware updated. Those funds will also pay for maintenance and contracts for copiers. The district has 280 computers and 30 of those need to be replaced. The majority of the computers are not equipped to be updated with the latest version of Windows (Vista). Barb Mercer stressed the importance of informing the public of the need for the district's levies.

High School Graduation Requirements

Carla McNamara asked Mr. Clark for clarification on graduation requirements. Elda Nichols said they changed the number of credits from 21 to 22 a few years ago. Kevin Mitchell added that before the change in credits Shelby had the lowest graduation requirements in the State. He also said that the board thought it was important that the students have one more year of Math and Science. Carla asked what kind of process the board used to base their decisions on and Mr. Mitchell replied that they used OPI standards. Carla McNamara also inquired about the Senior Project and how it was being implemented. Mr. Clark said the project will be infused into the classroom and incorporated into the curriculum.

PERSONNEL ACTION ITEMS

None

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Bills and Student Activity Accounts

A motion was made to approve the claims approval list and the monthly listing of Student Activities accounts as presented and added. The approved warrants were numbered 58929 through 59032. The student activity checks for this month were numbered 8989 through 9062. The claims approval list may be referenced in the claims approval file in the administration office and the Student Activities accounts may be referenced in the Student Activities file in the administration office.

Motion: Elda Nichols Second: Mark Grotbo - passed unanimously.

Clerk's Report

A motion was made to void the following student activity checks:

#8951

Motion: Elda Nichols Second: Joe Larsen - passed unanimously.

There were no student attendance agreements or individual transportation contracts to be approved.

Concern over Reading Materials in the 4th Grade

Jim Becker, Val Becker, and Karen Dobson voiced their concern over a 4th grade book that was upsetting to their children. After discussion the board made a motion to follow policy and procedure and meet with the concerned parties.

A motion was made to follow board policy and procedure on 4th grade reading material by Val Becker.

Motion: Mark Grotbo Second: Elda Nichols - passed unanimously.

Resolution to call for a School Trustee and Levy Election on May 6th.

A motion was made to accept the Resolution to call for a School Trustee and Levy Election on May 6th.

Motion: Mark Grotbo Second: Barb Mercer - passed unanimously.

Discussion and possible action on hosting of tournaments.

Mr. Clark reported that we will host State Speech & Drama, Wrestling B Divisional, and Volleyball B Divisional tournaments next year. Mr. Clark also reported that the District Boy's Basketball Tournament took in approximately \$18,000.00. The majority of that is paid back out. Shelby receives about \$4,000.00. Mr.

Genger and Mr. Clark will be going to Great Falls to bid on the Northern C Boy's Basketball Tournament for the 2008-2009 school year.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD

Regular Meeting, Tuesday, April 8, 2008, at 7:00 p.m.
Board Room, District Administration Office, 1010 Oilfield Avenue, Shelby, Montana

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.
Motion: Mark Grotbo Second: Elda Nichols - passed unanimously.

BUSINESS MANAGER/CLERK

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD