

MINUTES
April 8, 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, Cris Steinbacher, Lorette Carter, Rachel Pahut, Sanna Clark, Gordon Smedsrud, and Mark Cross.

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2008, regular meeting as submitted.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Comment on any public matter

None

Community Positive Comment on District Operations

Joe Sisk commented that he was pleased with the turnout at the Science Fair and congratulated the teachers that put it together. He also commented that he attended the vocal performance by Ronnie Turner that was sponsored by the Marias Medical Center. He said it was nice to see local students come back and see what they have done with their lives and that it was a very nice concert.

Joe Larsen attended the judging of the Science Fair and commented on how well it was organized and that they did a very good job putting it on.

REPORTS

Elementary

Mr. Rapkoch reported that he had to have an intervention with the 6th grade class due to a sexual harassment issue. He has spoken with the boys and the girls and a letter will be sent home to the parents that they will sign and return to the school acknowledging they were notified of the situation. Mr. Rapkoch will follow up if letters are not returned by parents. The Great Falls High School Orchestra will be coming to do a performance on April 11. Mr Rapkoch also reported that the 6th grade class went on a field trip to the prison and that it was an awakening experience for the students. Mr. Rapkoch reported that the math series they'd like to purchase will cost around \$45,000.

Middle/High School

Mr. Clark reported that on April 15th our high school will be putting on a Science Exploratory Day for the elementary students. He also commented that the harassment issues have significantly decreased in the last year going from 110 complaints to only 10. Mr. Clark thinks that Project Wisdom has helped as they have new topics each week that help students to improve their attitude and outlook on life. The Leadership Conference will be May 6-8 with Bruce Brown being the keynote speaker. Mr. Genger's son, Noah Genger, and Jake Wiegand will also be flying a Chinook helicopter in on May 6th. The alternative program will be increased next year from a half day to a full day. Cris Steinbacher will be teaching the class. Mr. Clark said they are trying to develop graduation requirements for the alternative students. Mr. Genger said the alternative students are doing very well at the administration office and have taken on leadership roles and he is glad to see them progressing. The district would like to have the alternative class at the old middle school but they will not be able to do that until the remodeling is finished. Elda Nichols asked about the Summer School Program and hoped that it might be more successful than last year. She stated that it is important that the summer school teachers be skilled in every subject so the students can get the help they need. She also asked if the Distance Learning money is being used towards online classes and Mr. Clark said that they are looking into that to find the online classes that will best benefit the students. Mr. Clark reported that 28 students were transported by bus to Havre to attend a speech by former president Bill Clinton.

Superintendent

Mr. Genger thanked the two candidates that filed for the school board (Greg Matteson, and Michelle Edwards). He also thanked them for wanting to be a part of our education system. Mr. Genger will be on KSEN radio April 16th to discuss the importance of the general fund levy and also the technology levy. Mr. Genger said that a study needs to be done as to where the best location is to build the new track so that it will drain properly.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Resignations

The board received a letter of resignation from Gene Schilling, Jeanean Haugestuen, and Karen Watson.

Boiler Update

Mr. Genger reported that the new boilers are in place and that the old boiler will be removed April 21st.

Negotiations Update

The negotiations committee gave the teachers a proposal on a 3 year contract. The teachers will review and get back to them. Joe Larsen said that negotiations are not settled but moving in the right direction.

Insurance

Gordon Smedsrud of Northern Montana Insurance Services spoke to the board about Property & Casualty Insurance and also Health Insurance. Mark Grotbo asked Mr. Smedsrud to bring his proposals to the May board meeting so the policies could be compared.

Activity Bus

The board discussed the idea of purchasing a new activity bus. They decided further discussion was needed and will bring the topic to the May board meeting.

PERSONNEL ACTION ITEMS

A motion was made to hire Sara Kincaid-Park as assistant HS track coach.

Motion: Joe Sisk Second: Elda Nichols – passed unanimously.

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 59033 through 59136. The student activity checks for this month were numbered 9063 through 9129. 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: Joe Larsen Second: Mark Grotbo - passed unanimously.

Clerk's Report

There were no warrants or checks to void, no student attendance agreements and no individual transportation contracts to be approved by the board this month.

Northern 10C District Boy's Basketball Tournament

The board agreed that it would be beneficial to the district and the community to host the tournament. Joe Larsen brought up the idea of having a security deposit to cover damage that might be done to the gym or school.

A motion was made to host the Northern 10C District Boy's Basketball Tournament.

Motion: Greg Matteson Second: Mark Grotbo - passed unanimously.

Montana Nutrition and Physical Activity Program

Mr. Genger introduced Lorette Carter and she spoke about the City's new program called the Montana Nutrition and Physical Activity Program. Mrs. Carter asked the board if the school would like to partner with the City of Shelby and Marias Medical Center to help gather data for the 2 year study on obesity. She asked that data be gathered in the physical education classes and surveys sent home to parents asking for information on eating habits and daily physical activity. After data is gathered, reports will be sent to the schools and to people in the community with results and recommendations for living a healthier lifestyle. Mrs. Carter will keep the board updated during the 2 year study and all data will be kept confidential.

A motion was made to allow the students to participate in the nutrition study.

Motion: Elda Nichols Second: Barb Mercer - passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

The school district received a letter from OPI on accreditation status. It stated that Camrose School was in good standing and also Shelby High School. The Elementary and Junior High School were deficient because the choir teacher, Kaylee Benjamin, did not have a teaching license on file. The school district informed OPI that Mrs. Benjamin was a temporary choir teacher and that she has been replaced by Matt McCallie and his teaching license has been filed.

NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD

Regular Meeting, Tuesday, May 13, 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 9:15 p.m.
Motion: Joe Larsen Second: Mark Grotbo- passed unanimously.

BUSINESS MANAGER/CLERK

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD