



# West Ada

## SCHOOL DISTRICT

### **SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**February 10, 2015**

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|------------------------|--|
| Date, Place & Time     | The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, West Ada School District, convened on Tuesday, February 10, 2015, at 5:30 p.m., at the District Service Center, 1303 E. Central Drive, Meridian, Idaho |
| Trustees in Attendance | Chairman Mike Vuittonet, Janet Calinsky, Tina Dean, Anne Ritter, Carol Sayles  |
| Staff in Attendance    | Dr. Linda Clark, Barbara Leeds, Trish Duncan, Cindy Sisson, Bernadette Sexton, Staci Low   |
| Guests                 | Sue Darden, Gaye Keith, David Keith, Matthew Keith, Fred Wood, Julie Madsen  |

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Vuittonet

### **Spotlight**

Ali Shearer, a French and English teacher at Eagle High School, shared how she has used laptops in her classroom to energize her teaching. Her English 11 students have shared online presentations through the Schoolwires web site and done interactive class responses through a polling site. Her future goals in her English classes would be to do SAT web-based practice with an emphasis on language arts elements, to do SBAC prep and practice and have student led presentations related to curriculum. In her French classes they have used the internet for vocabulary practice, recording their vocabulary for listening and grammar practice, they have used sites to create stories with audio and visual elements and done web quests for cultural information. In addition to using the laptops, students use their cell phones to complete the assignments. Her future goals for French classes are to implement in the use of laptops and/or cell phones in all levels, use it for current events listening practice and produce and share video with French speaking audience for feedback and exchange.

Trustees asked that Ms. Shearer come back and report how the year ended.

### **Amended Agenda Approved**

Trustee Ritter moved, Trustee Calinsky seconded and the vote was unanimous to amend the agenda with the addition of a request from the Meridian Technical Charter High School to use a randomizer program in their lottery process; and the quarterly financial report.

### **Consent Agenda**

Trustee Ritter moved, Trustee Dean seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve the consent agenda as amended. Approved items are as follow:

Payment of bills dated January 1-31, 2015;

Minutes of the:

- December 16, 2014 regular board meeting;
- January 13, 2015 regular board meeting;

Associated student body reports;

Employment recommendations;

Requests for leave without pay for:

- Sandra Borak, teacher, one (1) day;
- Sarah Doughty, teacher, four (4) days;
- Tracey Garner, nurse, four (4) days;
- Nancy Grayson, teacher, three (3) days;
- Stacey Kile, school nutrition, three (3) days;
- Kelly Loggins, teacher, five (5) days;
- Cameron Saunders, teacher, 2015-2016 school year;

Requests for professional leave for:

- Marjorie Artagame-Frasch, Jason Newell, Cheryl Ryan, Rhonda Sprague, Johanna Wills, two (2) days; Craig Ayala-Marshall, Rachel Hubler, Stephanie Reed, Cerridwen Tesch, three (3) days at attend the Northwest Council for Computer Education Conference in Portland, Oregon;
- Kylee Bendorf, Shannon Murdoch, Evan Sprengel, off contract; Bret Heller, four (4) days to attend the Solution Tree – PLC at Work Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada;
- Dr. Jan Horning, Dr. Jerry Reininger, Cindy Sisson, two (2) days; Dr. Linda Clark, three (3) days to attend the 2015 RTM Educational Congress in Palm Springs, California;
- Tara Kispagh, Monica Kraack, Ashley Mayhugh, Eric Taylor, Kelly White, off contract, to attend the Northwest Athletic Trainers Conference in Spokane, Washington;
- Joni Leipf, three (3) days, to attend the EdTech for Teachers iPad Summit in San Diego, California;
- Scott Marema, four (4) days, to attend the 2015 National Athletic Training Conference in St. Louis, Missouri;
- Donell McNeal, one (1) day, to attend the Idaho CORE Principals Working Group in Twin Falls, Idaho;
- Jeremy Scheffel, off contract, to attend the STEM Faculty Workshop! Genomic Approaches in Biosciences, in San Francisco, California;
- Lynnea Shafter, three (3) days, to attend the National Science Teachers Association Conference in Chicago, Illinois;
- Cathy Thornton, three (3) days, to attend the National Institute on Legal Issues of Educating Individuals with Disabilities, in Denver, Colorado;
- Justin Touchstone, two (2) days, to attend the Technology Student Association Spring Leadership Conference in Twin Falls, Idaho;

**Consent Agenda – cont.**

- Mike Vuittonet, three (3) days, to attend the 2015 National School Board Association Annual Convention in Nashville, Tennessee;
- Ryan Wilhite, two (2) days, to attend the PEAK Conference on Strategies for Providing Inclusive Instruction to Special Needs Children, in Denver, Colorado;

Non-resident student enrollment requests for the 2014-2015 school year;

Non-resident student enrollment requests for the 2015-2016 school year;

Correction to early graduation requests;

Student tour requests :

- Idaho Fine Arts Academy 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students to participate in an educational tour of the east coast of the United States in March of 2016;
- Lake Hazel Middle School, a group of 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders who won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the local Future Cities competition, will travel to Washington D.C. for the national competition.

Recommendation to set the hearing for the 2015-2016 budget on Tuesday, June 23, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.;

Elementary extended reading intervention plans;

The RFP for digital voice access awarded to Level(3) in the annual amount of \$26,541; additional phones added to the district system will increase the total cost. The total estimated cost over four (4) years is \$106,164;

Proposal from Eide Bailly (auditing services) to reduce the 2015 audit agreement and to extend the contract for an additional five (5) years through 2019-2020

Recommendation to approve a property exchange agreement with the City of Star for the DBSI donated property (near Star Elementary) for property donated to the city in the Roseland Subdivision;

Disposal of surplus equipment;

Recommendation for student expulsions.

**Discussion/Action**

Special Education Update

Cathy Thornton, special service director, provided an overview of the updated state special education manual and reviewed trends in the number of students identified as having a specific learning disability, health impairment, multiple disabilities, and autism over a ten-year period.

Trustee Ritter moved, Trustee Calinsky seconded and the vote was unanimous to adopt the state special education manual policies and procedures as part of district policy 602.60.

Revised Policy Code 402.10,  
Receives First Reading

Barbara Leeds, assistant superintendent, reviewed proposed revisions to Policy Code 402.10, *Definition of Classified Personnel* and following discussion, trustees requested a second reading of the policy at the March 10<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

Revisions to Policy Code  
502.11, 504.20, and 603.20  
Approved

Trustee Sayles moved, Trustee Calinsky seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve revisions to Policy Code No. 502.11, *Discipline Policy*, with the addition of the words "in addition" at the beginning of line 60. The new text will read "In addition, concurrent credit students are expected to adhere to the rules and regulations as set forth in the universities' Student Code of Conduct.

Trustee Sayles moved, Trustee Ritter seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve revisions to Policy Code No. 504.20, *Emergency and Disaster Preparedness*.

Trustee Dean moved, Trustee Calinsky seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve revisions to Policy Code No. 603.20, *High School Credits & Graduation*.

## **Board Reports/Assignments**

Trustee Dean reported on her attendance at the Rebound Graduation.

Trustee Ritter reported on her trip to Washington D. C. to work on federal issues on education.

Chairman Vuittonet reported on his attendance at the West Ada Foundation board meeting; an event for EL students and parents that presented the programs offered in the district.

Chairman Vuittonet requested a special work session for trustees to discuss legislative issues. Trustee Sayles moved, Trustee Ritter seconded and the vote was unanimous to schedule a special meeting on Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 following the ISBA Day on the Hill event in Boise.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Clark shared an update on:

### Current statistics for the Virtual School House:

#### \* K-8 Home Schooling Program

- 14 students enrollments
  - Seven current students and seven students in process of enrolling for second semester.
  - Four students have withdrawn and parents enrolled child back in public school

#### \* 7-12 Virtual School House (courses for credit)

- 385 students
  - 370 high school, 15 middle school (55 are special education)

- 721 courses
  - 313 credits earned so far
  - 90% passage rate, not including 73 dropped students
  - 301 courses in progress
- \* VSH Summer School 2015
- June 8 – July 31, 2015
  - Expecting approximately 110 students
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> year for this program
- \* Enhancements:
- K-8 home school enrollment window continuously open for spring and fall 2015 enrollments
  - In-house management of all enrollments
  - Increase in enrollments (approx. 40%)
  - Improved high school mentor support with weekly visits and improved student completion rates
  - Rebound School expansion next year
  - Addition of new high school Survey U.S. History A & B courses
  - Additional middle school courses (Math, Civics, Language Arts, Spanish, Critical thinking and Problem Solving, Art in 2D
  - 8 in 6 program
  - State Department of Education “My Idaho Courses” listing in progress

Update on transportation services contract – Miranda Carson

- \* The current contract budgeted for 191 routes, at the current rate we will be just under that amount
- \* Fuel costs will come in under the budgeted amount
- \* Two new software updates have been implemented
  - The new routing software is more efficient with daily updates from all entities and will be used to optimize routes.
  - Easytrip replaces the Compass software for field trip management and was a product used by Cascade Transportation and included in the contract.
  - Customer service calls have tapered off. The bulk of calls were received at the beginning of the year with the implementation of the new bell schedule.
  - Cascade has made organizational changes at the main lot and have been open to her suggestions.
  - Ms. Leeds stated the reduction of staff has reduced the use of medical benefits and workers comp and she will report the savings at the end of the year

Property Insurance – Alex Simpson

The first physical inventory of our property was done and it appears we are under reporting our assets. Our insurance company will cover the difference in the policy for this year without a premium increase. He will work with the company to negotiate future premiums on the increased value.

School funding – Alex Simpson

A bill will be introduced that will have district's use the first reporting period of the year instead of the best 28 weeks for operational funding. This will save us 10 support units, which is approximately \$200,000.

Superintendent Report:

The district received a letter from the Charter Commission notifying us that Compass Charter School is seeking a change to their charter that will increase their total enrollment.

We are in the process of moving the elementary grading system to PowerSchools to provide instant access for parents. Full access will be available to parents for the 2015-2016 school year.

Teachers will no longer be required to provide comments on report cards, but can add at their discretion.

As part of the White Ribbon Week (digital citizenship), the district will host an event on Thursday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Parents and patrons are invited to attend at Rocky Mountain High School.

As part of the bond campaign, we will return to the practice of sending a newsletter to every household. The newsletter will go out the last week of February.

Dr. Clark provided trustees an overview of her work for the second quarter as part of the ongoing evaluation process.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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Chairman

Clerk