



# West Ada

SCHOOL DISTRICT

## SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES February 23, 2016

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| Date, Place & Time     | A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, West Ada School District, convened at 6:01 p.m. on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at the District Service Center, 1303 E. Central Drive, Meridian, Idaho. |
| Trustees in Attendance | Trustees: Chairman Tina Dean, Dr. Russell Joki, Carol Sayles, Mike Vuittonet  |
| Staff in Attendance    | Dr. Mary Ann Ranells, Cheri Newbold, Eric Exline, Joe Yochum, Dr. Mandy White, Cindy Sisson, Trish Duncan, Troy Stephens, Wendy Spencer, Michelle Conger  |
| Guests                 | Elaine Eberharther-Maki, Scott Montoya, Shannon Murdoch, Sue Darden, Karen Harr, Karen Echeverria   |

**CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE** Chairman Dean

**Amended Agenda Approved** **Trustee Sayles** made a motion to amend the agenda to include the Superintendent contract under consent agenda. The agenda was already posted before the contract was offered. **Trustee Joki** seconded the motion, the vote passed unanimously. **Trustee Joki** made a motion to amend the agenda to include a Special Board Meeting on Thursday 6:00pm. March 1, 2016 to interview possible appointment for Zone 4, to fill Zone 4 as soon as possible. **Trustee Sayles** seconded the motion, the vote passed unanimously.

**Consent Agenda** **Trustee Sayles** made a motion to approve the consent agenda as amended. **Trustee Joki** seconded the motion and passed unanimously. Approved items are as follow:

Minutes of the:

- January 12, 2016 regular board meeting;
- January 26, 2016 regular board meeting;

Employment recommendations;

Request for leave without pay for:

- Wendy Brown, Medicaid Clerk, 20 days;
- Susan Davey, Speech Assistant, 5 days;
- Steven Trickey, Teacher, 110 days;
- Candice Wichmann, Para, as needed;

Request for professional leave for:

- Stan Adona, four (4) days to attend BPA National Leadership Conference in Boston, MA.;
- Lisa Austin and Sara Murphy, three (3) days to attend NCCE Conference in Seattle WA.;

- Brenda Carpentier, three (3) days to attend Idaho State Prevention and Support Conference in Sun Valley, Idaho;
- Lisa Bird, Andrew Smith and Joseph Wax, two (2) days to attend Technology Student Association Spring State Leadership Conference in Twin Falls, Idaho;
- Sarah Oosterhuis-Wright, three (3) days to attend Technology Student Association Spring State Leadership Conference in Twin Falls, Idaho;
- Susan Colvard, five (5) days to attend BPA National Leadership Conference in Boston, MA;

Lift the cap on the transfers to Lake Hazel Middle School for the 2016-2017 school year;

Lift the cap on the transfers to Siena Elementary and Mary McPherson Elementary for the 2016-2017 school year;

Realignment of middle school assignments to alternative schools;

Recommendation to set the date of the annual budget hearing;

Non-resident student enrollment request for the 2016-2017 school year;

Extended reading intervention plans for the elementary schools;

Request from Dustin Barrett, Principal of Meridian Academy, to conduct a research project to determine the effect on student discipline, academic achievement, and student perception as a result of the shift from the traditional industrial model of instruction to mater-based personalized learning at the three high school academies;

Request from Carrie Bastow to conduct research study at River Valley Elementary on "How to Mainstreaming Special Education Students Influences the Learning Environment and Attitudes."

Approved low bid for water connection at Mary McPherson Elementary;

Disposal of surplus district equipment;

Disposal of surplus personal property;

Approval of Superintendent contract for the 2016-2017 school year;

Special board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 6 p.m. to interview candidates for Zone 4;

## **Discussion**

### **Crossroads Middle School Proposal**

Karen Harr, Crossroad Middle School Principal, reported to the board on the legislature's approval of the funding for the At-Risk 6<sup>th</sup> grade

students and her proposal to offer 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Crossroads Middle School for the 2016-2017 school year. She explained the application process would be completed by the counselors, with an attached recommendation according to the criteria in the At-Risk columns. Column b has the emotional problems and substance abuse behavior. This column is rated by the Elementary Councilor Referral Form. Proposed 2016 enrollment would allow thirty (30) sixth grade students. Chairman Dean expressed her excitement for the sixth grade students that would receive grade level instruction. Trustee Joki had concerns on the emotional aspect and the staffing needed for the At-Risk students. Ms. Harr explained the extensive meetings to develop a plan. We won't be able to take the highest risk because we do need more staff to handle them. We know our limitations. Trustee Vuittonet thanked Ms. Harr for leading West Ada.

#### **Architect Recommendation for Pathways Middle School**

**Assistant Superintendent Joe Yochum** reported on a selection committee's recommendation to hire Design West as the architects for the design of a permanent building for Pathways. Chairman Dean wanted a timeline. Mr. Yochum responded the next step would be for the design to go to the stake holders and start the process. Input from the community, students and Mr. Eschen (Principal of Pathways) will be considered.

#### **Transportation Satisfaction Survey**

**Eric Exline** gave an update on the second survey sent out to parents to measure Cascade Transportation services. The winter results were better than the fall results. Trustee Joki noticed a bus with an advertisement "Drivers Wanted." Mr. Exline explained this is a difficult job to fill with very little pay. Chairman Dean had concerns on the safety rating. Mr. Exline explained the safety concern has to do with the busses stopping on the arterial streets.

#### **Idaho School Board Association Membership**

The board discussed and asked questions of Idaho School Boards Association Executive Director Karen Echeverria regarding the value of membership in the ISBA. Chairman Dean asked what month the ISBA renewal membership were to be paid. Ms. Echeverria stated July is when the dues are paid to ISBA. Questions were asked about how proposed legislation is acted upon. Ms. Echeverria explained the governmental affairs guides the process and advises her. Dr. Ranells welcomed Ms. Echeverria and expressed the great benefits ISBA has been to school districts. Chairman Dean would like to hold off on the ISBA membership until July.

#### **Revised Policy Code No. 401.13(First reading)**

**Assistant Superintendent Joe Yochum** recommended the revision to the policy be made so no more than 50% of the staff can be transferred to a new school. Trustee Joki ratio of male and female counselors at the secondary level concerned him. Chairman Dean to mandate gender I

would not be comfortable. Trustee Joki wanted second reading of policy. Dr. Ranells agreed to take time and compile research with the Title 9.

**Action**

Dr. Mandy White was pleased to announce the recommendation to hire Shannon Murdoch to be the principal of Mary McPherson Elementary and Scot Montoya to be the principal of Lake Hazel Middle School.

**Trustee Vuittonet** moved to approve Shannon Murdoch as Principal of Mary McPherson Elementary. **Trustee Sayles** seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. **Trustee Vuittonet** moved to approve Scot Montoya as Principal of Lake Hazel Middle School. **Trustee Joki** seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**Trustee Joki** motioned to approve Design West as the architects for Pathways Middle School. **Trustee Sayles** seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to approve Design West.

**Trustee Sayles** motioned to table the ISBA membership for a later date. **Trustee Vuittonet** seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to table ISBA membership for a later date.

**Board  
Reports/Assignments**

Trustee Vuittonet had nothing to report at this time. Trustee Sayles made a statement in regards to the notification recall letter, I ran for the school board because I am an advocate for students and parents. I will stand for recall. Trustee Joki I had prepared a statement in advance to the media, not resigning. Chairman Dean not resigning.

**Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Ranells informed trustees of the wonderful opportunity to visit 32 amazing schools and had 20 more schools to see. She is pleased and honored to have an extended contract. The employees in the district love kids and she is honored to work with them every day.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Trustee Joki** made a motion, **Trustee Sayles** seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:23p.m.

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Chairman

Clerk