



# West Ada

SCHOOL DISTRICT

## REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES July 26, 2016

Date, Place & Time	The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, West Ada School District, convened at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 26, 2016 at the District Service Center, 1303 E. Central Drive, Meridian, Idaho.
Trustees in Attendance	Trustees: Mike Vuittonet, Rene Ozuna, Ed Klopfenstein, and Steve Smylie, Chairman Phil Neuhoﬀ (by Phone)
Staff in Attendance	Dr. Mary Ann Ranells, Cheri Newbold, Eric Exline, Troy Stephens, Debbie Arstein, Don Nesbitt, Dave Roberts, Joe Yochum, Dave Moser, Ramona Lee, Samantha Spencer
Guests	Jill Lilienkamp, Becky Turner, Cyndi Groth-Landis, Donna Decker, Sue Darden, Raini Peterson, Erin Seameen, Sarah Suggs, William Suggs, Bill Hamlin

### CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE

Vice-Chair Vuittonet

Dr. Mary Ann Ranells was honored to have David Moser, Regional Director, introduce the New Principal for Meridian High School. Mr. Moser recognized the Meridian High staff members that were extremely helpful throughout the interview process. Some of the strong characteristics identified by the staff of Meridian High consists of the following:

- Student-Centered
- Strong relationship with staff
- Collaborative
- Advocate
- Caretaker of the culture & tradition of Meridian High School

Mr. Moser highly recommended the hiring of Jill Lilienkamp as the new Principal of Meridian High School.

### Consent Agenda

**Trustee Smylie** made a motion, **Trustee Klopfenstein** seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve the consent agenda. Approved items are as follows:

Minutes of the:

- a. June 28, 2016 regular board meeting
- b. July 12, 2016 annual meeting

Employment Recommendations

Consent Agenda Cont.

Summary of Leave Requests

Recommendation to approve revised 2016-2017 school year calendar

Recommendation to approve an agreement between Joint School District #2, Meridian Idaho and Family Medicine Residency of Idaho for the Provision of School-Based Health Care

Recommendation to approve Jill Lilienkamp as Principal of Meridian High School

Recommendation to seek Alternative Authorization-Teacher to New to teach Resource Room from the State Department of Education:

- a. Erin Fahnstrom, to teach Resource Room (0.5) for Meridian Academy
- b. Evelyn Tanner, to teach Resource Room for Lake Hazel Elementary School

Recommendation to seek renewal for Alternative Authorization-Teacher to New to continue to teach Extended Resource from the State Department of Education:

- a. Rosemary Hoff, to continue to teach Extended Resource Room (.5) for Heritage Middle School
- b. Ameer Smith, to continue to teach Extended Resource Room (1.0) for Meridian Middle School
- c. Jennifer Sousa, to continue to teach Extended Resource Room (1.0) for Meridian Middle School

Recommendation to seek Alternative Authorization-Teacher to New from the State Department of Education, for Melissa Bollinger to work as Library/Media Specialist (1.0) for Victory Middle School

Recommendation to seek renewal for Alternative Authorization-Content Specialist from the State Department of Education, for Shaun Scrivner to teach instrumental music 6-12 for the Idaho Fine Arts Academy (1.0) and for Victory Middle School

Award bids for:

- a. Playground replacement at Lake Hazel Middle School to Diamond Contractors, LLC in the amount of \$84,835.
- b. Modular classroom relocation to Ustick Elementary to Beal Corporation in the amount of \$112,000
- c. Relocated portable classroom to Eagle Hills Elementary to Gafford Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$65,273
- d. Outdoor classroom at Lowell Scott Middle School in the amount of \$99,533

**Discussion**

**Resolution on School Construction Funding**

Eric Exline, Communication Officer, discussed the resolution if the Board approved would be presented at the Idaho School boards annual conference in November. The resolution advocates legislation that would provide an additional way to fund new school construction to

Discussion Cont.

support the current process of bonding against taxable property value. Trustees discussed how important this resolution would be for the District. This process is important because it would reduce our debt load.

**Master Contract for the 2016-2017 school year**

Dave Roberts, Chief Human Resource Officer, covered the negotiated agreement that was ratified by 91% of the teachers association members. The agreement gives teachers an average increase of 5.28%. For Staff on the Career ladder, the percentage varies depending on the placement on the schedule. The school calendar remains 185 days.

Sue Darden, a teacher from Galileo STEM Academy, addressed the board with her opposition against the negotiated agreement. Ms. Darden expressed dissatisfaction with the recognition of teachers with experience.

The Board stated they appreciated Ms. Darden's concerns.

**Schematic design of Pathways Middle School**

Joe Yochum, Assistant Superintendent, discussed the Pathways Middle School floor plan, exterior design, and parking lot for busses and parent drop off. The total area of the school once completed will be 25,754 S.F. This will allow room for future growth. The well designed common area will allow students a variety of options both academic and social use. Trustee Ozuna questioned the parking lot bus lane and parent drop-off lane. Mr. Yochum addressed the concerns and explained the parent drop off and the bus lane has concrete between the two. Trustees discussed the room for growth would be very important for future enrollment of sixth graders.

**Policy Code No. 604, Schools of Choice**

Eric Exline, Communication Officer, presented the NEW Policy Code No. 604, School of Choice. Mr. Exline explained to the Board the need for consistency in the lottery process. This policy would give direction to those schools to follow so the lottery process would be fair. Trustees had concerns about the lack of space available for new families to get into the School of Choice. How many siblings get in compared to new families? Mr. Exline will provide the percentages to the Board during second reading. Trustees also had questions about how students would be transported to the School of Choice. Mr. Exline explained the boundaries typically have a neighborhood school, modified school, school of the arts, and a STEM school. This allows all areas an opportunity to attend a school of choice and transportation to be provided. Chairman Neuhoff questioned the process for Idaho Fine Arts selection. Mr. Exline explained the entire district is Idaho Fine Arts boundaries and we do not offer transportation.

**Parent Climate Survey Results**

Eric Exline, Communication Officer, presented the results of the survey. Mr. Exline felt the timing of the survey was the reason why

participation was low. The common recommendations in the survey responses were smaller class sizes, better communication from schools and teachers, classroom management and a desire for higher academic standards and expectations. Parents also commented on the food service program, bus service, cleanliness of the schools and school year calendar. Trustees suggested the Climate Survey be accessible earlier next year. Mr. Exline agreed with Trustees.

### **Employee Engagement Survey Results**

Eric Exline, Communication Officer, presented the results of the survey. Participation in the survey has dropped over the last 3 years. Overall employees enjoy their work environment. Mr. Exline explained the district's commitment to communicate with staff, offer feedback to employees, and employee recognition. Currently Mr. Exline explained to the Board Administration will send out information from all the key meetings at the District office. We are also looking into a different method of recognition of classified employees and certified employees. Trustees had concerns about the timing of the survey and the low response rate. Mr. Exline would like to see the participation rate higher. Trustee Ozuna had concerns about the individual school results. Mr. Exline described why results are varied from school to school. Mr. Exline explained each regional director can justify individual school results, such as a new principal, new staff, or new programs, that would affect the survey results. Superintendent Ranells clarified to the board the past month's schools have not been in turmoil. Teachers kept teaching, students kept learning and business went on as normal. Dr. Ranells had visited 52 schools and the four common trends from our staff were as follows:

- Improve communication with District office and staff
- Technology
- Clarity and direction and focus of the School District
- Improve professional development and collaboration

### **Action**

#### **Approve or deny ISBA resolution on school construction funding**

**Trustee Smylie** made a motion, **Trustee Ozuna** seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve the ISBA resolution on school construction funding

#### **Approve or deny Master Contract for the 2016-2017 school year**

**Chairman Neuhoff** made a motion, **Trustee Ozuna** seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve the Master Contract for the 2016-2017 school year

#### **Approve or deny design of Pathways Middle School**

**Chairman Klopfenstein** made a motion, **Trustee Smylie** seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve the design of Pathways Middle School

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Trustee Smylie** made a motion, **Trustee Klopfenstein** seconded and the vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 8:40p.m.

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Chairman

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Clerk