



West Ada

SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES January 16, 2018

Date, Place & Time	The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, West Ada School District, convened at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at the District Service Center, 1303 E. Central Drive, Meridian, Idaho.
Trustees in Attendance	Trustees: Phil Neuhoff, Ed Klopfenstein Mike Vuittonet, Rene Ozuna, and Steve Smylie
Staff in Attendance	Dr. Mary Ann Ranells, Cheri Newbold, Eric Exline, Joe Yochum, Don Nesbitt, Devan Delashmutt, Ramona Lee, Jonathan Gillen, Lauren Lindley and Troy Stephens
Guests	Mike Smith, Rebecca Gutches, Brenda Smith, Jared Smith, Nicki Thompson, Jason Thompson, Renee Harris, Kiana Shaffer, Ashley Camp, Deanne Stubbs, Doug Thorpe, Jennifer Stoor, Sierra McIvers, Erin Witt, Lance Witt, Janelle McDonald, Michelle Taylor, Caitlin Ladd, Mary Ollie, Amanda Sainsbury, Luke Bowen, Crew Neilson, Tyler Sainsbury, David Shepherd, Jennifer Shepherd, Brittany Haines, Hanna Tayler, Kim Starla, Rob Lungreen, Genefieve Troske, Tommy Troske, Kimber Rice, Paula Mason, Jarde Christensen, Tamara Price, Sue Darden, Scott Lewis, Sharolyn Carlson, and Derek Anderson
CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE	Chairman Phil Neuhoff
Amended Agenda	Trustee Klopfenstein made a motion, Vice Chairman Vuittonet seconded and the vote was unanimous to pull item #12 from the consent agenda and place Item #12 on discussion and action. Trustee Klopfenstein made a motion, Vice Chairman Vuittonet seconded and the vote was unanimous to pull item #13 from the consent agenda and place item #13 on discussion and action.
Consent Agenda	Trustee Smylie made a motion, Trustee Ozuna seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve the amended consent agenda. Payment of bills dated December 1-31, 2017 P-Card payments dated November 1-30, 2017 Monthly Reports

Consent Cont.

Minutes of the:

- a. December 12, 2017 regular board meeting
- b. January 9, 2018 special board meeting

Associated Student Body Reports

Employment Recommendations

Summary of Leave Requests

Recommendation to approve ISBA membership renewal

Recommendation to sell Idaho Fine Arts Academy-second attempt

Recommendation to approve Pioneer and Spalding gymnasium schematic designs

Recommendation to approve contract with Design West for new high school

Recommendation to approve design documents for the Meridian High School Diesel Engineering

Disposal of District surplus

Recommendation to approve to back a School Bus on W. View Dr.

Recommendation to approve Sawtooth Middle School honor choir to perform in Moscow, Idaho from January 31 through February 2, 2018

Recommendation to approve Meridian High School Cheerleaders to compete in Ontario, California January 27-28, 2018

Recommendation to approve Victory Middle School choir to perform in Moscow, Idaho from January 27-28, 2018

Non-resident student enrollment request for the 2017-2018 school year

Early graduation request for one semester

Early graduation request for one year

Student expulsions

Discussion

Revised Policy 100, Educational Philosophy (second reading) Don Nesbitt

Don Nesbitt, Assistant Superintendent, indicated he had made the

Discussion Cont.

changes the board had requested from the first reading. No questions were asked of Mr. Nesbitt. This policy will return for a final reading.

Overview of the Boundary Committee Recommendation- Eric Exline

Eric Exline, Chief Communication Officer, presented a review of the attendance area committee's work to balance enrollment and reduce overcrowding in anticipation of the opening of Star Middle School in the fall of 2018. The considerations during their work included neighborhood continuity, safety issues, distance for walking and busing, and the balancing feeder schools. Vice Chairman Vuittonet stated the Board had a work session (January 9) which allowed Trustees to ask clarifying questions. The January work session allowed Trustees to collect input from patrons, staff and the committee. Trustees all thanked the committee for the work and hours spent to come up with a feasible proposal. Chairman Neuhoff invited public participation and comments on the proposed boundary changes.

Public Comments

Student A

Student A, a student attending Ponderosa Elementary, expressed concerns she will not move to middle school with all her peers. Many of her peers will move on to Meridian Middle School. This is a concern for Student A, she is a part of a strong community for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH). A community where the hearing and DHH have developed a strong relationship.

Patron A

Patron A wanted once again thank the committee. The original plan did not involve moving Ponderosa. This new proposal resembles a plan put together by a group of parents that are representing their own interest. They didn't know the DHH program existed. The transition will not allow these students (DHH) to be with their peers. This proposal will transition 99% percent of DHH peers to Meridian Middle School instead of Sawtooth Middle School. This proposal will destroy the DHH community. Please let the peers of the DHH transition to Sawtooth.

Patron B

Patron B indicated she supported the proposal and the process. The committee listening to public input from three public hearings. Yes, my family is effect and we will move. The committee considered time and distance from school. The family is important, and the District listened to those concerns. I support the proposal.

Public Comments Cont.

Patron C

Patron C is a part of the DHH community. Please reconsider this final proposal because of the impact this has on our children. These are not just numbers but human beings. These kids want to make friends and stay with their friends in middle school. Friendships starts in elementary school. I want you to please let their peers move on with them to middle school.

Patron D

Patron D supports the new attendance area. He thanked the committee for all the hard work and dedication into this process.

Patron E

Patron E indicated changing the boundaries would affect the DHH hearing students. The DHH will go to Sawtooth and RMHS while the rest of their peers would go to Meridian Middle and Meridian High School. The hearing students experience the opportunity to learn about the DHH. This proposal would have the DHH students have to form new friendships all over again. Positive interaction, positive outcome for success.

Patron F

Patron F stated the decision is not easy for any student to transition to another school. Students thrive, and we need to all move in a positive direction. She thanked the Board and the staff for the process and the time dedicated to making this difficult decision.

Patron G

Patron G indicated her children attend Ponderosa. She purchased her home and wanted her kids to grow up in a neighborhood school. She wanted her children to stay together. She is in the boundaries of Ponderosa and Sawtooth. This proposal would move her children to Star Middle School.

Ramona Lee, Director of Special Services for West Ada School District, indicated efforts would be made to insure students would have the opportunity in the DHH program to transition to the Sawtooth Middle School. Ms. Lee indicated she would facilitate meetings with Administration and consider ideas outside of the box to create a strong community for the DHH students and hearing students. Ms. Lee stated the West Ada Administration wants the transition to be a positive experience for all students.

The new attendance areas will go into effect starting in the fall 2018. New attendance maps will be posted to the district website. The approved changes are available in the document.

Action

Recommendation to approve addendums to Kriezenbeck and Beniton contract for new gymnasium (Spalding and Pioneer)

Trustee Klopfenstein asked for this item to be pulled due to conflict of interest.

Recommendation to approve Beniton General Conditions for new Pioneer gymnasium

Trustee Klopfenstein asked for this item to be pulled due to conflict of interest.

Approve or deny the Boundary Committee proposal to realign school attendance areas

Trustee Smylie made a motion, Trustee Klopfenstein seconded and the proposal to realign the school attendance areas was unanimously approved. Vice Chairman Vuittonet and Chairman Neuhoff both indicated the District, Administration and Board would give support to the DHH program to assure students are successful.

Recommendation to approve addendums to Kriezenbeck and Beniton contract for new gymnasium (Spalding and Pioneer)

Vice Chairman Vuittonet made a motion, Trustee Ozuna seconded and the vote was 4 to 1 with Trustee Klopfenstein's abstention.

Recommendation to approve Beniton General Conditions for new Pioneer gymnasium

Trustee Smylie made a motion, Vice Chairman Vuittonet second and the vote was 4 to 1 with Trustee Klopfenstein's abstention.

BOARD REPORTS

Trustee Klopfenstein had no report.

Trustee Ozuna had no report.

Chairman Neuhoff asked for a Special Meeting February 1. He would not be in town that week but would be able to phone in.

Vice Chairman Vuittonet stated he would facilitate the Special Meeting He thanked committee and felt confident in the process.

Trustee Smylie discussed collaboration with STEM education and Boise State. He indicated all the cutting-edge programs West Ada provides.

**SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT**

Dr. Ranells reported the Twin Falls School District toured the West Ada CTE programs. The Twin Falls School District is very interested in the success of our CTE programs. They visited RHS, MHS, Barbara Morgan, and Pioneer. Dr. Ranells also attended the Red Tape Committee meeting. She reminded Trustees of the upcoming Day on The Hill February 19-20 and asked Trustees to let the Clerk know if they will be attending so she can register them for the event.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairman Vuittonet made a motion, **Trustee Smylie** seconded and the vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Chairman

Clerk