

# Meeting Minutes May 18, 2009

---

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, May 18, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by President, Terry Hutchinson. Present: Terry Hutchinson, Frank Fox, Rod Cole, Kari Rojas, Denise McBride, Ed VanAvery and Bob Pasch.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Motion by Frank Fox, seconded by Rod Cole to approve the agenda with the addition of coaching resignation under old business. Motion carried 7/0.

Ashtyn Thompson and Nash Reeves thanked the Board members for the opportunity to attend Camp Hayowenta this spring. They presented a slide show of camp pictures and talked about the activities they enjoyed at camp.

Megan McBride addressed the Board asking for the opportunity to start a middle school chapter of the Youth in Government Program. The board gave her the go ahead to contact middle school students to assess interest. Middle school Youth in Government will be an agenda item for the June 2009 board meeting.

Motion by Bob Pasch, seconded by Kari Rojas to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 20, 2009. Motion carried 7/0.

William Chilman reported that the board received a list of spring events to take place here at the school, a letter from SET/SEG concerning our risk control visit and claim review of April 29, 2009, a letter from SET/SEG notifying the board that the workers compensation fund once again has a surplus for this year, and a letter from the School Equity Caucus concerning lack of state revenues and the potential budget shortfalls for the 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 school years.

There were no board committee reports.

John Graham reported that he is gearing up for summer projects to be completed while school is not in session. Contractors are scheduled to begin work on June 8<sup>th</sup>. John is working with Joe on submitting a transportation grant to the state similar to the Federal grant submitted earlier requesting funds for pre heaters, diagnostic software and a router program. John also announced that the tribal grants will be awarded on May 28<sup>th</sup>.

Jeff Jackson reported that Jen Courtright will be giving a presentation later in the meeting to introduce the Data for Success Program. Tomorrow Mr. Jackson will be taking 12 students to a lugnuts baseball game as a reward for good character. There are eight students scheduled to try to test out of their next scheduled math class next week. The secondary staff is continuing to work on school improvement goals. Graduation is this Thursday at 8:00 p.m. The board will meet in Ms. Spry's classroom at 7:30 p.m. High school exams are June 2<sup>nd</sup> through June 5<sup>th</sup>. Last Thursday at the Senior awards banquet over \$425,000 in scholarships were awarded to Beal City's graduating students. The awards presentation for grades 7-8 will take place on Thursday May 28<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. and the awards presentation for grades 9-11 will take place on Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.

## Meeting Minutes May 18, 2009

---

Julie Freeze reported that from the May revenue consensus the state school aid budget is projected to be short by \$265 per pupil for 2009/2010 and \$590 per pupil for 2010/2011. The state hopes to use Federal stimulus money to fill these gaps. Although the stabilization fund is to be used to “stabilize” our state funding the dollars will flow to us as federal dollars rather than state. This will create differences in cash flow and reporting requirements.

Diane Saltarelli reported that the elementary teachers took part in a day of collaboration on May 13<sup>th</sup>. Class rosters for next year were developed and at this point we have enough kindergarten students for three sections. Preschool currently has a full class of 18 and one student on a waiting list. The elementary staff voted to have an open house the Wednesday before school starts in place of the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school celebration. Core curriculum teams have been meeting in the elementary. In the area of math they have been working on pacing guides and common assessments. The focus for science has been on the science kits originally purchased with tribal grant dollars. The staff has evaluated two writing curriculum and decided to utilize Write Steps curriculum as opposed to Lucy Calkins. Julie Farrell has been working on a list of sight words for K-6 students and the specials area plans to add computer classes to the elementary next year. The elementary is also looking at adding lunch time detention as a disciplinary action. Field day, in conjunction with St. Joseph the Worker, occurred on May 15<sup>th</sup> with the K-2 students at our playground and the 3-6 grades at the K of C hall. On Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> representatives from the CMU Center for Educational Excellence will be working with our elementary staff on school improvement goals. May 28<sup>th</sup> is the senior reception beginning at 1:00 p.m. with the spring sing commencing at 1:30 p.m. Also on May 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. there will be a retirement party for Jan Newman at the Brass Café. June 3<sup>rd</sup> is sixth grade graduation and June 4<sup>th</sup> is kindergarten graduation.

Aarron Butkovich reported that girls and boys track competed in regional competition this past weekend. The girls won the regional title for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year. Next year’s schedules are near completion. Fall looks good, winter is still missing one boys basketball game and next spring is a little more complicated with dual sport issues. We will be hosting baseball and softball districts on May 30<sup>th</sup>. Summer camps are close to being all set. We had 90 students at physical night. Next year Aarron hopes to advertise the opportunity to other local school districts. Aarron thanked Jeff, Joe, Kelly, Bill and all the community members who helped with the seven track meets we hosted this spring. There were a number of MHSAA updates for next year sent to the board members. JV softball season ended last Saturday. The jr. high track season is also complete. After the first year of no Saturday transportation Aarron feels that is went very well. He would like to analyze the savings realized from discontinuing Saturday transportation.

Bill reported that the district school improvement team will be working on our school improvement goals utilizing the advanced education website through the Department of Education. Bill talked about the July 1<sup>st</sup> deadline concept and the goal is for all departments to be ready to open the doors on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Bill talked about the Reimagine project introduced by State Superintendent of Education Mike Flanigan. Mr. Flanigan is asking schools to reimagine how they do business. He has identified five programs as examples. All five programs include 8-9 hour work days, six day weeks and 200+ days of school per year. While these are all good goals it would be better to deal with our state legislature to make this happen rather than expecting local administrators to make these types of changes. Bill talked about the threat of consolidation. We must make sure that Beal City school stays fiscally sound. The first time we complain to the state about lack of funding they will suggest we look closely at the idea of consolidation. We cannot depend on the federal stimulus money to solve all of our financial problems. It is not possible to borrow yourself out of debt. Bill also reminded the board that

## Meeting Minutes May 18, 2009

---

the stimulus money is not coming with strings attached but ropes. There will be rules and regulations accompanying the stimulus money and increased reporting requirements. We must continue to assess everything we do to find ways to do things better with the same or fewer dollars. We must work within that framework while we strive to accomplish our three main goals of student achievement, budget control and public relations.

Terry Hutchinson read the Financial Report.

Motion by Bob Pasch, seconded by Frank Fox to approve the General Fund payments of \$245,665.11, Hot Lunch payments of \$14,365.41, Athletic Fund payments of 3,679.00, Debt Retirement 2002 payments of \$106,512.50 and Debt Retirement 2004 payments of \$353,481.25. Motion carried 7/0.

Jen Courtright and Jeff Jackson presented the new Date for Success tool capable of desegregating MEAP data. Data for Success is made available to us at no cost through an RESD consortium grant through the 2012 year. The program will allow teachers to access very valuable information about their particular students and how well they performed on the MEAP test and what specific GLECs students may not quite comprehend. This tool will replace the outdated MI tracker golden package.

Bill announced that he has received tremendous response to the Beal City Area Foundation. Last week's meeting went well and many community members are excited about the foundation. The first foundation donation was received today by Gerald Pohl. Bill has currently received verbal commitments in the neighborhood of \$6,600. We hope to have the initial \$10,000 required start up for the fund by this fall.

Motion by Frank Fox, seconded by Rod Cole to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the Secondary Student Handbook. Motion carried 7/0.

Motion by Ed Van Avery, seconded by Kari Rojas to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the Secretary Handbook. Motion carried 7/0.

Motion by Kari Rojas, seconded by Ed VanAvery to accept the Superintendent evaluation and contract as presented. Motion carried 7/0.

Motion by Frank Fox, seconded by Rod Cole to accept the coaching resignation of Mike Kruske. Motion carried 7/0.

Motion by Frank Fox, seconded by Kari Rojas to accept the Ahera Resolution as presented. Motion carried 7/0.

Motion by Frank Fox, seconded by Rod Cole to accept the GIRESD Biennial Election Resolution as presented. Motion carried 7/0.

Motion by Frank Fox, seconded by Rod Cole to accept the GIRESD Budget Resolution as presented. Motion carried 7/0.

Motion by Kari Rojas, seconded by Rod Cole to accept the MHSAA Membership Resolution for 2009/2010 as presented. Motion carried 7/0.

## Meeting Minutes May 18, 2009

---

Motion by Kari Rojas, seconded by Rod Cole to move the Annual Budget Hearing and regular June board meeting from June 22<sup>nd</sup> to June 29<sup>th</sup>. The budget hearing will start at 6:30 p.m. and the regular June meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried 7/0.

Bill reminded the board that alternative education graduation will be Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the big gym and high school graduation will be Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 p.m. in the big gym.

Motion by Ed VanAvery, seconded by Kari Rojas to adjourn at 8:47 p.m. Motion carried 7/0.

Recording Secretary  
Julie Freeze

---

Terry Hutchinson, President

---

Kari Rojas, Secretary