

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 20, 2019
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

- I. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – Chairperson/Vice-chairperson. Chairman Abrego convened the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees at 7:30 p.m., and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustees Present: Chairman Abrego, Vice-Chair Binion, Trustee Donahue, Trustee Monasterio, Trustee Knox

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

B. GOOD NEWS –

Each month, the school board encourages students, teachers, administrators, and board members to recognize the notable activities, events, celebrations, student achievements & awards, etc., that have occurred in the school district or in the community.

1. Superintendent Gilbert recognized Lonnie Smith and Robynn Schipani, Administrators of Hacker Middle School, for their hard work, dedication, and numerous hours for the installation of the HMS playground equipment. He added that they were both very humble in acknowledging the hard work that they put into it, but the district did notice, and the district truly appreciates it.

- C. ANNUAL APPROVAL OF MHSD CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN POLICY AND PROCEDURE (ACTION)** – Board of Trustees/James Gilbert. Superintendent Gilbert stated that we are required to approve our Continuous Improvement Plan Policy and Procedure every year at this time; the plan must be submitted to the state prior to October 1. He stated that no changes were needed to the policy and that he is waiting for the metrics to come in to put in the plan. Superintendent Gilbert stated that the goals in the plan have not changed and the district is working diligently towards the goals. A motion by Trustee Binion to approve the Annual Review & Approval of the MHSD Continuous Improvement Plan Policy and Procedure, as presented by Mr. Gilbert, was seconded by Trustee Donahue. Motion passed.

- II. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA OR ADDENDUMS** – Chairman/Vice-chairman. Prior to the consent agenda items, Chairman Abrego asked if there was an addendum to the agenda, or if there was anything to add or remove. Chairman Abrego called for a motion to approve or amend the agenda. Trustee Binion moved to approve the agenda as published, with a second from Trustee Donahue. Agenda approved.

- III. **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS** – Board of Trustees. Chairman Abrego called for a motion to approve the consent agenda items. Trustee Monasterio moved to approve the consent agenda, with a second from Trustee Knox. Motion carried. Trustee Binion informed Chairman Abrego that he skipped agenda item II, so the board revisited agenda item II Approval of Agenda or Addendums.

A. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF JULY 16, 2019, AND THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF AUGUST 13, 2019.

B. FINANCIAL REPORTS

C. CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

D. PERSONNEL

E. TRAVEL REQUESTS

1. Cross Country – MHHS – Crosby Invitational – Ontario, Oregon, October 3, 2019 – Doug Root

- IV. **DELEGATION – NONE**

Any group wishing to be a delegation must submit a letter to the Superintendent Administrative Assistant/Clerk of the Board no later than the Tuesday prior to the next regular board meeting; the letter must include the reason for asking to be a delegation.

- V. **PUBLIC INPUT – NONE**

Those wishing to speak on any topic of their interest should complete and submit to the chairperson the MHSD Request to Address Board of Trustees Form located at the Board Materials table. The Individuals will be allowed a maximum of three minutes to present their views. The board will not hear complaints against school district employees by name or against students by name in open session. If you have a complaint against personnel or students by name, you need to schedule an appointment with the Superintendent. There will be no action taken at this time, but action on a problem area could be scheduled for a subsequent meeting of the board.

VI. **REPORTS –**

- A. MOUNTAIN HOME AFB UPDATE –** MHAFB Liaison. Mr. Niksich was not able to attend the meeting, but he left printed information on the board information table.
- B. SPECIAL EDUCATION REPORT –** Albert Longhurst. Mr. Longhurst presented the Special Education Report to the board. He reviewed the special education demographics, the different categories that the students fell into regarding special education. He added that 12% of our student population was in special education in 2018, and 11% of our student enrollment was in special education, in both 2017 and 2016. He went on to report the numbers of special education students in each of the categories for special education services.

Mr. Longhurst reported on the numerous services that MHSD provides to our special education students and the number of special education staff by classification; we have 23 certified teachers, 39 contracted people from various companies, and 41 classified staff. Chairman Abrego asked if the Deaf & Blind School (ISDB) comes here should we need those services, Mr. Longhurst clarified that that our district is close enough to ISDB that if we have issues, they are there to provide us guidance, suggestions, and recommendations. The board asked whether the district is responsible for transporting special education students to the ISDB or other services. Mr. Longhurst replied that we must provide transportation to special education students even if the services are outside of the district such as in Boise. Mr. Longhurst also reported on the different programs in each building. In addition to ERR and Resource in all the buildings, West has the Pre-School Program, East, HMS, MHJH, and MHHS have a Behavior Program, MHJH has the Adult Education Program, and MHHS has the Transition Program.

Discussion began about the ongoing training of staff regarding the behavior of students; consultations; ongoing training of staff; continuous education of staff on behavior management, how to work with a student, how to respond, whether the behavior is student induced or that of the adults; the constant reviewing of procedure; techniques for staff; special education issues being a statewide issue and not just a district issue; special education staffing; etc. Superintendent Gilbert added that what concerns him the most is that we have to contract with 39 other people who many were district employees, but now work in the private sector or became a private contractors to make their contracts much more lucrative to them as contractors and to provide services to the district at a much higher cost to the district. He added that even though the number of personnel has decreased, the cost of special education has increased.

Mr. Longhurst reported on the TEAM concept. He added that TEAM is not going away. He then explained the rational behind starting the TEAM concept. Mr. Longhurst explained that West Elementary school had almost all of the high needs students and programs, which wasn't fair to them, especially when we had schools that had only a few high needs students or programs, so many programs were spread across the district depending on the many variables.

Mr. Longhurst explained the background to contracting with Andrew Miller, Behavior Consultation Specialist. Andrew Miller helped train our special education staff, he has trained our general education staff, he trained our administration, he coaches staff, he provides recommendation, etc. Mr. Longhurst continued to report that Andrew Miller provides recommendations to the general education teachers, the special education teachers, and to the administrators as far as things that need to be done and how to get it done. Even though he may give recommendations, it isn't going to have that immediate impact that staff is looking for; it's the coaching that will get staff past some of the frustrations instead of staff claiming that the program is not working. Mr. Longhurst explained that FBA is the function behavior assessment that is crucial to get ideas of what is driving the behavior, what is behind the behavior, and how to address behavior consistently, so there is no confusion on the student's part.

Mr. Longhurst informed the board that Child Find requires the district to actively seek out children who might qualify for special education, regardless of the disability.

Chairman Abrego asked if there were many parents who requested referrals. Mr. Longhurst replied yes, we have parents ask for referrals for many reasons such as Medicaid benefits reasons, for Social Security benefits reasons, for hospitals, for Head Start, and many other reasons for wanting a referral.

Mr. Longhurst reviewed the Special Education Referral Process and explained that any time a parent wants a referral, the district is obligated to start the referral process; he reviewed the differences between

IDEA and 504s; the process of addressing behavior students who violate the student code of conduct, with the take-away being the limitations the district has regarding disciplining a special education student versus a general education student, by answering a series of questions to determine if all requirements were met to prevent the student from being expelled from school. Mr. Longhurst added that we as adults must assume some of the responsibility. He also said that these federal requirements are in place to prevent students from being expelled or denied an education.

Mr. Longhurst concluded by explaining the procedure for conducting Manifestation Determination to determine whether a student's disability is part of the behavior.

Chairman Abrego said that some teachers have spoken about certain behavior kids and that if everything has been done that is supposed to be done, and the behavior doesn't improve, what are the options to remove the student? He added that he has heard that we can send them elsewhere, but we must pay all the costs. Mr. Longhurst replied that we do have a few students whether they are in school or not that their needs are so great or so extreme that we had to find another placement for them that met their needs and had the specialized care that we don't have in our district, but this is at the cost to MHSD. He also said that this is where Andrew Miller comes in, he comes in to give recommendations, to provide the FBA, to inform the teachers what they need to be doing to meet the needs of the student, and in most cases that is what we need to do to make the difference.

Discussion began regarding options of removing students who are violent and a threat to students and staff, discussed whether we have the option to remove a violent student, etc. Mr. Longhurst responded that we need to look at each case and determine if the behavior is because of a parent or because of a staff member, or anyone; what is triggering the situation, etc. The situation dictates what to do and how to do it. He went on to explain all types of variables that must be considered and addressed first before ever removing a student; there isn't one answer that will fit everything.

The board thanked Mr. Longhurst for his report.

- C. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** – James Gilbert. Superintendent Gilbert reported the enrollment numbers and stated that we don't know exactly where we are with enrollment numbers yet, but we are up, we won't have a good number until the end of September. He added that once we hit the end of September, our numbers have historically dropped, but we currently have 3,987 students enrolled. Superintendent Gilbert informed the board that not all those students will attend because some have moved over the summer. He also informed the board that the early registration in the spring helped with student management, but we were not able to take into account the students who were pre-registered in the spring who might have left the district over the summer. Superintendent Gilbert predicted that we might be up anywhere between 50 to 100 students by the end of September due to families from the Treasure Valley moving to Mountain Home for economic reasons and a large transfer of military personnel. He said that our biggest indicator is the number of kindergarten students we have enrolled, 340 kindergarten students, which is the largest number of kindergarten students we have had in many years, which has created some staffing issues. Superintendent Gilbert added that we had to hire two additional kindergarten teachers, one at West and one at East; we have a lot of students from North Elementary enrolling in West and in East, but we shouldn't have to move any of those students, which is a great thing to be able to give parents that choice in what school they prefer to send their children. He also informed the board that we hired a 3rd grade teacher at West and we're in the process of hiring one 5th grade and one 6th grade teacher.

Superintendent Gilbert then reported on the roofing projects at East and MHJH (damaged by the recent storms). He then reported that there is a likelihood that we need to do a complete rebuild of the track. He added that the foundation of the track is failing and that is to be expected after 20-yrs of use. We have resurfaced the top, but at some point, the entire foundation must be replaced. Superintendent Gilbert informed the board that at a very minimum, the cost would begin at \$100,000. Discussion regarding the replacement of the track ensued.

Trustee Monasterio asked if there was more growth in a particular section of town. Superintendent Gilbert responded that West has the biggest growth. He added that West has 100 students more than any of the other elementary schools. Superintendent Gilbert also mentioned that we might have to rezone the attendance area of the elementary schools to even out the student population.

The board thanked him for his report.

VII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None**

VIII. **NEW BUSINESS –**

- A. OUT-OF-DISTRICT OPEN ENROLLMENT APPLICATIONS – 2019-2020 – James Gilbert.** Superintendent Gilbert requested approval of the open enrollment application for the 2019-2020 school year. The parents will provide transportation to and from school.

1. Jack Parrish for his 12th grader, MHHS
2. Eklyn Catalino for her Kindergartener, North
3. Ashley Smalls for her 1st grader, SES
4. Chanda Arnold for her 11th grader, BMHS

Trustee Donahue motioned to approve the Out-of-District Open Enrollment Application as presented by Superintendent Gilbert, with a second from Trustee Knox. Motion passed.

- B. SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION ROUTES & SAFETY BUSSING APPROVAL – 2019-20 (ACTION) – James Gilbert.** Superintendent Gilbert requested approval of the 2019-2020 school bus route descriptions, timelines, and turnarounds, and the approval of the annual Safety Routes for 2019-2020. He said that the routes required to be approved annually. He added that Idaho Code calls for the district to provide transportation for students living more than one and one-half (1½) miles from the nearest appropriate school. Superintendent Gilbert continued to add that under Idaho Code, the Board of Trustees could approve the transportation of students living less than one and one-half (1½) miles from school when they believe it is warranted because of the age, health, or safety of the students. He then stated that the safety bus routes are the same four (4) routes used for many years due to many safety issues such as lack of sufficient sidewalks, students having to cross irrigation ditches or canals, high traffic area(s), etc. He also stated that all four of the safety routes were approved by the state and the district is reimbursed for the routes. A motion by Trustee Binion to accept the approve the 2018-19 school bus transportation routes and the safety busing routes, as presented by Mr. Gilbert was seconded by Trustee Monasterio. Motion approved.

- C. EMERGENCY LEVY/ENROLLMENT FIGURES (ACTION) – James Gilbert.** Superintendent Gilbert informed the board that in accordance with Idaho State Statute, MHSD qualifies to declare an emergency levy due to the increase in enrollment. He informed everyone that this is a levy that does not go to the voters for approval. Superintendent Gilbert then recommended that the board not invoke the emergency levy because with our district being good stewards of the public's money, we will address the increase in enrollment and adding teaching position without having to invoke the emergency levy.

Trustee Knox asked if this was something that needed to be done at the beginning of the school year. Superintendent Gilbert replied, yes, the emergency levy must be invoked by September, but we could ask for an extension until the end of September, He then said that should we get an influx of 200 students or more, the board might want to invoke the levy, but Superintendent Gilbert said that he felt that with our current enrollment, the emergency levy did not need to be invoked. Discussion continued regarding the emergency levy and the cost to the community, the amount of money the district might receive, etc. A motion by Trustee Binion to not invoke the emergency levy, received a second from Trustee Donahue. Motion carried. Chairman Abrego agreed and added that our goal is to get away from some of the other levies.

- D. PERSONNEL (ACTION) – James Gilbert.** Superintendent Gilbert requested the board declare a hiring emergency in the following areas. He added that many of the positions needed to be filled with alternate authorizations. He then informed the board that the state allows school districts to hire teachers who may not hold the proper certification in a particular area of education to be hired using the alternate authorization to fill positions. Trustee Monasterio motioned to approve the personnel items as presented by Superintendent Gilbert, with a second from Trustee Binion. Motion granted.

1. DECLARATION OF HIRING EMERGENCY & ALTERNATE AUTHORIZATION

- a. Special Education – K-4
- b. Special Education – 5-6
- c. Special Education – 7-8

- d. Special Education – 9-12
- e. Elementary – K-6
- f. High School Speech/AVID
- g. High School Earth Science
- h. High School Health

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Personnel Matters

Executive Session – Section 74-206(1)(b) – To consider the evaluation of a public school employee.

Chairman Abrego called for a motion for the purpose of allowing the board to enter into executive session. Trustee Binion motioned to enter into executive session in accordance with Idaho Code to discuss personnel matters, received a second from Trustee Donahue, the following resolution was presented:

RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

BE IT SO RESOLVED That the Board of Trustees of School District No. 193 recess from an open meeting into the following executive session(s) pursuant to Idaho Code, 74-206(1)(b) – To consider the evaluation of an employee, Idaho Code.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That following the executive session, the Board of Trustees will convene into public session for further business or adjournment of the meeting.

Chairman Abrego called upon Clerk Whitman to do a rollcall vote. Vote being had on the above and foregoing resolution, and the same having been counted and found to be as follows:

NAME OF TRUSTEES

Trustee Knox	Aye
Trustee Monasterio	Aye
Trustee Binion	Aye
Trustee Donahue.....	Aye
Chairman Abrego.....	Aye

And no less than two-thirds (2/3) of the membership in favor thereof, the Chairman declared said resolution adopted and the board recessed into executive session at 8:20 p.m. Chairman Abrego released Clerk Whitman at 8:21 p.m.

ACTION ITEM(S): None

NON-ACTION ITEM(S):

- A. Personnel Matters

Others present: The attending board members and Superintendent Gilbert.

Following a full and complete discussion of personnel matters, the Board reconvened into open session at 9:45 p.m. No motion needed.

- X. **ADJOURNMENT** – All business of the Board having been completed, Chairman Abrego called for a motion to adjourn. A motion from Trustee Binion to adjourn was seconded by Trustee Donahue. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

ATTACHMENT

APPOINTMENTS

Bragdon, Vickie, Pre-School Teacher, West Elementary
 Carter, Michael, 8th Grade Assist Football Coach, MHJH
 Crompton, Preston, Special Education Teacher, MHHS
 Durham, Daniel, Special Education Teacher, MHHS
 Elvidge, Brian Jr., Assist Varsity Football Coach, MHHS
 George, Megan, Counselor, MHHS

Greene, Heather, Special Education Teacher, MHHS
Hughes, Robert, Special Education Teacher, East Elementary
Jurewicz, Shelley, Kindergarten Teacher, West Elementary
Martin, Daniel, 7th Grade Assist Football Coach, MHJH
Medrano, Laura, Music Teacher, Stephensen & West Elementary
Montes, Jennifer, Speech Language Paraeducator, East Elementary
Moseley, Eugene, Special Education Teacher, MHJH
Muraski, Charlene, 3rd Grade Teacher, North Elementary
Muraski, Jessica, Health Teacher, MHHS
Negri, Christine, 5th Grade Teacher, HMS
Palmer, JaDene, Special Education Paraeducator, MHJH
Ragin, Courtney, Special Education Teacher, HMS
Ridley, Adrianna, Special Education Paraeducator, MHJH
Schweitzer, Katarina, Special Education Teacher, North Elementary
Scott, Earl Douglas, Science Teacher, MHHS
Stauffer, Alecia, Kindergarten Teacher, West Elementary
Wadas, Shannon, Speech/AVID Teacher, MHHS
Wade, LaDawn, Special Education Paraeducator, East Elementary
Winkler, Brittany, Study Hall Paraeducator, MHJH

RESIGNATIONS

Beasley, Shantell; TEAM Paraeducator, MHJH; effective: July 23, 2019
Goodman, William; Director of Technology, MHSD; effective: August 31, 2019
Hiler, Stephanie; 3rd Grade Teacher, North Elementary; effective: July 29, 2019

Chairman Abrego

Clerk Whitman