

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
 DECEMBER 1, 2020  
 SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE – ZOOM

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Mountain Home School District No. 193 was convened at 7:30 p.m., December 1, 2020, at the District Administration Office, 470 N 3<sup>rd</sup> East, Mountain Home, Idaho, in said district, pursuant to authority provided by Title 74, Chapter 2, Section 74-202(4)(c)(6)(b) – Open Meeting (Special Meeting), Idaho Code, and pursuant to affirmation by the Clerk that notice of the special meeting had been given to each trustee and posted public notice as required by law. A copy of the Notice of a Special Meeting of School Trustees so posted follows:

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
 MOUNTAIN HOME SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 193  
 Mountain Home, Elmore County, Idaho**

**Join Courtesy Zoom Meeting**

<https://zoom.us/j/93546526743?pwd=d0dWwVNEelZRTWtFRFdZakc3bjFGdz09>

Meeting ID: 935 4652 6743


Passcode: 066955

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Mountain Home School District No. 193, will be held on Tuesday, December 1, 2020, at 7:30 p.m., at the District Administration Office Boardroom, 470 North 3<sup>rd</sup> East, Mountain Home, Idaho, in said District, during which the following business will be conducted:

- I. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER (ACTION)** – Chairman/Vice-Chairman  
*MAX CAPACITY: Governor Little's Social Distancing Directive leaves our boardroom at a maximum capacity of twelve (12) people including the Board of Trustees, Superintendent, Clerk, Treasurer, and Technology Director. More than twelve people would require those persons to sit in the foyer or other overflow rooms.*
- II. **DISCUSSION AND/OR DETERMINATION OF SCHOOL STATUS & COVID19 SITUATION**  
 – Chairman Abrego/James Gilbert
- III. **PUBLIC INPUT (COMMENTS – NO ACTION/POSSIBLE DIRECTION)** –  
*Those wishing to give public input need to attend the board meeting and sign up for Public Input. 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, so do not include them in your public input. 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. Those wishing to give public input may also submit their input electronically via [MHSD Board Meeting – Public Input Form](#), but the Board is not required to read the input forms aloud. **All forms must be received by the Clerk of the Board no later than 12 noon the day of the board meeting either electronically or by mail.***
- IV. **ADJOURN**

This Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Mountain Home School District No. 193 is called pursuant to Title 74, Chapter 2, Section 74-202(4)(c)(6)(b) – Open Meeting (Special Meeting), Idaho Code.

Dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November 2020.



Sharon M. Whitman

Clerk, School District No. 193

Mountain Home, Elmore, Idaho

- I. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER** – Chairperson/Vice-chairperson. Chairman Abrego convened the special meeting of the Board of Trustees at 7:30 p.m., asked everyone to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. **DISCUSSION AND/OR DETERMINATION OF COVID19 SITUATION** – Chairman Abrego/James Gilbert. Chairman Abrego called upon Superintendent Gilbert to update everyone on the district's COVID status.

Superintendent Gilbert reported that currently the district has 19 students and staff from seven different schools that are positive and many of those will no longer be considered actively infected come Friday. MHHS has a number of staffs out and their people in the building are covering classes for absent teachers. Most of the exposures are coming from home.

Superintendent Gilbert state that the hybrid is still the best situation for students and staff, and he believes we will make to Christmas break. Elmore County has seen a decrease of positivity rate and daily infections. We won't know the true impact of Thanksgiving break for another week or so, but things could change rapidly. If it creates a staff issue for us, we will need to address it building by building. There isn't any reason to make a districtwide decision if the majority of the cases are in one or two buildings.

Superintendent Gilbert said that second semester should look similar to first semester. The availability of vaccines is around the corner. Idaho was supposed to receive 50,000-60,000 doses but now it's only about 20,000. In our health agency area, that is about 4800 doses that needs to be shared with the other communities in our health region such as Boise, Meridian, Mountain Home, Eagle, and other regional communities; it will be prioritized by population. Frontline workers first and then trickle down from there. We might be able to have doses for teachers in March.

We will need to continue to be diligent with what we are doing. Hopefully, with the vaccines we can have more students in schools and more student activities and events. It's a long way away, but there is some hope.

Mountain Home has been in a great position with this and the board has been diligent with safety protocols and consistency by staying with one model and not having to bounce back and forth.

Trustee Binion mentioned that regarding substitute teachers, we have a lot of people in the community so are we still short in substitutes? Superintendent Gilbert informed everyone that lack of subs is a statewide problem. The sub pool had been substantially depleted. Some of the other districts have had to go remote because of lack of subs available to cover classes and not because of infections.

Chairman Abrego asked who gets pulled to help cover classrooms? Superintendent Gilbert replied that paras, support staff, administrators, and other teachers are used to cover classes. It's a tremendous burden to staff with everything else they have to do.

Trustee Donahue stated that with the numbers of staff we have in this district and to only have 13 cases is a very low number, that is truly amazing. It proves that what we are doing is working. She then asked about second semester at MHHS. Superintendent Gilbert replied kids would attend school Monday, Wednesday and Tuesday or Thursday to attend all of their classes and see their teachers.

Trustee Knox asked about the struggling kids. Superintendent Gilbert said that we do have kids that are struggling and there are more D's and F's and the reality is when you don't have kids in school five-days a week, there is little to no support at home to monitor and encourage the kids. Nationwide, this is a problem. He added that there has been some improvement since the start of school, but it will still be a challenge for the remainder of the school year.

Discussion continued regarding staffing and covering classrooms; discussed the hybrid being the safest option for teachers and students; reviewed the quarantine guidance from the CDH; discussed the quarantine procedure; discussed the possibility of CDC reducing the quarantine time guidance and safety protocol guidance depending on certain factors; discussed sports; discussed the importance to students of having student activities; etc.

- III. **PUBLIC INPUT (COMMENTS – NO ACTION/POSSIBLE DIRECTION)** – No public input forms were submitted, and no one signed up to give public input.
- IV. **ADJOURNMENT** – All business of the Board having been completed, Chairman Abrego called for a motion to adjourn. A motion from Trustee Donahue to adjourn was seconded by Trustee Binion. Motion granted. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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Chairman Abrego

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Clerk Whitman