

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
 NOVEMBER 3, 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., November 3, 2020, via zoom, 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:

November 3, 2020
NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MOUNTAIN HOME SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 193
Mountain Home, Elmore County, Idaho

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95707196109?pwd=dUFyc29ZN1dSV3NTSUpxV0xKVE42UT09>

Meeting ID: 957 0719 6109

Passcode: 166123

[MHSD Board Meeting – Public Input Request Form](#). 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. Individuals wanting to give public input **MUST** submit a Public Input form NLT noon the day of the meeting. During the special board meeting, the Board will unmute those individuals who submitted a form. Individuals who did not submit a form will not be unmuted and will not be allowed to give input.

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, November 3, 2020, at 7:30 p.m., via Zoom only, Mountain Home, Idaho, in said District, during which the following business will be conducted:

- I. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER (ACTION)** – Chairman/Vice-Chairman
- 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 speak on any topic of their interest should complete and submit to the chairperson or the board clerk the [MHSD Board Meeting – Public Input Request Form](#). 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. 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.
- 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 29th day of October 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 7:32 p.m.
- 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 began by updating the board on the COVID data. Currently we have thirty-nine positive cases, since the beginning of the school year. Ten of those cases are still active, which means they are less than two-weeks old, and the thirty-nine cases span all of the district's schools.

Superintendent Gilbert mentioned that quarantine wise we have had 220 students and staff in quarantine. He reiterated that what the district is seeing is not school-based transmission, it is coming from outside of schools and then coming into the schools.

Superintendent Gilbert spoke with the Twin Falls Superintendent, a district that was completely back in class with face masks, but are now in the hybrid model; their average cases per week has dropped from 10 to 2 cases just by being in the hybrid model.

Superintendent Gilbert said that the discussions with CDH is that schools should continue in the hybrid model as long as we're not seeing those transmissions in school occurring. We can expect more quarantines and positive cases throughout the week. Superintendent Gilbert appreciates what staff is doing to help manage this. Every week we are facing something different with it, but staff have done a tremendous job of helping identify those isolations that need to be done and continuing with what teachers do and that is to do the best they can in these tough situations to educate the kids.

The board continued the discussion regarding the majority of quarantines were with staff this week; discussed having a couple of students test positive this last week, but it was from outside settings outside of the schools; discussed social distancing and face masks are mitigating the low transmission numbers in our schools; spoke on the reality of the community coming into contact with an infected person and the importance of the community mitigating social distancing and wearing face masks; continued to discuss how well the schools are justifying social distancing and face masks and how well the students are handling wearing facemasks while in school, and that the community needed to follow COVID protocols; discussed that even with the county being in the red category, and the color category is a Elmore County issue in which our Elmore County Commissioners needed to step up, but our schools can remain in the yellow hybrid category as long as we as a school district have low transmissions; discussed the quarantine process and quarantine protocols is not coming from the school district, but from the CDC;

Chairman Abrego said that there were different sources of sciences and we are following the CDC is that mandated by the state. Who is telling us that we have to follow the CDC and not some other science? Superintendent Gilbert stated that the question seemed more of a political question and that the CDC is responsible for setting policy for disease prevention in the United States and that is who we need to follow; the same with the CDH being the state agency for our area. He added that with all the politics involved with COVID any person can go on google and find all the links and answers that best meet the viewpoints of that person. As a taxpayer funded system, CDC is the lead agency for any infectious diseases and under that umbrella is CDH.

Chairman Abrego asked about winter sports especially at MHJH. Superintendent Gilbert said the MHJH is in the Inner Valley League, Southern Idaho Conference, and some of the schools aren't allowing any fans, some schools are only allowing home fans, and others haven't made a decision, but we should have an answer from the conference by Monday. No matter what, we still need to follow social distancing requirements. The Great Basin Conference is putting together a common guidance for the entire conference and I'm guessing home fans only and those numbers would be restricted. We want to have our kids have the opportunity to participate in sports whether there is an audience or not. MHHS has a video system service that parents can purchase.

Trustee Binion stated that the board approved a color-coded procedure on the attendance at events and when the county goes into red, we weren't allowing any fans, so have we deviated from it. Superintendent Gilbert that's totally up to the board; it's the board's decision. Chairman Abrego asked for the Fan Attendance Guideline be on the next regular board meeting's agenda.

The board agreed to hold another special board meeting on Tuesday, Dec 1, at 6:00 p.m.

Eric reminded the audience the procedures and rules to give public input.

(Rules for public input is also on the district website at www.mtnhomesd.org)

- III. **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.

Chairman Abrego

Clerk Whitman