

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ROBERTS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5
JANUARY 11, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Roberts School District No. 5 was called to order by Chair Randy Weimer at 7:00 p.m. on January 11, 2011 in the library at the Roberts School.

ATTENDANCE

Randy Weimer, Chair
Sanford Langager
Frank Ropp

Absent: Tracy Timmons, Vice Chair
Carl Easthouse

Elliott Crump, Superintendent
JaLayne Obert, District Clerk

GUESTS: Lynette Burgan, Bill Burgan, Mary Allen, Kyle Neibauer, Carly May, Crystal Wright, Doug Andersen, Sarah Novasio, Trisha Ayre, Kelsey Kessner

MINUTES

Motion was made by Frank Ropp, seconded by Sanford Langager and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular meeting December 14, 2010 as presented. (YES—Weimer, Langager, Ropp. NO—none.)

Mr. Langager asked that a copy of the minutes be included with the Board packet.

CLAIMS, SEQUENCE, AND VOIDED CHECKS

Mr. Weimer asked if staff shirts were bought from both MCE and Student Council. Mr. Crump explained they were as Student Council didn't have all the sizes needed but we paid the same price for all the shirts.

Mr. Weimer asked about the payment for professional development. Mr. Crump stated that is for a workshop Mrs. Tomlin asked to attend.

Mrs. Obert stated the budget amount for bus maintenance has already been expended because of some large repair bills. She added the transportation budget is still in good shape and there are other line items which can be used or shifted for repairs but she did want to inform the Board of that item.

Mr. Langager stated he would like to see if there are ways to cut costs in that budget.

Mr. Weimer asked if Roly DeVries could attend the February meeting to discuss bus maintenance and Mr. Crump stated he would arrange it.

Mr. Langager stated he is surprised the water and sewer bill is only \$219 per month as the school consumes a great deal of water.

Mrs. Obert stated there have been increases in all the utilities.

Motion was made by Frank Ropp, seconded by Sanford Langager and carried unanimously to approve the claims, sequence, and voided checks for January, 2011, as presented. (YES—Weimer, Langager, Ropp. NO—none).

STUDENT REPORT

Kelsey Kessner, Student Council President, reported on the following student events:

- Christmas Concert – Student Council put together “goodie bags” for Santa to distribute

- Winter Semi-formal dance – Not as many attended as anticipated but was still fun
- Miles City Community College visited today to speak with juniors and seniors
- Athletics – There is a new addition to the boys' basketball team with the arrival of an exchange student from Belgium
- BPA team went to regional competition in Livingston and took 15 first place awards with all team members advancing to state competition
- The first ski day is coming up on January 21
- National Guard is bringing the obstacle course back again this month. She stated the course is pretty strenuous and students are very competitive

Mr. Weimer asked Miss Kessner how school is in general. Miss Kessner stated it is good.

Mrs. Obert stated Student Council not only puts together the bags for the Christmas concert but also buys the supplies for them and asked if the general fund could pay for those supplies. The Board agreed with the request.

TEACHER REPORTS

Kyle Neibauer stated things are going great with his classes so far this year and semester exams are coming soon. He stated some of the upper grade classes are doing projects or debates for their semester exams.

Mr. Neibauer stated he is also staying very busy with athletics. He stated the boys' basketball team is improving every game and it will soon be time for junior high boys' basketball to begin.

Mr. Ropp asked as a first year teacher if Mr. Neibauer has experienced any discipline problems.

Mr. Neibauer stated the students have behaved very well and like most small schools, many problems are fixed at home. He added there has only been one incident all year that went to Mr. Crump and that behavior has stopped.

Mr. Langager stated he appreciates all the work Mr. Neibauer does for the students.

Mr. Weimer asked if Mr. Neibauer has everything he needs for his classroom. Mr. Neibauer stated he does.

Crystal Wright stated this has been a great year with eleven students in the second grade, four which are new students to the district. She added there are different learner levels in her room and she has tried to adjust her teaching to reach all students.

Mrs. Wright stated the elementary staff works well together and meets on a regular basis.

Mrs. Wright stated a new reading series was purchased for K-1 last year and those teachers have suggested training for that series is important. She added she would really like to see the district continue the series through grades two and three as it is much better for reaching each student.

Mrs. Wright stated junior high girls' basketball is over and the coaches saw huge gains in fundamental skills in the 15 girls participating. She stated ski days are scheduled in January, February, and March and parents and teachers have offered to help out. She added 16 boys are interested in junior high boys' basketball.

Mrs. Wright stated she is trying to get her room ready for a substitute during her maternity leave.

Mr. Langager asked if the teachers using it like the new reading series. Mrs. Wright stated they do.

Mr. Crump asked how far the series goes as far as grades. Mrs. Wright stated the highest level it goes to is grades 4 and 5. She added it also includes all the phonics materials so those don't have to be purchased separately.

Mr. Langager thanked Mrs. Wright for all her extra efforts with the students.

PERSONNEL

LEAVE REQUEST – Mr. Crump stated Mrs. Wright has requested eight weeks of maternity leave, beginning in March and ending in May, depending on her delivery date. He stated she is also requesting payment of 15% of her salary during her leave for providing lesson plans during her absence.

Mr. Crump stated Mrs. Wright has been working hard to prepare her room and students for her absence and he recommends that the Board approve her maternity leave plus the payment of 15% of her salary for lesson plans.

Motion was made by Sanford Langager, seconded by Frank Ropp and carried unanimously to approve maternity leave for Crystal Wright as needed up to 12 weeks and pay 15% of her salary during that time for lesson plans. (YES—Weimer, Langager, Ropp. NO—none).

Mr. Weimer asked if we've arranged a replacement for Mrs. Wright and Mr. Crump stated we are working on that.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE ISSUES

Mr. Weimer called for an executive session at 7:35 p.m. stating the next item to come before the Board involves individuals and the privacy rights of those individuals supersede the public's right to know. He returned the meeting to regular session at 8:22 p.m.

Motion was made by Frank Ropp, seconded by Sanford Langager and carried unanimously to reinstate first semester credit for students CB, CW and TN. (YES—Weimer, Langager, Ropp. NO—none),

NEW BUSINESS

BPA STIPEND -- Mr. Crump stated Mr. Andersen and he have talked about his duties with BPA and the amount of time required fulfilling those duties. He stated in prior years the BPA advisor had either been given an extra prep period or a stipend but that had been discontinued.

Mr. Crump stated Mr. Andersen's work with BPA is very valuable and he would like to do some research to see how to compensate him for his time.

Mr. Andersen stated he did talk with other advisors at regionals and all of them receive a stipend and four receive a stipend plus the advisor travel to nationals is paid.

Mr. Weimer stated the value of his leadership is obvious with how well the students placed at regionals.

Mr. Ropp stated there are 20 students in our BPA where other schools may have fewer students.

Mr. Weimer asked Mr. Crump to do some research and bring this item for discussion next month.

MHSA ANNUAL MEETING PROPOSALS – Mr. Crump stated the MHSA Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2011. He added he went through the following proposals with the ADs to get input on how to vote:

1. Proposal to Amend Eligibility By-Law for Attendance – requires a student to be enrolled in twenty hours per week and in regular attendance 10 hours per week in the physical presence in the building.
YES
2. Proposal to Amend Eighth Grade Participation Rule – allows eighth grade students to play on high school varsity or junior varsity teams with prior approval.
YES
3. Proposal to Amend Eligibility By-Law for Transfers – Adds statement for students returning to the home district of parents.
YES
4. Proposal to Amend Jewelry Rule – Would remove the MHSA jewelry rule from the sport of golf.
NO
5. Proposal to Eliminate the Liability Catastrophe Plan – Eliminate the plan.
Decide at the meeting. Discuss with Western States Insurance.
6. Proposal to Amend 35 Point Rule for Football – Changes the mercy rule to allow more time for play by younger athletes.
NO
7. Proposal to Amend rules for Double Dual Wrestling Events – Doesn't affect our district.

Carly May stated this involves the number of weigh-ins for wrestlers at double dual meets and from watching her brothers participate in wrestling, she would oppose reducing the number of weigh-ins.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES – Mr. Crump stated the teachers have agreed to a second parent-teacher conference on March 17 in return for a half day off before the Easter break on April 20.

OLD BUSINESS

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION – Mr. Crump stated trustees have been provided a copy of his evaluation form. He stated the form is very thorough and looks to be a large task for him to complete.

Mr. Weimer stated Mr. Crump’s portion of the evaluation doesn’t need to be detailed and he can address each topic in general terms. He added it is a very interactive process between the Board and superintendent and if Mr. Crump’s portion is complete by the next Board meeting, a date will then be set for the evaluation.

BOILER LICENSE – Mr. Crump stated Brian Roat has not been available to sign off on Mrs. Easthouse’s hours so she can schedule the boiler exam. He stated he will contact Mr. Roat.

HEATING SYSTEM – Mr. Crump stated he asked the serviceman from Conditioned Air for a bid for replacing valves in the heating system and he feels the valves may not need to be replaced if the system is recalibrated. He added that person would like to fix the problem in the science room, balance out the heat between the upstairs and downstairs, and look at some assistance for the radiant heat in the shop when it is extremely cold.

Mr. Crump stated the bid from Conditioned Air to recalibrate the system was around \$700 and he would recommend we have that done along with looking at the other issues so we’ll know if we need to look at more extensive issues.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL – Mr. Ropp stated he spoke with Mrs. Timmons and the representative from Safe Routes to School will be here the last week in January or first week in February.

MISCELLANEOUS – Mr. Crump stated the district will not be receiving CTEP funds for the brick project so should be getting bid estimates on the project to have available when considering year end money.

Mr. Weimer asked the status of the promethean boards. Mr. Crump stated they are mounted but we had some computer problems this week and lost a server. He added when that is taken care of, the software for the promethean boards will be loaded.

Mrs. Obert stated we’ll need to replace that server and will be getting bids from our computer person.

Mr. Ropp stated we need to start working on the Board policies again.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

SUPERINTENDENT SCHEDULE – Mr. Crump stated he’ll be attending the MHSA Annual Meeting on January 17 along with Ms. Reinhardt.

CIVIL RIGHTS DATA COLLECTION REPORT – Mr. Crump stated he recently had to complete a Civil Rights Data Collection report and the district was docked for teacher attendance as the government feels a teacher missing more than 10 days in a year is unacceptable.

TEACHER UPDATE – Mr. Crump stated he was going to bring his teacher observation form to the Board for approval but after speaking with Mr. Weimer, he doesn’t see the need.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Weimer adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Board Chair

District Clerk