

## GRAND COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 21, 2009

Kaaron Jorgen called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with Board members Kaaron Jorgen, Bryon Walston, Ron Olsen, Deb Hren and Jim Webster present, along with Superintendent Margaret Hopkin, Business Administrator Douglas Cannon, Secretary Becky McCormick, Principals, Melinda Snow, Robert Farnsworth, Steve Hren, Special Education Director Taryn Kay, GCEA Representatives Flo Saggboy, GEA Representative Joanne Savoie. Also present were Mayank Bhavsar, Pankita Bhavsar, Vaishnavi Bhavsar and Udit Bhavsar, Ron Georg, Dan McNeil, Steve Hazlett and Mike Steele.

**Swearing in of School Board Members for New Terms of Office:** Business Administrator Doug Cannon swore in School Board Members, Ron Olsen, Jim Webster and Deb Hren. Ron Olsen made a motion to nominate Kaaron Jorgen as President of the Board, Jim Webster seconded the motion. In favor of the motion were: Kaaron Jorgen, Bryon Walston, Ron Olsen, Deb Hren, and Jim Webster. The motion passed. Jim Webster made a motion to nominate Bryon Walston as Vice-President of the Board, Ron Olsen seconded the motion. In favor of the motion were: Kaaron Jorgen, Bryon Walston, Ron Olsen, Deb Hren, and Jim Webster. The motion passed

**Recognitions:** High School Principal, Steve Hren presented Udit Bhavsar as Student of the Month. Also receiving the award was Lillian McKinlay-Jones. Lillian was not present, as she was enroute to New York for Debate tournament.

**Staff Reports:** Superintendent Margaret Hopkin gave the Board a handout entitled "Grand County Rec Board Proposal for High School Baseball Stand: Pros and Cons". The Grand County Rec Board is offering to pay for construction of a small building behind the home plate area on GCHS' baseball field. The building would provide a) leveled seating for spectators providing space for lawn chairs, bleachers and handicapped accessible seating; b) a concession stand; and c) restrooms. Board concerns were maintenance of the building after completed, impact fees, and hook-up costs not included in the proposal from County Rec. Deb Hren suggested that we accept with proposal and complete the project when funds become available. Taryn Kay encouraged the Board to see if there would be any Title IX ramifications. The Rec Board needs a response to the proposal immediately if they are to complete the construction before baseball season begins. Kaaron Jorgen said our priorities now are maintenance and operation of the District. The Board gave Margaret Hopkin a directive to get more information on the expected maintenance and operation costs of the baseball 'Stand'.

Taryn Kay: UBSCT testing is February 3-5. CRT's are February 9-12. Taryn Kay presented the Board with revised copies of "Special Education Policies and Procedures" to be posted. The original Policies and Procedures were too big according to the State and needed to be slimmed down. The deadline is March 15, 2009.

Robert Farnsworth HMK Principal reported that Kristi Nichols is back from maternity leave and Jan Mefret is back from hip surgery. Special Ed teacher Frankie Law retired; Penny Smith took her position. The After School Programs are going again.

Melinda Snow, Middle School Principal: David Olsen said the basketball intramural program at the Middle School is very successful. Melinda invited the Board to come to the Middle School and see the artwork on the walls. Melinda is also applying to UDOT for a \$250,000 grant for Safe Routes to School. Reality Town is February 6<sup>th</sup>.

Steve Hren, High School Principal reported that the Student Advocacy Group is taking hold. Brandy Shumway, Peggy Nissen, Cari Caylor and Deanna Mecham are the advisors. The Group is having a retreat at the Grand Center on February 18<sup>th</sup>. The topic is how to improve the climate at the High School. Debate is on their way to Columbia University. The trip is privately funded. Wrestling, girls and boys basketball doing well. Steve Hazlett requested permission to take the Golf team to Arizona for the Phoenix Open, January 28-30. This would be at no cost to the District. The team would work at the Open for their tickets.

GEA President, Joanne Savoie will be attending 'Educator on the Hill Day' on February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## **INFORMATION & REPORTS**

**District Audit:** Doug Cannon, Business Administrator reported the Summary of Audit Results for the Year ending, June 20, 2007. Grand County School District was determined to be a low-risk auditee. Bound copies of the audit will be presented at the February Board meeting.

**State Budget Cuts:** The State Office of Education had required each district to show how they would cut their budgets by 4.5% and 7.5% for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school year. Margaret Hopkin referred the Board to page 6 in their packets. When the Legislature ends in March, we will know what the budget cuts actually are. High School administration is looking at cutting one non-regional game for each sport this spring. Beacon and Grand AM are also looking at ways they can cut their budgets this year.

**Legislative Lobbying:** Jim Webster said the Board should write Legislators concerning funding of education. Margaret Hopkin suggested the Board write an editorial about budget cuts and funding for education. The editorial could be put in most large Utah newspapers.

**Master Planning:** Margaret Hopkin reported that Pamela Juliano, Field Representative for Congressman Matheson met with Margaret and Doug Cannon on January 21 concerning the Stimulus Package. Projects must be shovel ready within ninety days. Information collected by Pamela indicates that we cannot get assistance with the new buildings because we bonded. The Frontier House, solar panels for the new buildings and the playground for the new elementary school are possibilities to apply for Stimulus Package. Jim Webster had talked to Miles Nelson with CEU about submitting Phase II of the new votec building for Stimulus Package. Jim Webster said the Board needs to address what to do with

the Red Rock property when vacated. The Board needs to set a date for the ground breaking of the new buildings.

**Transportation:** Doug Cannon reported that he and Verna Butcher, Transportation Supervisor met with Legislative Auditor to review the Transportation Legislative Audit Report.

**Communities That Care:** Jim Webster tabled this report.

**USBA Convention Reports:** Bryon Walston reported that he went to the session on school safety. Bryon also met with MHTN while at the USBA convention. He suggested we get displays of the new building to put in our schools. Ron Olsen reported on the session he attended on Healthy Lifestyles. Ron also attended a session on technology. Margaret Hopkin attended a session entitled 'History of Utah State Taxation'.

**Superintendent Evaluation:** Kaaron Jorgen said we will hand out Superintendent Evaluation forms in the February 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

**NSBA Convention:** In light of the State budgets cuts Deb Hren requested the Board revisit their decision to send her to the NSBA Convention in San Diego in April 2009. It was the Board's consensus to cancel her registration to the Convention.

**Consent Agenda:** Deb Hren made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Bryon Walston seconded the motion. In favor of the motion were: Kaaron Jorgen, Bryon Walston, Ron Olsen, Deb Hren, and Jim Webster. The motion passed.

**Action Items:** Ron Olsen made a motion to post the Special Education Policies and Procedures. Jim Webster seconded the motion. In favor of the motion were: Kaaron Jorgen, Bryon Walston, Ron Olsen, Deb Hren, and Jim Webster. The motion passed. Deb Hren made a motion to allow the Golf Team to travel to Arizona, pending approval from Risk Management. Bryon Walston seconded the motion. In favor of the motion were: Kaaron Jorgen, Bryon Walston, Ron Olsen, Deb Hren, and Jim Webster. The motion passed.

**Communications:** Jim Webster would like to schedule a meeting with Higher Ed Commissioner Sederberg, Board Members, and HEAT Committee. Byron Walston would like to see School Board Meeting become electronic – not wasting paper.

**Delegations:** Mike Steele presented on behalf of the County Recreation Board seeking a decision on the approval of the 'Proposal for the High School Baseball 'Stand'. Since this item was not on the agenda, the Board will make the decision at its next meeting on January 23, 2009.

Kaaron Jorgen thanked Ron Georg for his commitment of time to Grand County School District.

At 9:04 Deb Hren made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Jim Webster seconded the motion. In favor of the motion were: Kaaron Jorgen, Bryon Walston, Ron Olsen, Deb Hren, and Jim Webster. The motion passed.

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**EXECUTIVE MEETING**

**JANUARY 21, 2009**

Kaaron Jorgen called the meeting to order at 9:05 pm with Board members Kaaron Jorgen, Bryon Walston, Ron Olsen, Deb Hren and Jim Webster present, along with Superintendent Margaret Hopkin, Business Administrator and Douglas Cannon.