

GRAND COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 18, 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 Sherrie Buckingham, Melinda Snow, Robert Farnsworth, Steve Hren, GCEA Representatives Flo Saggboy and John West, GEA Representative Joanne Savoie. Also present were Ronald Dolphin, Betsy Henderson, Paul Henderson, Hailey Henderson, Cori Santos, and Linda Warren.

Douglas Cannon led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognition: Steve Hren presented Student's of the Month, Ashlyn Walston and Robbie Sweeten. Also recognized were Hailey Henderson who took 1st place in Dramatic Interpretation at Stanford and Cori Santos who broke into the semi-finals in Oratory. Receiving Blue Ribbon Awards were Libby Vaccaro for her continuing dedication to the students on the Debate team, and Linn Kolb for her work with students in foreign language. Red Rock Elementary was recognized by the State as a High Performance Title I School. SESC's "Spotlight" for GCSD is Ayni Henderson, Special Ed Secretary.

Staff Reports: Superintendent Hopkin announced Rob Welch's new temporary position with the District as the District Construction Manager. His new position began February 2, 2009 and will end September 30, 2010. His salary will come out of the Bond monies. Frank Melo was transferred into Rob Welch's District Maintenance Supervisor. Interviews for Frank Melo's maintenance position were held. Julio Lopez, custodian at HMK received the maintenance position. Margaret referred the Board to the art work on the walls by Red Rock students under the direction of Bruce Hucko.

Doug Cannon reported that the Technology department will automatically shut computers down daily in an effort to save money. Staff has the option to continue to work on computers and manually shut them down when they are through.

Sherrie Buckingham is pleased with the work of the SIOP coaches, which are Lynn Koon and Holly Harris. Cowboy Poet Sid Hausman has been working with Red Rock students. Good Touch, Bad Touch assemblies have taken place by the Sheriff's Department. Students celebrated 100 days of school.

Robert Farnsworth reported that Delaney Manley won the Spelling Bee. A second equipment drop from Hogan construction was made to the HMK grounds today.

Melinda Snow said the Middle School took place 4th in the Basketball tournament. Eighth graders completed the NAPE on February 18th. Students took Reality Town more serious this year. Students enjoyed Spirit Week. Melinda submitted to UDOT an application for a grant for Safe Routes to School for the new elementary school.

Steve Hren reported that the UBSCT was completed last week. Students are completing Core Testing this week. Tony Cossart took 2nd place in State Wrestling competition. Zack Taylor took 3rd place and Sam Connley took 6th place. Boys Basketball did not place to compete in State playoffs. Girls Basketball will go to Snow College to play Enterprise to determine placement in the State bracket. Student Advocacy Group met today at the Grand Center for a retreat. Thirty one students attended. Dr. Mitchell was the

keynote speaker. Students made a personal pledge on how they could change the climate at the High School.

Taryn Kay thanked the Board for their site visit to the CRS Preschool. There is an increase in the requirements to meet AYP. Certified staff will receive 2 credit hours for their work on SIOp. There is a new Draft of the Special Ed Policies and Procedures.

GEA representative, Joanne Savoie reported that she sat with Christine Watkins (Utah House Representative) on February 6th – Day on the Hill. GEA will host a General Membership Meeting on February 27, Professional Educator Development Day. March 2nd is Read Across America Day (Dr. Seuss's Birthday).

GCEA representative, John West reported that on February 4th they held an executive meeting with Brian Christianson, USEA rep.

INFORMATION AND REPORTS

Utah High School Athletics Association Asks for Recommendation: Faced with the current economic situation, Steve Hren reported that UHSAA recommends that there is a moratorium on new sports, reducing non-revenue sports and, practice games over 150 miles must be approved by board of education. Ron Dolphin said the cuts are doable. Bryon Walston was concerned about Middle School students traveling to Kayenta through City Recreation. Doug Cannon commented that Risk Management is working with rural districts concerning out of state travel.

Nutrition Policy Compliance: Margaret Hopkins shared Deb Rappe's concerns, faced with the current economic situation and with increasing prices of fresh fruits and vegetables; we do not have the funds to continue purchase as many fresh fruits and vegetables. Do we scale back on the fresh fruits and vegetables, or do we raise lunch price again? Ron Olsen said we should not sacrifice nutritional meals.

Current Conditions of State and Federal Stimulus Package: Margaret Hopkin is working on submitting a proposal for new District Office. This would be our District's last priority, but it is the only project that fits the stimulus package. Dan McNeil is submitting a package for solar panels for the new buildings

District Cutbacks: For the remainder of this year, State mandated cutbacks are 1.6%, which for Grand is \$170,000. Next year's cutbacks are predicted to be between 4% and 17%. Margaret Hopkin said we want to protect staff positions. She also reported that the freeze is still in place. Some districts are non-renewing provisional staff. Logan cut staff salaries 3%. San Juan terminated 3 positions.

Legislative Update: Superintendents have sent a statement to legislators with their concerns on bills concerning education. Margaret Hopkin said House Bill 66, if passed would equalize property tax state wide. Grand would lose \$300,000. Senate Bill 159, a special interest bill would implement Singapore Math program. Jim Webster said HB315 would give more power to community councils, i.e. hiring and firing principals.

Master Planning Update: The ground breaking for the new buildings is April 2, 2009. Margaret Hopkin and Jim Dressler will meet with church leaders about no parking on Mivida during school hours.

Board Goals: Kaaron Jorgen referred Board to Board Goals for 2009-2010 in their packet. Kaaron moved to Action Item.

Superintendent Evaluation: Board, Administrators, and Board secretary were given Superintendent Evaluations that are due on March 10, 2009.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes and Financial Reports: Jim Webster made a motion to accept consent agenda. 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. Margaret referred the Board to Gordon Butcher's letter of resignation effective June 30, 2009.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval Special Ed Policies and Procedures: Bryon Walston made a motion to approved Special Ed Polices and Procedure with changes. 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.

COMMUNICATIONS

Ron Olsen commented some teachers at a recent GEA meeting expressed concern to him that teachers at the High School are not following principal directives, such as releasing classes early. Margaret will talk with Steve Hren about using District policies to enforce directives - such as verbal warning, writing teachers up, giving directives and 2 day suspension without pay. Bryon Walston expressed concern about event parking at the High School; people parking in the drop off zones. Kaaron Jorgen reported that Morgan School District will not be using the Sharp Survey any more, as they feel it limits parental rights. Jim Webster will be on vacation end February through first week March.

ADVANCE PLANNING

The Regular Board Meeting was moved from April 15, 2009 to April 22, 2009. The Site visit is March 17, 2009 at the Bus Barn. At 1:00 on the 17th a Board Work Session will be held at the District Office. An Open House will be March 18th from 5:30 – 6:30. At 6:30 the Regular Board Meeting will begin.

At 8:30 pm Bryon Walston made a motion to go into Executive Session. 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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

FEBRUARY 18, 2009

Meeting called to order at 8:30 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. Meeting called to discuss personnel and legal matters and adjourned at 9:00 pm.