

GRAND COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

JUNE 15, 2009

Kaaron Jorgen called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with Board members Kaaron Jorgen, Bryon Walston, Deb Hren and Jim Webster present, along with Superintendent Margaret Hopkin, Business Administrator Douglas Cannon, Secretary Becky McCormick, District Construction Manager Rob Welch, Principals, Melinda Snow, Robert Farnsworth, Steve Hren, and Sherrie Buckingham, GCEA Representatives Flo Saggboy and John West, GEA Representative Joanne Savoie. Board member Ron Olsen joined by teleconferencing. Also attending were Linda Warren, Karen Clark, Charlotte Mates, Arlajean Paskett, David Tatton, Jill Tatton, Jeff Richards, Tom Eyler, Melissa Meldrum, Robyn Johnson, Lisa Paterson, Hal Adams, Lynn Koon, Trisia Hedin, Hugh Glass, Peggy Nissen, Janie Tuft, Lisa Paterson, Ranna Bieschke and Ron Dolphin.

Jim Webster led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

BUDGET HEARING

6:00 PM

Business Administrator Doug Cannon said even after the Budget is approved, after negotiations and State funding finalized, we will have to approve an amended budget. We will pay 1.6 million each year on the Bond. Kaaron Jorgen asked for questions. Jim Webster made a motion to accept the placeholder budget for 2010. Bryon Walston seconded the motion. In favor of the motion were: Kaaron Jorgen, Bryon Walston, Deb Hren, and Jim Webster. The motion passed. Deb Hren made a motion to accept the June 30, 2009 amended budget. Bryon Walston seconded. In favor of the motion were: Kaaron Jorgen, Bryon Walston, Deb Hren, and Jim Webster. The motion passed.

REGULAR MEETING

6:12 PM

Recognition: Blue Ribbon Award was presented to Jill Tatton. Jill received USU's Outstanding Regional Campus Student.

Staff Reports: Margaret Hopkin reported: The Admin Retreat was held at the Creamery on June 11th and 12th. On October 1st, a tabletop for Emergency Preparedness is scheduled. John Mealey has been asked to become the District Webmaster. Doug Cannon reported: The soccer field will be closed this summer for rejuvenation. Hogan now has liability insurance. The High School track will be repaired. The gym floors will be refinished in a month. The pump went out at the soccer field. Rob Welch reported: The new vocational building is 6% complete, and construction is on schedule. HMK Elementary is ahead of schedule, 16% completion; the site utilities are completed. Bruce Barnes with MHTN is please with the work of the local contractors. Steve Hren reported that June 3, High School graduation went well. The Associate Principal interviews will be the end of this week. Raw data from core testing looks very good – comparing previous years. Melinda Snow reported: Middle School had a student activity fundraiser; staff volunteered for the dunk tank. Interviews for Beacon Coordinator, Interlocal Custodian and ELL teacher are scheduled. Robert Farnsworth reported: On-line core testing was completed and raw data is back. HMK is fully staffed for next year.

At 6:40 pm Ron Olsen joined the Board Meeting by telephone.

Sherrie Buckingham reported: 3rd grade core testing on-line was completed. Kindergarten graduation was held in the High School auditorium. The Leadership team met on June 19th. Cassandra McDougall took on the Red Rock Website and has done an incredible job. Joanne Savoie, GEA Representative thanked Margaret Hopkin and Doug Cannon for taking time with GEA's 'numbers' people. Peggy Hardy and Sarah Henderson, next years' co-presidents for GEA are at Leadership Academy. Kaaron Jorgen thanked GEA for their cooperation with the District during these strained financial times.

Presentations: Trish Hedin, Adult Education Teacher presented a summary for 2008-2009 Adult Education Program. There were 79 students enrolled in the program. Forty were served full time, six diplomas, and eleven GED's. Next year there will be two AmeriCore Volunteers helping with Adult Education. Adult Education has moved to the Utah State University Extension Campus. Kaaron Jorgen said there was marvelous feedback on the Adult Education program. Margaret Hopkin told Trish she has done an amazing job.

Information and Reports

A. State Funding Shortfall: Proposed Budget Cuts: Margaret Hopkin presented: A document outlining District shortfalls. State shortfalls have been passed on to all districts. Margaret said the new construction money is Bond money and is not a part of the shortfall monies. Grand's projected shortfall is \$510,589. Margaret reported that full day kindergarten had been funded which reduced our shortfall by about \$50,000. Our shortfall is down some from what was published. GEA and GCEA have surveyed staff members for their input on how the District could cover the shortfalls. If the economy does not improve next year, we will likely see layoffs and program cuts – this is called the 'Cliff'. This year there will be no layoffs and we will keep programs in place. What ways can the District cover the shortfalls? In January we put a freeze on spending, with reserves we will have about \$200,000. We do not want to take reserves down all the way. We are looking at cutting days from the school calendar for next year. Each day the District is shut down we will save about \$45, 000. The State is allowing districts to cut the school year up to five days for one year. This year the legislature cut teachers "Quality Block Grant", which for Grand is \$250.00. The Grant paid for nine non contract days for certified teachers. Peggy Nissen, Robyn Johnson, Lisa Paterson, and Arlajean Paskett expressed concerns about salary cutbacks. Hal Adams commented that we are fortunate to have jobs.

Delegations: Ranna Bieschke asked the Board to talk to Risk Management again to consider allowing the Moab Half Marathon and Winter Run to use school buses. Ranna also wanted the Board to consider cutting school days to be concurrent with the Half Marathon and Winter Run.

Information and Reports

B. Reduction of 2009-2010 School Year by 3 Days: Margaret Hopkin referred the Board to the Calendars in the Board Packet. Joanne Savoie referred the Board to GEA's Proposed Calendar. Days GEA proposed that could be cut are October 30, December 21 and 22. The 4th day cut could be Martin Luther

King Day. The 5th day could be April 5th, and GEA proposed to move Parent Teacher conferences to March 25 and 26.

Delegations

Hugh Glass asked about how the District was funded, i.e., federal, state, local. Hugh also had questions about the infrastructure, solar panels, Pilt money, expensive student transportation, and the Bond.

Information and Reports

C. Request for Summer Bus Transportation: Charlotte Mates tabled her request for Summer Bus Transportation.

D. Will Tree Road Easement: Janie Tuft with Southeastern Utah Housing Authority said she was required by the County to have a Letter of Commitment if the District will give an easement for Willow Tree Road Project. The Board recommended that a Letter of Intent be sent to Southeastern Utah Housing Authority stating that the District would grant the easement.

E. Dog Park: Location: On Thursday, June 25 at 9:00 am, there will be a walk through at the path by the Bus Barn to look at a possible location for the Dog Park.

F. Interlocal Agreement: Fundraiser Cost for City Rec.: Initially the MARC was billed at 1/3 the regular rate for the Suzy Boggus Concert. City Recreation requested the interlocal rate. The Board decided to charge the City for the building manager and the custodial costs. The Board also felt they needed to look more in depth to fees charged to the MARC for fundraisers renting school facilities.

G. Parent Involvement Policy: This item was tabled.

H. August Work Session and Board Meeting: The August 11th Board Work Session was cancelled.

CONSENT AGENDA

Jim Webster made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda with corrections/amendments to the minutes. Deb Hren 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

Bryon Walston made a motion to reduce the 2009-2010 school calendar by 3 days, as given permission by the State and to amend the 2009-2010 school calendar. Jim Webster seconded the motion. In favor of the motion were: Kaaron Jorgen, Bryon Walston, Ron Olsen, and Jim Webster. Not in favor of the motion was Deb Hren. The motion passed.

Jim Webster made a motion to reduce the 2009-2010 school calendar by furloughing October 30, December 21st and 22nd. Also to move Parent Teacher conference from April 5th and 6th to March 25th and 26th and to leave August 10th, 11th, and 12th on the calendar and to adjust as negotiated. Deb Hren

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 provide to Southeastern Utah Housing Authority a Letter of Intent to approve the easement for the Willow Tree Road Project, pending discussion with the county on completing the road. Deb Hren seconded the motion. Discussion: Byron Walston informed the Board that he works in the same office as Janie Tuft, and that Janie works for Southeastern Housing Authority and he does not. In favor of the motion were: Kaaron Jorgen, Bryon Walston, Ron Olsen, Deb Hren, and Jim Webster. The motion passed.

Communications

Jim Webster attended meeting with the Higher Education Action Team. They are planning to apply for a CIB loan; although with the merger of USU/CEU this leaves Moab with no vocational education at this time. Utah State has made a commitment for Higher Ed in Moab.

Advance Planning

Long Term Planning meeting on June 29th, to invite: Admin, GEA, GCEA, Mayor Dave Sakrison City Administrator Donna Metzler, and MHTN personnel.

At 8:40 Bryon Walston made a motion to go into Executive Session. 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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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REGULAR SESSION

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Regular Session resumed at 9:38 pm. Deb Hren made a motion to purchase 1 ½ years of service for an employee. 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.

