

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES  
DECEMBER 10, 2009  
MANITOU SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT #14  
MANITOU SPRINGS, CO 80829**

Regular Monthly Board of Education Meeting  
Thursday, December 10, 2009

Members of the Board of Education present for the informal dinner meeting at 6:00 p.m. and regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. were Jennifer Farmer, Glenn Noufer, Gino Mendoza, Anna Lord and Molly Stevens. Staff members present for the dinner meeting were Ed Longfield, Beth Campbell and Tim Miller.

Staff members present for the regular meeting were Ed Long field, Melissa McElhaney, Beth Campbell, Tim Miller, Deb Yagmin, Russ Vogel, Chris Burr and Rob Cody.

Absent for the meeting: Jennifer Farmer

Guests included: Christi Marquardt

Vice President Noufer called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

**A. AGENDA**

121009.01                Mrs. Lord moved to approve the agenda with adding two resignations to the Routine/Consensus Items.

Mr. Mendoza seconded the motion.

Vice President Noufer requested a roll call vote: Mrs. Lord voted aye, Mr. Mendoza voted aye, Mrs. Stevens voted aye and Mr. Noufer voted aye.

**Good News:**

Mr. Longfield introduced Christi Marquardt, Manitou Springs Elementary 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher who will be graduating from Regis University with her Master's on Saturday. She received an award from Regis "Excellence in Graduate Teacher Education". Mr. Longfield presented her with a plaque from the Board of Education, acknowledging her outstanding accomplishment.

At this time Mrs. Astley's student choir SASSI performed O Holy Night and S'Vivon. The girls that performed were:

MAIA RYCHLIK (12), LINDSEY WAGNER (12), OLIVIA LAWRENCE (12), EMMA ROLLMAN (12), MEGAN BECKER (10) and student teacher EMILY BAUER

A "thank you" was issued to this fine group of ladies for sharing their talent this evening and bringing some holiday cheer to the meeting.

## **B. MINUTES**

121009.02 Mrs. Lord moved to approve the minutes for November 30, 2009 with one correction.

Page 6: A former high school student named Mr. Barton as ~~their~~ her most influential teacher in her life from high school.

Mr. Mendoza seconded the motion.

Vice President Noufer requested a roll call vote: Mrs. Lord voted aye, Mr. Mendoza voted aye, Mrs. Stevens voted aye and Mr. Noufer voted aye.

## **C. RECURRENT**

1. Identification of members of the audience who are not listed on the Agenda wishing to make a comment to the Board of Education.

There were none.

2. Receive and or Act on Correspondence

Invitation was received by all Board Members to attend a reception at Black Cat Books for the out going board members for Partners for Healthy Choices. The event is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

3. Payment of Expenditures

121009.03 Mrs. Stevens moved to approve Payment of Expenditures for the month ending October 31, 2009.

Mrs. Lord seconded the motion.

Vice President Noufer requested a roll call vote: Mrs. Lord voted aye, Mr. Mendoza voted aye, Mrs. Stevens voted aye and Mr. Noufer voted aye.

## **D. REPORTS**

### 1. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Longfield appreciated the opportunity to spend time with Board Members at the recent CASB Confernece.

Recently Shawn Colleary, Director of Curriculum and Instruction at Cherry Creek School District, spoke to the secondary staff (4 hour training) and the elementary staff (2 hour training) on "Rigor". Many positive comments from the staff were received.

### 2. Board of Education Reports

#### a) BOCES . . . Glenn Noufer and Molly Stevens

No Report

#### b) Community Relations. . . Jennifer Farmer and Molly Stevens

No Report

#### c) Governmental Relations. . . . Anna Lord

Anna Lord attended the CASB Board of Directors meeting on December 2, 2009. Major topics of discussion included the state budget, Race to the Top and items on the 2010 ballot that will be discussed in other parts of the agenda.

Anna also attended CASB's Legislative Network Meeting on December 3, 2009. In attendance were Representatives Merrifield, Massey and Scanlan as well as Senators Johnson, Hudak, Steadman and White.

Most of the legislators present intend to support bills which would add cost to school districts, in spite of our tough economic times. Several bills; however, such as one proposed by Rep. Massey to consolidate BOCES central administration functions, may result in a cost savings.

There will be a pre-legislative meeting with local BOE members and Senator Keith King at the MSSD SILC building on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM. Similar meetings in other years have resulted in fruitful conversations and given Senator King input from local board members.

d) Pikes Peak Alliance. . . . Tim Miller

Mr. Miller reported on the meeting held on December 4<sup>th</sup>. In addition to an update on the expected reductions to K-12 school finance in the upcoming legislative session, he learned for the first time of three new initiatives that will be on the November 2010 ballot.

Initiative #10 - Motor Vehicle, Income, and Telecommunications Taxes and Fees: regarding vehicle specific ownership taxes (SOT), these would be reduced over time to \$2 for new vehicles and \$1 for other vehicles. This would cause a major reduction in income to D14; we have budgeted \$263,000 in SOT as a component of per pupil funding this year (an amount specified by CDE) – presumably this would have to be made up by the state of Colorado, but of course they are having revenue problems, so this could be problematic. We also have budgeted SOT in the amount of \$275,000 for our bond fund and mill levy override accounts; this revenue would just go away.

Initiative #12 – Property Taxes: this would eliminate anything other than bonded debt, and would cause mill levy overrides to be reduced by ½ over 10 years. So, D14’s overrides of \$1,900,000 would be reduced to \$950,000. The initiative specifies that state aid shall replace that revenue yearly, but again, that may be problematic for the state.

Initiative #21 – State and Local Debt Limitations: this would eliminate our ability to lease-finance. When current leases are paid, current tax rates would need to decline in the amount equal to the annual lease payments. Mr. Miller mentioned the current lease with Apple for laptop computers would be affected by this; Mrs. Lord mentioned that she thought the energy lease might also be affected.

e) District Accountability Advisory Committee. . . . Gino Mendoza

No Report

f) Salary Committee Liaison . . . .

No Report

### 3. Staff Reports

a) Assistant Superintendent for Instruction. . . . . Beth Campbell

Ms. Campbell reviewed her written report and discussed the Professional Development and In-service training with Shawn Colleary, Director of Curriculum at Cherry Creek School Dist. On Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, there will be an In-service for teachers and parents’, regarding “Love and Logic”. This approach helps the school, teachers and parents promote teamwork and focus on the common goal: more success for the student. The presenter is Dr. Charles Fay.

b) Assistant Superintendent for Business Services . . . . Tim Miller

Mill Levy Certification will be discussed under New Business.

#### 4. Principals

##### **Manitou Springs Elementary School – Mr. Vogel**

Many positive things have been going on at MSES. One of the students put his Kid Power training to use one day at the Public Library when an intoxicated man approached him. The little boy just kept saying no and ran back to school. The police were then called.

The 4<sup>th</sup> grade class has recently studied Colorado History. It is note worthy to mention that two staff members have presented Colorado History artifacts (Mountain Men Life) to the students. They are Jerry Zimmerman, Direcotr of Buildings and Grounds and Bob Rozell, custodian at Manitou Springs Elementary School.

The elementary school has several boys involved in Boy Scouts this year.

The Holiday program is on December 15<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm.

##### **Manitou Springs Middle School – Mr. Burr**

The boys' basketball team will be playing for the league championship on Friday night.

Charles Fay will be coming to the Middle School for a Love and Logic session. It is open to everyone (limit 100); reservations must be made through the middle school.

The middle school will have a dance on Friday night, students are asked to bring in a food donation for the Salvation Army. 70's and 80's music will be played and Mr. Burr will be the DJ for the evening.

##### **Ute Pass Elementary School – Dr. Yagmin**

The students at UPE have been having lots of fun with the Holidays.

The Garden of the Gods Rotary Club visited the students at UPE and gave a gift of "words" to each 3rd grader. Each student was given a dictionary.

Mrs. Mowery, Gate Teacher, has introduced Shakespeare to her students.

**Manitou Springs High School – Mr. Cody**

Kudos to Ms. Karen Hegg, Ms. Liz Tidell, Ms. Jenny Alsup and Ms. Wendy Skokan. Ms. Hegg recently convinced a student into coming back to graduate from high school after two years. Ms. Tidell is trained in reading and has the special education students reading remarkably well. Ms. Alsup, Counselor has been working with a student who hates school, but the student now realizes she is cared for here at school, and Ms. Skokan has worked with some girls on their appearance and now they “fit in” and have adjusted well to their new look. They now help out in the front office. This is just many ways the staff goes above and beyond their duties.

**E. ROUTINE/CONSENSUS ITEMS**

121009.04 Mrs. Lord moved to approve the following Routine Consensus Items.

1. Resignations/Leave of Absence/Retirement/Transitional Retirement/Maternity Leave

**a) Certified**

**b) Classified**

- Jackie Grant – Technology
- Trudy Strangefellow – Food Service

2. Employment

**a) Certified**

**a) Classified**

Mrs. Stevens seconded the motion.

Vice President Noufer requested a roll call vote: Mrs. Lord voted aye, Mr. Mendoza voted aye, Mrs. Stevens voted aye and Mr. Noufer voted aye.

**F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Policy KEC (IX. – 13.) second reading

Policy was reviewed and changes will be made.

- GBC third and final reading

121009.05 Mrs. Lord moved to approve Policy GBC as presented for the third and final reading.

Mr. Mendoza seconded the motion.

Vice President Noufer requested a roll call vote: Mrs. Lord voted aye, Mr. Mendoza voted aye, Mrs. Stevens voted aye and Mr. Noufer voted aye.

- GBEC third and final reading

121009.06 Mrs. Lord moved to approve Policy GBEC as presented for the third and final reading.

Mr. Mendoza seconded the motion.

Vice President Noufer requested a roll call vote: Mrs. Lord voted aye, Mr. Mendoza voted aye, Mrs. Stevens voted aye and Mr. Noufer voted aye.

### **G. NEW BUSINESS**

- 2009 Mill Levy Certification

121009.07 Mrs. Lord moved to approve the following resolution for the 2009 Mill Levy Certification

“Be it resolved that the following mill levies be set for the December 2009 mill levy certification for taxes collected in calendar year 2010 for Manitou Springs School District 14, El Paso County, general fund, voter approved override, abatement/refunds, and bond redemption fund:

22.816	General Fund
16.485	Voter Approved Override
0.426	Abatement/Refunds
7.437	Bond Redemption Fund
47.164	Total Mills

These mill levies are set based on the El Paso County Assessor’s letter of November 24, 2009 certifying our net assessed valuation at \$115,256,610. Assuming a 100% collection rate, the general fund will receive \$2,629,694.81, the voter approved override will receive \$1,900,000, \$49,089.47 will be collected for the reimbursement of abatements/refunds, and the bond redemption fund will receive \$857,206.26.

The Board of Education requests that the above levies be extended on the tax rolls.”

Mrs. Stevens seconded the motion.

Vice President Noufer requested a roll call vote: Mrs. Lord voted aye, Mr. Mendoza voted aye, Mrs. Stevens voted aye and Mr. Noufer voted aye.

- Accreditation of Ute Pas Elementary and Manitou Springs Elementary

121009.08 Mrs. Lord moved to approve the Accreditation for Ute Pass Elementary School.

Mrs. Stevens seconded the motion.

Vice President Noufer requested a roll call vote: Mrs. Lord voted aye, Mr. Mendoza voted aye, Mrs. Stevens voted aye and Mr. Noufer voted aye.

121009.09 Mr. Mendoza moved to approve the Accreditation for Manitou Springs Elementary School.

Mrs. Lord seconded the motion.

Vice President Noufer requested a roll call vote: Mrs. Lord voted aye, Mr. Mendoza voted aye, Mrs. Stevens voted aye and Mr. Noufer voted aye.

- CASB Conference Discussion/Debrief

All board members attended the 2009 CASB Winter Conference along with Mr. Longfield. Everyone seemed to enjoy the conference, and it was nice that they attended as a team. Most of the breakout sessions were helpful. Mrs. Lord was interviewed on FOX 21 at the conference. Kudos to the Manitou Springs High School Jazz Band, the students performed at the conference and did an outstanding job!

## **H. FUTURE AGENDAS**

January

Work Session

- Stakeholder Breakfast - Discussion
- Policy Review Committee: Policy KEC, GBKA, GCEC
- “Choice Night” Discussion
- R2O Discussion

Board Meeting

- Second Quarter Financials
- Transitional Retirement Requests
- Policy Review: KEC (3<sup>rd</sup> Reading)  
GBKA (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)  
GCEC (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

101209.10            Mr. Mendoza moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Mr. Lord seconded the motion.

Vice President Noufer requested a roll call vote: Mrs. Lord voted aye, Mr. Mendoza voted aye, Mrs. Stevens voted aye and Mr. Noufer voted aye.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gino Mendoza  
Secretary