

MANITOU SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 14 MANITOU SPRINGS, CO

Regular Monthly Board of Education Meeting
Monday, March 29, 2010

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, Gino Mendoza, Anna Lord, Glenn Noufer, and Molly Stevens. Staff members present for the dinner meeting were: Ed Longfield, Beth Campbell, Tim Miller, Deb Yagmin, Russ Vogel, and Chris Burr.

Staff members present for the regular meeting were: Ed Longfield, Melissa McElhaney, Beth Campbell, Tim Miller, Cat Butler-Olimb, Xavier Fretard, Gene Sanchez and Toni Barton.

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

A. AGENDA

032910.01 Mrs. Lord moved to approve the agenda for March 29, 2010.

Mr. Noufer seconded the motion.

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

B. MINUTES

032910.02 Mrs. Lord moved to approve the minutes for February 22, 2010 with adding her monthly report to the minutes and adding the roll call motion to page 5: 032210.06

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

Mr. Mendoza seconded the motion.

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

Ms. Barton addressed the Board regarding the elimination of the computer class as a mandatory graduation requirement. Students in the 8th grade are required to pass a technology competency exam to exit the 8th grade. Students who pass move on and those who do not pass take a remediation course until they do pass. If this request is accepted it would afford Ms. Barton more time to work with teachers on technology integration.

2. Receive and or Act on Correspondence.

Mrs. Farmer has received several letters in support of teachers.
Mrs. Lord received invitation for a Brain Seminar, April 8th – Aurora Public Schools.

3. Payment of Expenditures for the month ending February 28, 2010.

032910.03 Mrs. Stevens moved to approve the Payment of Expenditures for the month ending February 28, 2010.

Mr. Noufer seconded the motion.

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

D. REPORTS

1. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Longfield and Ms. Campbell attended a meeting at UCCS today (3/29), the discussion was on how to extend classes for high school students in the evening at UCCS and potentially on site at MSHS. The college staff were pretty excited that Manitou was represented and are interested in this idea.

2. Board of Education Reports

- a. BOCES . . . Glenn Noufer and Molly Stevens

No report. A plan to streamline Special Education & GATE is being formulated.

- b. Community Relations . . . Jennifer Farmer and Molly Stevens

The Manitou Springs Education Foundation has awarded the grant money to teachers. On May 7, 2010 at Venue 515 the MSEF will be hosting the Mbuni Ball. More information to follow.

c. Governmental Relations Anna Lord

February Meeting – These notes were not available for the February minutes.

Anna Lord and Jennifer Farmer attended the CASB Winter Legislative Conference on Thursday, February 18th and attended the keynote presentation discussing Race to the Top, and the reauthorization of NCLB followed by a breakout session titled “The President’s Education Budget: What’s Hot and What’s Not”.

Colorado is currently considered a leader in gaining RTTP funds although even if Colorado is chosen, there is no guarantee that MSSD14 will get any funds.

There is more money for public education in the President’s proposed budget but less will flow through formula funding and more through competitive grants.

Although there are indicators that the economy is beginning to improve, we should not expect a full recovery of State Revenues until 2014 or 2015.

During the afternoon Ms. Farmer and Ms. Lord attended a breakout session titled “The Public’s Changing Attitudes Toward Public Institutions” which centered on the discussion of the public’s growing demand for meaningful choices and influence over their educational experiences and how school districts need to change in response to changing public expectations.

A legislative briefing updated conference attendees on the status of numerous bills working their way through the State House and State Senate. A number of active bills include unfunded mandates.

March Meeting

Mrs. Lord attended a meeting of the PPACG Community Advisory Committee on Wednesday, Feb. 23rd. A representative from the Census Office gave a presentation on the importance of the census. Mrs. Lord has materials and posters promoting completion of the census for distribution.

Mrs. Lord attended the quarterly meeting of the CASB Board of Directors on March 19th and 20th. Topics of discussion included CASB 2010 Legislative Priorities, 2010 Ballot Issues, the State Budget, School Finance and the death of Amendment 23.

There is talk about dropping the 9th Grade CSAP, which would save the state about \$550,000 per year. All other CSAP tests are required under NCLB. However, since

we have new state standards, and the CSAP tests still assess the old standards, there is much confusion as to how schools should be adjusting their curricula.

There will be a meeting of the CHSSA Board of Control April 15, 2010. There are multiple cost saving measures that can be made in the extra-curricular programs. One of the most visible would be a reduction in the number of regular season contests played. The CHSAA Executive Committee encourages each school district to examine the possible cost savings resulting from a reduction of regular season contests and then make a local decision about how to proceed.

d. District Accountability Advisory Committee . . . Gino Mendoza

The 2010-11 School Calendar was discussed. Next meeting April 13, 2010

e. Pikes Peak Alliance . . . Tim Miller

No meeting (Spring Break). Mrs. Lord asked about the dues that are paid to belong to the PPA , if it is worth it? Mr. Miller firmly believes \$1,300 (estimated) is well worth it, information & updates are received all the time.

3. Staff Reports

a. Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Beth Campbell

Ms. Campbell reviewed her written report with the Board. She discussed the Multisensory Reading class held by Dr. Elaine Cheesman. 25 D-14 teachers signed up for the course. Professional Development classes will conclude in April. Our Math Coach Mike Gould, continues to meet with staff and will help facilitate the April 5th Math in-service for elementary teachers.

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

Mr. Miller met with the representatives from Kaiser Permanente today, to discuss the renewal of the district's health plan coverage. The increase would be about 7.5% The Budget Task Force meeting will be held next Tuesday.

c. Technology Director Gene Sanchez

Mr. Sanchez, Ms. Butler Olimb and Mr. Fretard were present. Ms. Butler Olimb recently made a movie to bring to the board for Mr. Sanchez's report. The movie consisted of students and teachers being interviewed regarding how technology is used the classroom. Students use it for reading, blogging, poetry etc. The students can make their own i-movies, use pod casts to complete their work assignments. Teachers use computers everyday to help students with integrating technology into the classroom.

Thank you to Ms. Campbell for working with the Technology Dept. on making Tech Fair available for staff.

4. Principal Reports

UTE PASS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Ute Pass is proud to announce that two of our students' letters have been chosen from 70,000 letters from across the country as finalists in the Letters About Literature Contest. To reach round three of this contest is an achievement in itself! Further judging will be complete by the end of the month.

We are so very proud of our Ponies, Madeline Butts and Nicolena Weber and their outstanding letters. Thank you to Candy Mowery for her undying love of writing which has so positively infected our students. :-)

Ute Pass is on a roll.... We are proud to announce that Jaylin Jobe has received a scholarship from the Arts and Business Education Consortium. With this scholarship, she will have the option of attending Bemis School of Art or using the money for materials that support her art education. Congratulations, Jaylin. We are very proud of your considerable talent and hard work!

P.S. Thank you to Beth Romano for recommending Jaylin through a recommendation process that entailed writing a letter and kissing the envelope to make sure it was a winner. Go Ponies!

A letter was received from the Ute Pass Elementary Staff regarding their concerns about the adoption of a new school calendar. The letter was received by the Board of Education and was signed by the Ute Pas Elementary Staff.

MANITOU SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RELATIONSHIPS

Our new MSES School Wellness Committee, headed by Danielle Donelson and Leatha Hay, hosted a surprise staff event for stress relief and relationship-building last week. After Mr. Vogel announced an ominous "mandatory all-staff meeting," we led teachers and paras into the gym for a variety of relationship-building games and healthy foods together. This is the beginning of one of the most stressful times of the year, and staff sanity and health are key to student health and sanity.

RIGOR

On our April 5 professional development day, we will be working on Math instruction and curriculum. The first part of the day will be D14 Math Coach Mike Gould talking about instructional strategies and our vertical alignment of standards. In the afternoon, we will be translating our new standards-based EL's into units and lessons utilizing our current basal series. We will also begin looking at the assessment system we'll use for Math EL's.

We are in initial planning for the process of developing electronic report cards based on our EL's, IS's, and common assessments. Our work should begin in May and the resulting report card dialog will focus much of our curriculum and assessment work into a data-based reportable format.

OPPORTUNITY

Brigitta DuPre, who, along with her husband, Jim, runs the Manitou Art Theater and now has a young daughter in our school, has been working with MSES first-graders in a series of programs and performances encouraging creativity in their writing and thinking. Most recently, she held 65 first-graders in rapt attention with her interactive performances of various Hans Christian Anderson tales on the auditorium stage. We are working with Brigitta and Wendy Harms on a school wide unit of study linked to a whole-school performance in April.

We will hold our annual Night of Excellence April 15, from 6 to 9 p.m. throughout the school. Families will enjoy food catered by Adams Mountain Café at three settings throughout the evening, then will tour the school to admire students' work in writing, arts, our annual 5th-grade Digital Photography/Poetry project, and Science Fair projects.

MANITOU SPRINGS MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Winter sports are complete, Spring sports begin after break.
- CSAP season is over, all testing was completed successfully.
- Important joint BAAC meeting for MSMS and MSHS on April 5th, 5:30pm at MSMS. We will discuss the many changes next year, including the schedule changes that will allow MSMS and MSHS to share teachers. We will also ask for parents suggestions regarding sensitivity training for our students at MSMS.
- MSMS has completed a draft schedule for next year with many exciting components.
 - o Modified block schedule which allows for 85 minute classes.
 - o All students at MSMS will have 85 minutes of Math and Language Arts every day.
 - o 8th grade students can begin foreign language instruction at MSHS.
 - o 6th grade schedule provides much more flexibility for staff and students, to better ease the transition from elementary to middle school. Students will see less movement throughout the day, and more time with teachers.
- MSMS will complete the schedule and inform the community when final decisions are made regarding next year's district calendar.

MANITOU SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL

No report – Mr. Cody was out of the country.

E. ROUTINE/CONSENSUS ITEMS

032910.04 Mrs. Lord moved to approve the following Routine Consensus Items.

Mrs. Stevens seconded the motion.

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

a) Certified

- Phil Rich – MSHS - Transitional Retirement Request

a) Classified

- Raquel Ford – MSES – Termination - Technology Para
- Stephanie Prince – UPE – Termination - Para

2. Employment

a) Certified

- Glenn Hard – MSHS – Principal for the 2010 – 2011 School-Year

b) Classified

- Delores Murphy – MSES – Long-Term Sub Para

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

BREAK – 8:17 – 8:25 p.m.

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Policies

- GCQEB (Transitional Retirement) 3rd and Final Reading

032910.05 Mrs. Stevens moved to approve Policy GCQEB (Transitional Retirement) on the 3rd and Final Reading.

Mrs. Lord Seconded the motion.

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

- GCQA (Instructional Staff Reduction in Force) 3rd and Final Reading

032910.06 Mrs. Lord moved to approve Policy GCQA (Instructional Staff Reduction in Force)

Mr. Mendoza seconded the motion .

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

G. NEW BUSINESS

- Calendar (2010–2011) Discussion

Mrs. Stevens recommended that a notice be sent out to all families regarding the start date on the calendar for the upcoming school year. It would be helpful to parents to plan ahead for daycare or vacations.

The adoption of the 2010-2011 Calendar will be on the Agenda for April 26, 2010.

H. FUTURE AGENDAS

April Work Session:

- Graduation Requirements
- Stake Holder Breakfast
- Superintendent Evaluation
- Calendar Discussion
- R20 Rubric
- Budget Discussion

April Meeting:

- Non-Renewal of Probationary Teachers
- Adopt School Calendar
- May Contracts
- Policies

I. ADJOURNMENT

032910.07 Mr. Noufer moved to exit Regular Session and enter into Executive Session with the five Board of Education members and Superintendent Longfield.

Mrs. Lord seconded the motion.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Gino Mendoza
Secretary