

**MANITOU SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 14  
MANITOU SPRINGS, CO**

Regular Monthly Board of Education Meeting Minutes  
Monday, September 27, 2010

Members of the Board of Education present for the informal dinner were: Jennifer Farmer, Anna Lord, Glenn Noufer, Gino Mendoza and Molly Stevens. Staff members present for the dinner were: Ed Longfield, Tim Miller, Pat Urban, Russ Vogel, Deb Yagmin, Chris Burr and Glenn Hard.

Present for the Board of Education meeting: Jennifer Farmer, Anna Lord, Glenn Noufer, Gino Mendoza and Molly Stevens. Staff members present were: Ed Longfield, Melissa McElhaney, Pat Urban and Tim Miller.

Glenn Hard, Bridget O'Connor, Debra Brewster and Steve Smith were in attendance for the beginning of the meeting.

**A. AGENDA**

092710.01                Mrs. Lord moved to approve the agenda with the following change: She requested to add under New Business: Educator Teacher Exchange Approval.

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**

092710.02                Mrs. Stevens moved to approve the minutes as presented.

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.

## **GOOD NEWS:**

At this time Mr. Longfield presented a plaque to Ms. Bridget O'Connor for being named the 2010 Helen McCall Coach of the Year.

Mr. Longfield also presented Mrs. Debra Brewster with a plaque for being named 2010 Art Educator of the year.

## **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 Act on Correspondence

Mrs. Lord received an invitation from the Family Attachment Center. She also received information from CASB for the Fall Conference and Delegate Assembly.

3. Payment of Expenditures

092710.03                      Mrs. Stevens moved to approve Payment of Expenditures ending July 31, 2010.

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.

## **D. REPORTS**

1. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Longfield reminded the board to read the weekly "Chip Shots" and hopes that this information is helpful.

Daily bus duty has been a positive experience for him and others. Mr. Longfield has received multiple positive comments regarding Mr. Harden, Director of Transportation. John seems to be resolving parent/transportation issues well.

So far this year, there has been only one possibility for an expulsion hearing.

Mr. Longfield has set up regularly scheduled cabinet and staff meetings.

Teachers are positive, morale is high and they are thankful for the planning time they have to work on their PLC's.

## 2. Board of Education Reports

### a) Board of Cooperative Education Services . . . . Glenn Noufer and Molly Stevens

Ms. Stevens reported that the Board approved the hiring of an Autism Behavior Specialist.

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

Both Coffee's that were held were a success, strong connections were made in the community. Flyers regarding 60, 61 and 101 were handed out during the homecoming parade.

Mr. Mendoza, Mr. Noufer and Ms. Farmer all attended funeral services for a former high school graduate.

Students did a fantastic job as they sat on a panel for the Pikes Peak Restorative Justice Symposium on Thursday, Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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

### d) Pikes Peak Alliance . . . . . Tim Miller

The first meeting of this school year was held September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Two of the superintendents present had attended a briefing by Vody Herrmann, CDE Asst. Commissioner for Finance, at which she said there is a high probability of a rescission this year due to the \$256.9 million shortfall in state revenues reported in the September revenue forecast. This will not be confirmed until the Governor submits his budget to the legislative Joint Budget Committee in either late October or early November. There is speculation that the rescission amount may correspond to the amount of funding received by the state from the Education Jobs bill passed by the US Congress in August.

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

The DAAC met on Sept. 21, 2010 to discuss the 2010-2011 charge. Mr. Longfield presented to the DAAC the statutory requirements of safety, achievement, and expenditures. Additionally, he requested that the DAAC consider exploring ideas to assist in serving children/families struggling with emotional/behavioral issues. The key concept is centered on parents helping parents who may be in need of partnerships to effectively support their children. This focus would directly support the efforts of Partners for Healthy Choices and each school to enhance relationships, increase rigor and expand opportunities for students. The DAAC voted unanimously

in favor of recommending the draft DAAC charge as it was presented to the Board of Education.

Additionally, Mr. Longfield and Mr. Miller presented the potential factual impact of Amendments 60 and 61 and Proposition 101 to local school districts and to the state government. The meeting ended at approximately 6:55 p.m. so that many of the attendees could attend the local city council meeting opposing a medical marijuana facility next to subway.

### 3. Staff

#### a) Tim Miller . . . Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Miller reviewed the following written report with the Board.

<b>Enrollment:</b>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>FTE w/K @ .58</u> (funded pupil count)	<u>Students</u>
Budgeted:	1,330.5	1,337.0	1,405
As of today:	1,328.0	<u>1,335.7</u>	1,409

Budget impact as of today: (1.3)

So, we are very close to our budgeted funded pupil count, which was the same as last year's actual paid count. Note that we have more enrolled students than last year.

**State revenue update:** The state revenue forecast released on Monday shows an anticipated \$256.9 million shortfall for the current fiscal year. The June forecast showed a shortfall of some \$72 million, which the governor was able to cover without impacting K-12 education. Given the size of this latest shortfall, there is speculation that there will be a K-12 rescission to cover some part of it.

### 4. Principal Reports

#### **Ute Pass Elementary School**

We have had a wonderful beginning of school this year. The first three days with students were spent one on one with their teacher as they completed their Adams 50 reading assessments, DIBELS, their STAR math and Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI) tests. They also had their vision and hearing testing, and spent time with me while we discussed school and playground expectations. New relationships were formed and individual discussions with former students proved extremely valuable. I want to thank the BOE for supporting our assessment time with students. We were able to begin solid individualized instruction on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

September 1 and 22 – Staff meetings  
September 2 – 504 meeting and RtI meeting  
September 7, 9, 14, 21 – All staff PLC s – background, data discussions, process and forms to be used, development of SMART goals  
September 16 – Back To School Night discussion  
September 23 – RtI scheduled

In addition to the meetings with staff, UPE held our first PAC/BAAC meeting on Thursday, September 9 from 8:30-10am. I am pleased to report that we had twice the attendees of last year. Our meetings will be every second Wednesday of the month, 8:30-10am.

Our Volunteer training this past Monday was a huge success. I was very pleased with the agenda for our training that culminated with sign up for fingerprinting this coming Saturday. Parents commented to me that the process was clear and organized and they were willing to go the extra mile to be sure our students are safe. Many thanks to Patti Hickcox who came up to our school to insure our volunteers are ready for the classroom.

## **MANITOU SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

### RELATIONSHIPS

Ben Lewis, who is known to travel the building with either a violin or mandolin strapped to his back, stopped in on his way back from a preschool performance to serenade the kids in our nurse's station today. Brightened the whole office, as well.

Our Mustang MIGHT MSES Wellness committee is working to set up grade-level family dinners, to make connections among families. Their fundraising strategy is to place a giant plywood mustang in your office until you donate enough to have it removed. Dinner details to come.

### RIGOR

PLC Teams are up and rolling, even as we continue our training in the *what* and *how* of professional learning committees. Early data meetings centered around differentiation, mainly through grouping and Literacy pullouts, of Reading and Math from our initial days pretesting data. Early trainings have involved using a Rick DuFour article as the context to help us frame team definitions of PLC, setting norms, and identifying broad Areas of Concern from our data. PLC's meet every Tuesday at 7:05, two RTI teams are meeting Wednesday mornings—and on Thursdays we rotate between two staff training days a month plus BAAC and Mustang MIGHT meetings. Staff support of and involvement in PLC's are very strong.

## OPPORTUNITY

Ben Lewis has sent exploratory letters home to seek interest levels in violin/guitar/piano lessons for MSES students at the Colorado Springs Conservatory.

TAP classes have already begun with Zany Zoology, Karate, Swimming Lessons, Young Environmental Stewards, Hiking Club, Let it Shine Dance Class, and Beginning Soccer among the opportunities available.

Our Fifth-Graders will be at Camp Shady Brook (near Decker's) October 6-8. Colorado Standards-based Science Hikes, archery, canoeing, night hike, low ropes, etc., will be offered this year.

### **Manitou Springs Middle School**

By all accounts, we are off to a great start in 2010-2011. Students are settled, and seem very happy with all of the changes. Teachers are reporting favorably on the new schedule, agreeing that it seems far more relaxed at MSMS.

Subject level and school-wide PLC's are in place and going very well. Teams are meeting Tuesdays in their content areas, Wednesdays as a school for Love and Logic, and Thursdays for staff meetings and miscellaneous training sessions as needed. We have begun discussions about Homework policies, their value, and the need for practice to happen at school. We are seeking, and will find a balance that best fits the needs of our students, families, and teachers.

Construction and CAP Reserve projects are ongoing, but nearing completion in most areas.

### **High School Update**

The school year has started with enthusiasm and optimism. We are 4 weeks into the first term and students are settling into their courses, after school activities, and athletic contests. Homecoming was a tremendous success, with many students, staff, and community members enjoying a week of festivities. It seems that our renewed emphasis on "Mustang Pride" is gaining momentum.

The primary point of emphasis this fall has been to re-establish a "culture of respect." Teachers are working in Professional Learning Communities to identify areas of concern, and accomplishments to celebrate. It is my desire to generate a TEAM approach within the staff in order to ensure that Manitou Springs High School facilitates an optimal learning environment.

In just 4 weeks we have enjoyed a noticeable change in student behavior. Due to a commitment by the entire staff to monitor and address such behavior, the consensus is that the school is a more “positive place.”

Several Mustangs received individual honors. We are proud that Deb Brewster was selected as the Colorado High School Art Educator of the Year by the Colorado Arts Education Association. Bridget O’Connor received the Helen McCall Coach of the Year Award. Three seniors were listed as Mayor’s Top 100 Teens: Jake Wood, Mackey McConnell, and Mitchell Newman. So far this year two prime parking places closest to the back Common’s doors have been reserved these “Seniors Who Serve Others”: Mary Muncher, Ashley Gieck, Miryssa Woofter, Calla Urban , Tess Keller, Lea Davidson, Cara McQueeney, and Jonathan Toman. Eight cast members were selected for the fall play *Dancing at Lughnasa* which will be performed on October 29 and 30.

#### **E. ROUTINE/CONSENSUS ITEMS**

092710.04                      Mrs. Lord moved to approve the following Routine/Consensus Items.

Mr. Mendoza seconded the motion.

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

##### **a) Certified**

- Liz Tindall – MSHS - SPED Teacher – Maternity Leave
- Emily Woloszyn – UPE – Music Teacher – Resigning

##### **b) Classified**

2. Employment

##### **a) Certified**

- Kassi Greer – District Speech Language Pathologist

##### **b) Classified**

- Dain Bornhofen – MSMS – SPED Para
- Farrell Carson – Food Service
- Mike Lowdermilk – Transportation
- Fran McGee – MSMS – SPED Para
- Trudy Strangefellow – Food Service
- Rebecca Streblov – Food Service
- Creta Vincent – Transportation

### 3. ARK Contracts

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.

### **F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- GCBE – Certified Staff Leave

Policy moved to second reading and will be held

- JICH/JICH-R - Alcohol, Illicit Drugs, and Substance Abuse by Students

Policy moved to third reading with changes

- JLCD/JLCD-R – Administering Medications to Students

092710.05 Mrs. Stevens moved to approve Policy Code JLCD/JLCD-R for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading as submitted.

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.

- GCB – Administration Contract Year

092710.06 Mrs. Lord moved to approve Policy Code GCB for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading as submitted.

Mrs. Stevens second 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.

- GCOA – Evaluation of Instructional Staff

092710.07 Mrs. Lord moved to approve Policy Code GCOA for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading.

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**

- Resolution Opposing Amendments 60 and 61 and Proposition 101

092710.08 Mrs. Lord moved to approve the following Resolution Opposing Amendments 60 and 61 and Proposition 101 as read for the record.

Mr. Noufer seconded the motion.

Whereas... Three irresponsible measures appearing on the 2010 November ballot – Amendments 60 and 61 and Proposition 101 – would drain resources from public K-12 schools and other essential Colorado services and infrastructure, and;

Whereas... The trio would create an unprecedented \$4.2 billion state and local deficit, with no plan for how the deficit will be reduced or eventually eliminated, and;

Whereas... The ballot measures would slash funding for public K-12 schools, which will lose \$1.6 billion in local funding as a result of slashed property taxes, and;

Whereas... State officials have validated a district-by-district analysis of K-12 impacts across the state with districts experiencing cuts of 37-62 percent from per pupil funding from local sources,

Whereas... The ballot measures would negatively impact the budget of MSSD 14 over the period of the next 10 years by the sum of 2.8 million dollars per year,

Whereas... Conservative estimates indicate the new deficit will cost Colorado more than 73,000 jobs, a majority being private sector jobs in transportation, health care and construction, which are in addition to the 110,000 jobs already lost in Colorado the past

eighteen months due to the recession, and;

Whereas... The measures will likely cut school funding in half, forcing the termination of 8,000 classroom teachers, pushing those students into classrooms that are already overwhelmed, with the severest impact at the K-3 levels, and;

Whereas... The measures punish homeowners by requiring payment-in-advance on the state's largest infrastructure needs – dams, sewer lines, power generators, airports, highways, water sanitation, and public schools and colleges – with current taxpayers required to pay the entire cost of a road or dam that will be around for decades while future users of these benefits pay nothing, and;

Whereas... The cumulative and destructive nature of the three measures ensures that Colorado will surrender its competitive edge while being unable to attract investment and maintain property values, and;

Whereas... These “bad three” measures will crush local school district’s ability to maintain academic, extracurricular and sports programs, transportation and reasonable class sizes, and;

Whereas... These measures override the will of the people who have voted to “deBruce” their school districts (174 out of 178), and;

Whereas...If these measures pass, the state will be forced into fiscal “anarchy” due to a lack of ability to provide even basic government services, including those that address our children’s health and safety needs.

Now, Therefore ... The Manitou Springs School District Board of Education hereby strongly opposes the three ballot measures known as Amendment 60 and 61 and Proposition 101 and urges the defeat of these measures on the November 2, 2010 General Election.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Farmer, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Glenn Noufer, Vice President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Molly Stevens, Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gino Mendoza, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Anna Lord, Asst. Treas./Sec.

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.

- Enrollment – Mr. Miller covered this in his report earlier in the meeting.
- School Accreditation Update (N.C.A.)
- Approval of D.A.A.C. Charge

092710.09                      Mrs. Lord moved to approve the following 2010-2011 DAAC Charge.

Mr. Mendoza seconded the motion.

The District Accountability Action Committee (DAAC) recommends to the Manitou Springs Board of Education the following as a potential charge for the 2010-2011 school year:

1. As mandated by state law, the following will be reviewed by the DAAC:
  - a. Academic achievement/growth for all students
  - b. Expenditures of district resources
  - c. Safety of students/staff
  
2. The DAAC is requesting BOE approval to explore ideas/strategies/programs that promote the social and emotional health of students. This includes but is not limited to the following:
  - a. Support for families from families
  - b. Ideas that promote and/or expand the connections students have to healthy activities and to positive adults/role models.
  - c. Collaborating with the school district, specifically Partners for Healthy Choices to support initiatives that are addressing the social/emotional health of students.

Resolution:

The MSSD 14 Board of Education approves the DAAC charge as presented for the 2010-2011 school year.

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.

## **H. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

October 4, 2010 – Work Session

The Board and Mr. Longfield will attend the CASB Fall Regional Meeting

October 25, 2010 – Regular Meeting

- Audit: If complete
- October Student Count
- Board Policies

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

092710.10            Mr. Noufer moved to adjourn from the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

Mrs. Stevens 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.