

MINUTES

Jefferson High School Dist. 1
Regular Meeting

February 15, 2011
JHS Library

Board members present:

Alan Erickson

Pat Lewis

Kathy Jackson (acting as chair)

Sabrina Steketee

Lynne Bryant (arrived during the letters)

Administrators present:

James Whealon, Superintendent

Lorie Carey, Business Manager

Dan Sturdevant, Activities Director

Visitors: Mickey Senechal, Jenna Senechal, Jessica Newman, Brandon Kosola, Ron Smartnick, Barb Reiter, Monty LeTexier, Tim Mahlum, Denise Brunett, Neil Brunett, Charlie Butler, Kevin St. George, Michele St. George, Kellie Doherty, Samantha Humphrey, Katherine Martini, Hunter Nance, Laura Butler, Rex Sonsteng

CALL BOARD TO ORDER Ms. Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:22 p.m. The pledge was said.

CONSENT AGENDA Corrections of hanging sentences. Mr. Erickson moved to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Jackson seconded the motion which passed unanimously by the 4 present.

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND
COMMENTS**

Letters to the Board.

BACE Received a letter regarding negotiations.

Day of Advocacy. Mr. Whealon and Ms. Steketee will attend.

Interest Based Bargaining. Letter received from State of Montana.

Resignation - Todd Lorenzen. Ms. Jackson moved to accept the resignation letter. Mr. Erickson seconded the motion which passed unanimously by the 5 present.

Tanya Getten – library endorsement. Personnel committee will review the requirements for the signing bonus.

Student Council Report. Katherine Martini stated that the student council was working on the teacher recognition survey. The page-script wasn't able to be uploaded on the internet but hopefully next week it will be up and running.

Staff Presentation – Ms. Humphrey gave an update on CTE pathways development. When the process is completed, the business department will have all the classes that will be college creditable (with the exception of personal finance). Ms. Bruce's FCS program has 2 pathways developed and Mr. Allen's tech program has 1 pathway. Ms. Humphrey will finish her doctorate in December and will complete the administrative portion with the final 2 classes. UM Helena offers a Bachelor Degree in Vocational Education – Technology. Montana Digital Academy is a great tool for the motivated student. The credit recovery portion hasn't been very helpful. However, Ms. Humphrey has discovered a way to ensure that students who need credit recovery can get it done.

CADCA Presentation. Jenna Senechal spoke about the CADCA trip. Six adults and 8 students went to Washington D.C. Each student had to raise about \$2,000 to attend. Brandon Kosola reported what they learned about substance abuse and the influences that cause young people to do so. Jessica Newman added that the group was able to see many of the sites in the city, attend a ball game, etc. They also said that they were given ideas to combat the problem of substance abuse in the school. Jenna said they would emphasize prevention. The three plan to continue throughout the year the work they started.

NEW BUSINESS

Personnel. Coaching vacancies. None.

Substitute Applications. None.

Staff Vacancies. None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS
ITEM #3**

Fall Sports Recommendations. The results from the student sport survey that was conducted by Mr. Sturdevant haven't been completely tallied. Six favorable and two unfavorable surveys were received. Mr. Smartnick was given the opportunity to have this be addressed in executive session. He asked if the board members had questions that should be addressed in closed session. Mr. Smartnick clarified that he didn't use specific names of players in his written response to the items addressed at the previous board meeting so there is no question about the students having to be notified should the session be closed. Ms. Lewis asked if there were two issues – specific incidents or the coach evaluation. Mr. Smartnick stated that it was okay at this point to remain in open session. Mr. Whealon stated that since this was an employee evaluation it should be in closed session. Ms. Steketee agreed that closing the meeting for the personnel evaluation was preferable. The employees right to privacy exceeded the public's right to know. Executive session began at 7:00.

At 8:13 the regular session of the meeting continued.

Mr. LeTexier questioned the validity of the decision to be in executive session. Mr. Whealon state that MtSBA has stated unequivocally that the board chair has the sole responsibility to call the executive session. Ms. Jackson moved to defer the action on fall sports coaching recommendations. Mr. Erickson seconded the motion. Discussion continued. Mr. Erickson asked for any information supporting the student evaluations and possible recommendations. If any steps of improvement are suggested then they should be included with the summary of the student surveys. Ms. Denise Burnett asked if any more information could be submitted. The response was that "yes" information could be submitted to the AD or to the board. JHS has a uniform complaint procedure – "chain" – that is suggested for use for complaints but there is never a time that a person can't submit information to the board. The motion passed unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Report. Energy costs for JHS is \$1.03/sq. ft. using the insurance company's square footage (measured the general size of the building). We have another measurement that when used gives us a cost of about \$.82/sq.ft. This is about where most schools are recommended to be. Concerning the yearend funds available and the planning for next year's budget, next year's base budget will have a reduction of about \$74,202. Since our personnel expenditures account for nearly 75% of the budget and without any reductions in staff, the budget cuts would have to come from 25% of the budget. Yearend figures presently look like there should be at least \$20,000 of remaining funds. **Curriculum.** In addition to the pathways developed for the vocational programs, a technical math class is being considered. In the English program, writing needs to be emphasized, in particular technical writing. Senior English is currently 1 semester long. The emphasis currently at JHS seems to be on Literature, in particular, fiction. Vocabulary seems to have been lost along with much of the grammar teaching. The science program needs to have the interpretation of scientific data and a balance between the physical and biological sciences. Earth systems need to be stressed in the first year of high school to improve performance on the CRT. The vocational program could use replacement of some welders - \$8,000. Drivers' Education last year was held only in JHS rather than in Boulder and Clancy. Currently there is a class of 30 students. JHS has always had the practice of putting the older kids first. OPI doesn't agree with this and states that it is a first come first served basis. The woods program could use new working tables. Special education needs improvement in transition plans. In addition, graduation plans should be developed for these students and identified for them in their first years of high school. Music - \$6,000 could help the drum line. Maintaining the film class would require \$2,000 to add equipment so that more students could take the same offering at the same time. Digital Academy was used for credit recovery but wasn't effective. PLATO is the program that works the best but is extremely expensive. It helps determine where the holes are in each student's education. Digital Academy is currently provided free of charge through OPI. Journalism hasn't had any complaints. This year's current schedule has some difficulties with the blocking of capstone courses in 7th and 8th period. Drama seems to have a large number of students in the classes that aren't able to be supervised properly. Construction class is a small class but seems to be doing well. The kids are doing things that haven't been done here before. P.E. requirements according to OPI – 1 semester freshman year and 1 semester sophomore year. Ms. Jackson suggested that the graduation requirement of 24 credits should be lowered to the state requirement of 20 credits if minimum requirements are established. Mr. Sonsteng would support the technical math idea. He also thinks that progress was made this past year or two in math. He talked about meeting kids where they are and taking them as far as they can. They may not be ready for the CRT but they'll be closer. Students will be going to a math contest in Whitehall. The Trig Star test will come to JHS as well. He added that students need to take a math their senior year regardless of whether they've taken it all along. Something that Mr. Sonsteng is doing this year is Accellus. It costs about \$10/student and can apply to students who are behind and for those who are ahead. The program forces kids to engage and they can't hide from the teacher.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent Evaluation. At this point the meeting again went into executive session. 9:15. At 9:55 the regular session resumed.

Hard Rock Fund use. The policy committee reviewed the hard rock policy 7261 to make sure that the board as authorized to use the funds for the building roof repair. Ms. Jackson moved to authorize the use of hard rock funds for repairs up to the limit of 50% of the 2007 balance. Mr. Erickson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS (cont.)	Surplus Property Purchase Authorization. Ms. Jackson moved to authorize the administration to purchase surplus property from the State of Montana. Ms. Bryant seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
PLANNING	Planning Agenda Item. Ms. Bryant moved to table Ms. Jackson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
COMMENDATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS	Mr. McCauley – service learning award - Mr. Erickson Dance Team - Ms. Bryant Todd Lorenzen – Mr. Erickson Administrative staff for excellent audit review – Mr. Erickson Rob Lewis – open gym – Ms. Jackson
COMMITTEE REPORTS	Negotiations/Personnel. The meeting with BAT was January 21. Meetings will be held every other Wednesday. Policy/Handbook. A packet of 6 policies was submitted for review. They will be submitted for 1 st reading in March. Several other policies were addressed as well. Metal mines policy was reviewed. Budget/Insurance/Investments. The committee didn't meet. Building/Grounds/Transportation. A walk-through was held with Mr. Whealon and Mr. Peeler. Mr. Sturdevant is looking to see how much it will cost to replace windows in the classroom wing. Teaching/Learning. Didn't meet.
CLERK'S REPORT	Presented in written form.
SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT CONT.	AD report presented in written form. Superintendent report presented above.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS	Credit for Service Learning. Ms. Piccolo submitted a recommendation for 45 hours for ½ credit. Bids for Roof. March Meeting Policies without dates. Ms. Jackson moved to approve the setting of particular months to complete board actions as follows: • 1310 - Review policies annually • 1610 - Set annual goals and objectives • 2000 - Supt annual instruction report • 2110 - Review accreditation standards and supt accomplishment report • 2130 - Develop plan for evaluations • 2161p - Spec Ed application to board • 3520 - Fees reported to Board • 3610 - At risk Plan • 5140 - Determine classified wages • 5314 - Establish rates of pay for subs - August • 6110 - Supt evaluation - January • 6110p - Formulate goals, adopt annual objectives • 6420 - Admin profl growth dev plan • 7008 - Set tuition rates annually - July • 8300 - Review risk mgmt status Mr. Erickson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
AGENDA ITEMS FOR FOLLOWING MEETING	Graduation Credit requirements. Bids for Roof. Fall Sports Recommendations. Policy 1 st reading. 2410P, 3310, 5328P, 5122F, 3415, 3415P, 5510F Administrative Structure – planning.
ADJOURNMENT	Meeting adjourned at 10:26 p.m.

1. Negotiations/Personnel – A. Erickson, P. Lewis, S. Senechal
2. Policy/Handbook – P. Lewis, S. Steketee, L. Bryant
3. Budget/Insurance/Investments – D. Lorenzen, S. Senechal, K. Jackson
4. Building/Grounds/Transportation – K. Jackson, A. Erickson
5. Teaching/Learning – S. Steketee, D. Lorenzen, L. Bryant
Math & English