

MINUTES

Jefferson High School Dist. 1
Regular Meeting

December 13, 2011
JHS Library

Board members present:

Kathy Jackson
Kyle Eckmann

Sabrina Steketee
Tim Lloyd

Pat Lewis
Stan Senechal **Lynne Bryant**

Administrators present:

James Whealon, Superintendent

Lorie Carey, Business Manager

Visitors:

CALL BOARD TO ORDER	Ms. Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The pledge was said.
CONSENT AGENDA	Ms. Lewis moved to approve the consent agenda with the note that the verbatim transcript from the special meeting attached. Ms. Steketee seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLIC COMMENT	<p>Jan Anderson from the Boulder Monitor asked when the current agenda was posted. The clerk noted that the posting was done the previous Thursday at 11:00 p.m. and this was posted on the website and the schools in the district.</p> <p>Ms. Humphrey asked that G4 and F3 up on the agenda since that was why most of the people were here. She also expressed her concern with the Board's previous actions, before, during, and after the special meeting Dec. 1st.</p> <p>Ms. Lewis moved to move them up on the agenda. Mr. Lloyd seconded the motion which passed unanimously.</p>
COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMENTS	Student presentation: Mariah Carey, secretary for Student Council, reported that Student Council was approving fundraisers - Ms. Butler sports buttons, 3point shots at half time, cookies for FCCLA. The class competition for food drive was won by the seniors. An ice cream party Jan 10 will be provided by student council and Mariah's Challenge. December 19-21 is Career Week. Students will be going to Helena and Butte to job shadow, workshops on Tuesday, Wednesday will have interviews conducted by various professionals from the community and area.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS	<p>F3 The final report has not been done so this item could not be addressed. Ms. Steketee moved that the report go directly to the Board. Mr. Senechal seconded the motion. Ms. Lewis asked if that was the proper procedure. Ms. Jackson and Ms. Steketee said that that was what the attorney from MtSBA suggested. Ms. Lewis asked Mr. Whealon who said that it could be done. She then asked why that would be appropriate. Ms. Steketee said that the attorney felt that given the way in which this had progressed that it was most appropriate. Ms. Bryant asked for clarification. Mr. Senechal asked what would be accomplished by having it go to the Board. Ms. Steketee said that should the report have disciplinary actions suggested for the incident then it should come directly to the board.</p> <p>Ms. Humphrey asked if that was the Superintendent's job. Why is the board taking over the job of the Superintendent?</p> <p>Ms. Steketee replied that our policies don't absolutely require the specific 4 steps in the complaint procedure.</p> <p>Mr. Ehli stated that the agreement between parties should be followed, i.e steps in the complaint process.</p> <p>Mr. Lutkehus asked how can the board can violate policy and then expect staff to follow policy.</p> <p>Ms. Steketee said that as a parent it isn't always appropriate for the "victim" to address the "perpetrator".</p> <p>Mr. Lutkehus stated that the perception is that the Board bypassed the chain by taking the school administrator out of the loop.</p> <p>Ms. Steketee said that the administrator wasn't taken out of the loop.</p> <p>Mr. Lutkehus added that the perception is that the Board hasn't done that.</p> <p>Mr. Dyer asked if anyone had asked the parent to follow the policy.</p>

Mr. Ehli asked whose decision was it to not follow policy.

Ms. Steketee asked which policy had not been followed.

Mr. Senechal stated that the decision to investigate was already made. The decision to use a different investigator was what the board decided to do at the previous meeting.

Ms. Bryant asked why again.

Attorney e-mailed Ms. Jackson and Mr. Senechal that he recommended the Board do that.

Mr. Eckmann asked what Mr. Whealon's process would be after he received the report.

Mr. Whealon said that he would recommend a special meeting.

Mr. Senechal said that he understood at the special meeting that Mr. Whealon would have a recommendation.

The concern by some board members was that the Superintendent would take action that the Board couldn't undo.

Ms. Lewis was concerned about the delay.

Ms. Butler was concerned that the Board was continually taking the Superintendent out of the loop. She asked what Mr. Whealon had done that would cause them to do so.

The parent was not satisfied with what was happening.

Mr. Lutkehus asked who the attorney worked for, the District or the Board.

Motion was amended to read that the report go to Mr. Whealon with no action taken by him. A special meeting will be called. The friendly amendment was accepted.

Ms. Lewis asked if the staff member was still on leave. Yes. Mr. Whealon talked to the attorney earlier today but he gave no indication about when that process would conclude.

Mr. Senechal called for the question. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Senechal moved to bring the staff member back from paid leave since the intent was to protect the environment. Ms. Lewis seconded the motion. Discussion about whether the investigation was completed or not occurred.

Mr. Dyer agreed with Mr. Senechal. The longer the staff member is out of his classroom, the more damage is done. Mr. Eckmann asked if Mr. Whealon felt the investigation was done. Around 4:30 p.m. on this day Mr. Whealon talked to Tony who said the report wasn't ready.

Friendly amendment to add that upon verification by Mr. Whealon that MtSBA has completed the questioning process of the investigation. Accepted. Vote unanimous.

G4 Mr. Whealon will respond to the grievance.

COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMENTS (cont.)

Letters. Monitor – Mr. Whealon responded to it. MT Quality Education Coalition explained legal action currently involved in. Parent letter 1 associated with special meeting. Parent letter 2 associated with fall sports. Parents are having difficulty logging on to complete sports evaluation. Mr. Lutkehus will turn that on in the morning.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Negotiations/Personnel: Attached addendum for the current contract.
Policy/Handbook: Requesting that MtSBA policies be moved over to JHS website only.
December 14 the policies will be moved to the JHS website. Working on procedure to handle policy changes.
Budget/Investment: didn't meet
Building/Grounds: didn't meet
Teaching/Learning: didn't meet

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Strategic Planning – January 10th, Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. in the JHS Library. Staff is invited.

One to One Computing – Mr. Lutkehus presented several proposals to institute the program. Ms. Lewis asked if there were other areas that would experience savings. Mr. Lutkehus replied that maybe \$17,000 in traditional hardware costs would be applied to the 1 to 1 program. The buyout option may not provide much in the way of replacement dollars.

Mr. Senechal asked how the program could be kept up and running if the initial purchase could be covered. Staff response was warm and fuzzy with hesitation. Training, training, training..... Purchasing ½ of them initially might be the way to go – Juniors and Seniors, and then roll Senior to Freshman.. The school will have to provide wireless connections and also will have to be sure that the area communities have wireless.

Mr. Senechal wanted to have a flashy presentation to give to a particular possible investor. August 2012 may not be a reasonable target date for implementation.

NEW BUSINESS

Personnel Substitute – none.
Vacancies – none.

Ms. Bryant moved to accept the recommendation of Karson Klass for assistant boys' basketball. Mr. Senechal seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Ms. Steketee moved to approve volunteers Mr. Mike Charlton and Mr. Dick Norden for girls' and boys' basketball respectively. Mr. Senechal seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Teacher evaluations – non-tenured staff. Mr. Senechal moved to table to January. Ms. Steketee seconded the motion. Would it violate the agreement to do it by December? Staff member needs to be present. Friendly amendment was offered unless the staff members would like to meet in a special meeting to address it before January. Friendly amendment accepted by Senechal and Steketee. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Heather Powers wants music in the gym for ball games and expressed interest in getting that done through Booster Club. The chair thought that she was going to be at this meeting. Clerk reported that AD was working with a former student to improve it without expending too much money. The conduit was being installed this very evening and the wiring would be strung after that. The aim is to accomplish this economically but also effectively.

Cooperative agreement for purchase of natural gas. Mr. Whealon gave the board a brief overview of a program available. Several area schools are interested in this and asked if JHS would be interested. Mr. Eckmann moved to enter into a cooperative agreement for 1 year to purchase natural gas. Ms. Lewis seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Ms. Lewis commended Ms. Bruce and the class who provided the board dinner. Ms. Lewis commended the volunteers for sports programs. Ms. Jackson said Molly Molitor and Betty Charlton were tireless during volleyball.

Clerk had nothing to report.

Mr. Whealon had no additions to his Friday report.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Chair, Jefferson High School Board

Clerk, Jefferson High School Board

Negotiations/Personnel: P. Lewis, S. Senechal, T. Lloyd
Policy/Handbook: P. Lewis, S. Steketee, L. Bryant
Budget/Insurance/Investments: S. Senechal, K. Jackson, K. Eckman
Building/Grounds/Transportation: K. Jackson, K. Eckman, T. Lloyd
Teaching/Learning: S. Steketee, L. Bryant