

## MINUTES

Jefferson High School Dist. 1  
Special Meeting

December 19, 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: David Kosola, Brandon Kosola, Bruce Dyer, Cathy Carey, Steve McCauley, Ron Smartnick, Sr., Kerri Langoni, Tony Koenig, Jan Anderson, Lori Indland, Mick Leary, Shaun Sonsteng, Samantha Humphrey, Laura Butler, Brian Ehli, Kessie Strausser, Mara Pace, Lisa Sonsteng, Hunter Nance, Karsen Klass, Dick Norden

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CALL BOARD TO ORDER      Ms. Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.      The pledge was said.

### NEW BUSINESS

Kerri Langoni, MtSBA investigator, gave an overview of the investigative report into the incident involving the boys' basketball coach and a student. The report in its entirety is included following these minutes. The summary of the allegations is as follows:

**Allegation #1** - that the conversation Rex Sonsteng had with Student 31 about why he was cut from the team was overheard by others. **Cannot be substantiated.**

**Allegation #2** – that Rex Sonsteng referred to Student #1's disability when discussing why Student #1 was cut from the team. **Can be substantiated.**

**Allegation #3** – that Rex Sonsteng approached Student #1 after he learned that Parent #1 had brought the issue to Superintendent Whealon. **Cannot be substantiated.**

**Allegation #4** – that Rex Sonsteng violated the terms of his suspension by attending the Three Forks tournament and entering the locker room at halftime. **(Mr. Whealon did not specifically tell Mr. Sonsteng that he could not go to the tournament as a term of his administrative leave.) Substantiated that Rex Sonsteng attended the tournament. Not substantiated that he engaged in coaching duties. Not substantiated that he went into the locker room at halftime.**

Mr. Eckmann asked whether the classroom issues alluded to in the letter had been addressed. Kerri Langoni replied that her investigation was narrowly confined to the coaching issues.

Jan Anderson stated that Allegation #4 had not been addressed before the previous meeting of Dec. 1. Kerri Langoni replied that it was an item that had surfaced during the investigation and therefore became part of the report. Jan Anderson asked if that information had come from a witness. Kerri Langoni confirmed that it had.

At 6:45 Chair Kathy Jackson moved the meeting to executive session. Jan Anderson questioned this decision. Ms. Jackson replied that the student's right to privacy outweighed the public's right to know.

At 7:55 the regular session resumed. Ms. Bryant moved that a letter of reprimand be placed in Mr. Sonsteng's **coaching** file and also that the entire staff receive training on disability sensitivity regarding what issues can surface and the laws concerning them. Ms. Lewis seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

At 7:58 the board went into executive session to review evaluations of non-tenured staff. At 8:25 the regular session resumed.

Notification of an unresolved grievance was received from Boulder Association of Teachers. A copy of the documents is included with these minutes. A discussion of the grievance filing process commenced. The Collective Bargaining Agreement states Step III "Within five (5) school days of the receipt of the written request of hearing, the President of the Association and the Chair of the Board, or their designees, shall confer and mutually agree to have the grievance heard at a regular or special meeting of the Board no later than thirty-five (35) days after receipt of the written request for hearing." It was agreed that the hearing on the grievance would be held at the next regularly scheduled board of trustees meeting on January 17.

Clarification was given about the executive session for evaluations of non-tenured staff. The evaluations were of Ms. Jessie Collins, Ms. Mary Williams, and Mr. Rex Sonsteng.

The timeline for completion of the staff disability sensitivity training was the end of the school year.

Brian Ehli asked that it be stressed that the letter of reprimand for Coach Sonsteng be placed in his coaching file and not his regular personnel file.

TOPICS FOR FUTURE  
MEETINGS

Tour Shop in January.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

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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