

MANITOU SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 14

MANITOU SPRINGS, CO

Board Meeting Minutes for January 24, 2010

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

Absent: Molly Stevens – dinner and meeting

Ute Pass Elementary 4th and 5th grade students were present along with Mrs. Mowery, GATE Teacher to perform “Comedy of Errors” by William Shakespeare during dinner.

The player’s were: Matthew Vander Werff, John, Ives, Eric Ayers, Hunter Bleakney, Jaylin Jobe, Lily Reavis, Nicolena Weber, Sage Stevens, Madeline Butts, Anais Tintle, Joselyn Farmer, Lochlain McGill, Parker Murdock, Isaac Schwenk, Autumn Lehner, Will Pranchak and Eli Hoehne.

President Farmer call the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

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

Guests included: Scott Cote’, MSEF President

A. AGENDA

012411.01 Mrs. Lord moved to approve the agenda for January 24, 2011 with adding Jack Elder to the Routine/Consensus Items for termination of employment.

Mr. Noufer seconded the motion.

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

GOOD NEWS: Mr. Longfield congratulated the MSHS Cheerleaders for their 2nd place win at the State Competition on December 4, 2010. Coach Stoneback shared with the audience a video of the performance. **The team included:** Shelbe Allison,

Emily Lord, Margaret Arneson, Kira Nash, Megan Becker, Megan Nuci, Julia Beebe, Victoria Reavis, Essiance Chandler, Mikayla Sharon, Jasmine Chandler, Kristen Starkey, Heather Flathers, Mariah Unruh, Amanda Gillmer, Mya Wadsworth, Delaney Hallauer, Laynie Zak, Therese Keller & Shea Zupan.

Coaches: Alice Stoneback, Melanie McLaren and Jan Williams. Mr. Longfield presented them with a plaque.

Mr. Longfield introduced Dominique Ortonward, MSES 4th grader and presented her with a plaque for raising \$365 for Care and Share back in November. The project/fundraiser was called "Take Your Turkey to Work".

B. MINUTES

012411.02 Mrs. Lord moved to approve the Board of Education Minutes for December 9, 2010 with the following corrections.

Page 1 and 2: The date for the meeting was listed incorrectly as December 10, 2010 and motions 1, 2 and 3 also had the wrong date. The correct date should be December 9, 2010.

Mr. Mendoza seconded the motion.

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

C. RECURRENT

1. Identification of member 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/or Act on Correspondence

Mrs. Lord received an invitation to attend an event hosted by The Family Attachment Center on Sat. Feb. 19, 2011 – "For the Love of Children".

2. Payment of Expenditures for the months ending November 30, 2010 and December 31, 2010.

012411.02 Mrs. Lord moved to approve the Payment of Expenditures for the months ending November 30, 2010 and December 31, 2010.

Mr. Mendoza seconded the motion.

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

D. REPORTS

1. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Longfield discussed with the Board that he is in support of Senate Bill 191 along with other area superintendents. Dr. Walt Cooper drafted a letter for the area superintendents.

2. Board of Education

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

No Meeting/Report

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

No Report

On February 26, 2011 the Foundation will host "Night of the Oscars" at Venue 515. If anyone has any kind of service that they can donate please contact the Manitou Springs Education Foundation. The service would be part of a silent auction.

- c) Governmental Relations . . . Anna Lord

Mrs. Lord attended the annual CASB Board of Director's Retreat January 21-23, 2011. Topics discussed include:

School Finance and State Budget

Gov. Ritter's school finance proposals for 2010-11 and 2011-12 are best case scenarios and are unlikely to be met. Gov. Hickenlooper's proposal for 2011-12 will not arrive at the JBC until February, but we should expect school finance funding to drop.

The legislature faces tough choices regarding funding the loss of local tax revenue or letting districts pick up those losses this current year. Assessed property valuation is \$23 million less than projected last spring.

Given the magnitude of the existing revenue shortfall (over \$1 billion) and given the limited General Fund revenue growth plus the loss of local revenues (\$143 million) anticipated in the short-term, it appears unlikely that the General Assembly will be able to fully fund the existing school finance formula in FY 2012-2013. In the long term JBC staff recommends that the GA consider extending the state budget stabilization factor through FY 2012-12.

For the long term JBC staff recommends that the GA consider making permanent changes to the school finance formula to provide for a level of funding that is sustainable for the State and predictable for school districts.

Reduced Mandates on School Districts

Rep. Massey approached CASB last summer to ask for help in identifying duplicative reporting and record keeping for the purpose of eliminating those burdens where possible via legislation. CASB prepared a “catalogue” of state mandates and State Board rules and regulations that, if eliminated, could result in more district efficiencies and decreased administrative time.

Gov. Hickenlooper signed an executive order “Establishing a Policy to Enhance the Relationship between State and Local Government.” The order states no state agency shall promulgate any regulation creating a mandate on local governments unless” the mandate is specifically required by federal or state law; the agency consults with local governments prior to the promulgation of the regulation; and the state government provides the funding necessary to pay for the direct costs incurred in complying with the mandate. While this doesn’t apply to local school districts, CASB is working Rep. Solano on a similar bill which would apply to local school districts.

Ironically, Rep. Massey is planning on introducing a bill requiring local school districts to report on any and all physical activity (PE, recess etc.) being performed by all students at all grade levels.

Senator Spence is introducing a bill which would mandate that all school districts consider outsourcing their transportation services.

Constitutional Fiscal Reform

Constitutional tax reform has been and continues to be one of CASB’s highest priorities in recent years. Staff believes that there will be several proposals that warrant our advocacy effort this session.

Implementation of Educator Effectiveness Law (SB 10-191)

CASB’s support of SB 191 was premised upon the belief that if implemented properly, the law could greatly enhance the teaching profession and lead to higher student achievement.

Staff believes CASB should continue its work to support and influence the work of the State Educator Effectiveness Council as it reports to the State Board.

Other

- 1) Senator Jonhston plans to introduce a bill allowing undocumented students who graduate from the Colorado public education system to attend Colorado universities at the in-state tuition rate. It is predicted that his bill will be highly publicized and raise considerable emotions on both sides of the aisle, it is not believed that it will pass. Since CASB does not have a resolution either in support or against this issue, it is possible for CASB to remain neutral and not expend “political capital” either way, but CASB will be looking for input from its members on this issue.
- 2) Gov. Hickenlooper has appointed former school board director and member of the Colorado House of Representatives Christine Scanlon as his chief education lobbyist. The governor has also appointed former DPS Board Member and CASB Board member Kevin Patterson to the position

of Deputy Chief of Staff. These appointments, as well as the combination of Lieutenant Gov. Joe Garcia's job with oversight of Colorado's Higher Education system leads CASB staff to believe that there are "friends" in the Governor's office that will facilitate conversations.

- 3) Changes in the makeup of the State Board of Education are not seen as favorably by CASB staffers. While the makeup remains 4R to 3D, the loss of Republican Randy Dehoff and his 12 year history and reputation of someone who will listen to new and/or conflicting opinions is seen as a negative. It is considered likely that the new board will be looking for a new commissioner who is "voucher friendly". Due to the changes on the State Board, Vodi Herman has announced that she will be retiring.
- 4) I had a discussion with Jeri Hodges, CASB director of policy services. Her recommendation is that we take the time needed to review and adopt the policies she highlighted for us and don't rush to adopt anything we are uncomfortable with. She also recommended that we consider a full policy review which she estimates would cost around \$12,000, spread over two years.

d) Pikes Peak Alliance Tim Miller

The next meeting is Thursday, January 27th. The annual luncheon with area legislators is scheduled for Wednesday, February 2nd at the state capitol. Ed is scheduled to attend, while I will attend a CASE conference that day.

e) District Accountability Advisory Committee Gino Mendoza

Mr. Mendoza said at the last DAAC meeting, Tuesday, January 18, Mr. Armour and Mrs. Wood reviewed a list of projects that they are working on.

Mr. Longfield asked the group for additional suggestions on any areas we may be missing. Suggestions included:

- A program or class to help students understand basic finances and how to become financially independent.
- Our DAAC student reps expressed interest in talking to current college students to find out more about what to expect your first year of college, how to plan for college, tips for the application and scholarship process, etc.

The next DAAC meeting will be Tuesday, February 15, 2011 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

3. Staff

a) Tim Miller Assistant Superintendent

Revised Annual Budget: There is no longer a requirement to adopt a revised annual budget for the current fiscal year with information known to us as of December 31st.

We can revise the budget if we desire, but in reviewing our execution of the budget, I estimate that known revenue changes will only decrease our revenue by some \$60k, and the appropriated amounts appear adequate for our spending, so there is no real need to revise the budget.

2nd Quarter FY11: Included is information by fund for the 2nd quarter, along with the corresponding information for the same period last year. All funds are tracking well compared to the budget.

Budgeting for FY12: We don't yet have revenue estimates to begin planning for next year. There are estimates that our revenue change for next year will range from a best case of +/- 0%, to a worst case of a 10% reduction. CDE has talked with some districts and told them to plan for ~ a 2 % reduction.

I don't know that we will have much to really plan for before the March state revenue forecast and the initial version of the School Finance Act, hopefully also in March. A leading indicator of economic recovery is sales tax revenue, and the city of Colorado Springs is budgeting revenue increases. Income tax (the state's main revenue source) is a lagging indicator, but I've attended a briefing that calls for that to start picking up by next year. At the CASE finance conference on February 2nd the CDE assistant commissioner for school finance is the main attraction, so maybe I'll have better information after that.

4. Principals

MANITOU SPRINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

RELATIONSHIPS

- In conjunction with the District 14 Food Service, we have established a mini food-shelf program for MSES families. Donated items from Student Council Spirit Days are placed on a shelf near food service and needy families are guided to take what they need from the shelf. Eventually, a more formal backpack food program will be added, in which students of identified families can take home specific food items for weekend meals in anonymous backpacks.
- Teachers enhanced their already strong relationships and communication skills at a Crisis Prevention Intervention training January 6 at MSES. CPI trainers discussed ways to keep students with behavioral/emotional issues from escalating to a physical point via calm and appropriate dialog. Our administrative team learned similar skills, as well as safe and legal methods for physical intervention, at an all-day CPI training the next day.

RIGOR

- Grade-level district PLC teams completed templates for the new EL-based report card during the professional development day 1/6/11. Next step is meeting with tech department representatives next week to work it into PowerTeacher and PowerSchool. We will inform parents about the report card in the newsletter, at a parent night, and at third-quarter conferences.
- Teachers identified District 14 Essential Learning Targets in Science on the 1/5/11 professional development day. The Science EL's are based very closely on the new state content standards for Science. The new standards involved some realignment of science subject areas by grade level, but teachers took the opportunity to make it a fresh look at the curriculum and experiments/kits they'll use to deliver innovative instruction.
- Mr. Vogel spent two days at Beacon Country Day School as part of an NCA accreditation site visit team. The process was very informative of the NCA process MSES will undergo in April—and of the data collection and preparation the school will tackle in the coming months. It was a meaningful and rigorous process!

OPPORTUNITY

- Over the past few weeks, Kidpower classes were held for first-grade classes and parents again this year. This class focuses on safety around stranger dangers.
- MSES is launching its Incredible Years program to share parenting strategies for families of challenging preschoolers and kindergartners. The program includes community meals, videos, trainings, and mentoring.

UPE

Relationships:

We are very pleased with the relationship we have been able to develop with Nancy Ellis, Behavioral Specialist in the Ute Pass BOCES. She is a wonderful practitioner who has spent days with our students in observations and with Ute Pass teachers to develop behavior plans for our needy children.

We had our first and second grade connection dinner Thursday. Twenty families were in attendance. Thanks to Randi Hitchcock, Laurie Wood, Justin Armour and Paula Faucette for their support.

We have revamped our Ute Pass Vision with parents, staff and students. This three month project has been extremely valuable as we discussed our hopes for our little school with the red doors.

Rigor:

The “Let’s Read” program that we began in November, has already proven to be successful for our students with reading difficulties. Before we began the program, 9 students were in need of intensive reading therapy. During recent assessments, only three are still in this intensive range.

Our three day professional development with our sister school at the beginning of January was extremely beneficial. Teachers met in PLCs to developed Science ELs for each grade level. They also input their ELs into a new report card format. Music, PE, art, technology and media also added their ELs to the draft report card.

GATE students have been working diligently on this year’s production of Shakespeare’s Comedy of Errors. (See program)

Opportunity:

Our fourth grade class worked with high school students via SKYPE to learn Glogster. Our students will be using Glogster while developing their Science Fair projects.

A great opportunity has presented itself for our staff members. When the most recent PISA report came out which indicated that the United States was woefully behind other nations in reading, math and science, the several members of the staff decided to read and discuss the report. Strong Performers and Successful Reformers in Education Lessons from PISA for the United States is a report that compares the PISA assessment results from multiple countries. Our PLC for education reform, is designed for us to read, blog and discuss the differences and similarities among the PISA nations on the international test. Cultural differences, the educational system of schooling, teacher selection and professional development, assessments and economic support will be discussed.

Manitou Middle School

Relationships:

Manitou Middle held our first, hopefully of many, day of service. In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr., every student in the building participated in a service-learning project. Ranging from building cat-houses for the Humane Society, to cleaning up Manitou’s streets and waterways, this day was an outrageous success. We were covered in a very positive way by both local TV news, and the Colorado Springs Gazette. Thanks to Cindy Myers our GATE teacher, and Serna Pearson for all of their hard work on this project!!

Rigor:

PLC’s are focused on learning, and how to better report that learning to parents. We are honing in on student learning and generating data for growth. In December we had a school wide writing prompt. Every student wrote on the same prompt, and we should be able to better understand growth from 6th to 8th grade.

Opportunity:

Beginning this quarter, MSMS will begin offering Karate to 7th and 8th graders. Our efforts to offer a wide range of educational opportunities are showing great success.

Students are continuing to work hard to be successful, both behaviorally and academically. The citizenship grade is motivating students to do their best every day. Students who need extra help are getting help during prime time, enabling teachers to give some necessary one on one attention.

MANITOU SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL

On January 25th Manitou Springs High School will present the Rachel's Challenge Program, which is outlined below.

Rachel Scott was the first person killed at Columbine High School on April 20, 1999. Rachel's acts of kindness and compassion coupled with the contents of her six diaries have become the foundation for the school program.

A few weeks after the tragedy Darrell Scott, Rachel's father, spoke to a Congressional House Judiciary Committee regarding issues of school violence. His speech has become one of the most widely read on the internet. Shortly afterwards he founded "Rachel's Challenge", a bullying and violence abatement program. In 2008 more than 1.32 million students experienced Rachel's Challenge and had the opportunity to accept the challenges modeled after Rachel's life and writings.

Powerful video footage of Rachel's Challenge captures student attention during a one hour school presentation that motivates them to positively change the way they treat others. This is followed by a training session involving both adult and student leaders. This is an interactive session that shows how to sustain the momentum created by the assembly. This same evening the Rachel's Challenge presenter conducts a powerful session with parents and the community leaders.

To sustain the positive climate change in school, Rachel's Challenge offers a year long curriculum called the Friends of Rachel (FOR) program that continues training students and plugs them into activities that continue the chain reaction of kindness.

The school program founded by Mr. Scott has prevented numerous suicides, drastically reducing bullying, and in three known instances in 2007 alone prevented a planned school shooting.

This event will be Tuesday, January 25. The assembly and training for students and staff will occur during the school day. The evening community event will take place at 7:00 P.M. in the New Gym.

It is our feeling that this program and the positive effects it will have on our school and community culture, will enhance our ability to meet the District 14 goals relating to R20.

E. ROUTINE/CONSENSUS ITEMS

012410.03 Mrs. Lord moved to approve the following Routine/Consensus Items as amended on the approval of the agenda.

Mr. Noufer seconded the motion.

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

a) Certified

- Brian Person – HS/MS Band Director

b) Classified

- Jack Elder – HS SPED Para

2. Employment

a) Certified

- Brian Hopwood – HS/MS Band Teacher

b) Classified

c) Substitute Teacher

- Jane Kaufman Balis
- Lynette Boyles
- Karen Dooley
- Earline Downey
- David Esposito
- Karen Heidenreich

- Peter Cummings Rohan
- Sheilah Shapiro

d) ARK Contracts

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

BREAK – 7:55 – 8:10 p.m.

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

POLICIES: CASB SUGGESTED POICIES – Blanket Adoption

012411.04 Mrs. Lord moved to approve the following Policies suggested by CASB .

Mr. Noufer seconded the motion.

AC-R Non-Discrimination
 ACE Non-Discrimination Basis of Disability
 ADC Tobacco Free Schools
 AED Accreditation
 CBI Evaluation of Superintendent
 ECA Security Access to Buildings
 EEAEG Use of Wireless
 EEAFB Use of Vehicles by Community Groups
 EFEA Nut. Food Choices
 EGAEA Elec. Communication
 GBA Equal Opp./Hiring
 GBEB Staff Conduct
 GBGB Staff Personal Safety/Security
 GCOC Evaluation. of Staff
 GDE-GDF Support Staff
 HIV/AIDS Education
 IHA Basic Instr. Program
 IHA-R Instr. Program
 IHAM Health Education
 IHAM-R Health Education
 IHAMB-R Family Life/Sex Education
 IHAMB Family Life/Sex Education
 IHAMC HIV/AIDS Education

IHAMC-R HIV/AIDS
ILBB State Program Assessments
JBA Nondiscrimination on the basis of sex
JF Admission and Denial of Admission
JF-R Admission and Denial
JFABD Homeless Students
JFABD-R Homeless Students
JFBA-R Choice Open Enrollment
JFC-R Student Withdrawal/Dropout
JHB Truancy
JIC Student Conduct
JK Student Discipline
JK-2 Discipline of Student with Disabilities
JK-R Student Discipline
JKD-JKE Suspension/Expulsion
JKD-JKE-R Student Suspension/Expulsion
JRA-JRC-R Records/Release of Information
KI Visitors to School

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

- FFA: Naming Facilities 3rd Reading

012411.05 Mr. Noufer moved to approve Policy FFA – Naming Facilities for the 3rd and final reading.

Mrs. Lord seconded the motion.

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

- EEAG/EEAG-E: Student Transportation in Private Vehicles 3rd Reading

012411.06 Mrs. Lord moved to approve Policy EEAG/EEAG-E – Student Transportation in Private Vehicles 3rd and final reading.

Mr. Noufer seconded the motion.

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

G. NEW BUSINESS

- 2nd Quarter Financial Report

Mr. Miller reviewed the 2nd Quarter Financial Report with the Board.

- Superintendent's Evaluation

An evaluation was completed for Mr. Longfield, Superintendent of Schools and the Board of Education was satisfied with his goals.

H. FUTURE AGENDAS

- February 14, 2011 – Work Session –
 Invite Salary Committee to Share in Budget Discussion
- February 28, 2011 – BOE Meeting
- March 14, 2011 - Work Session
- March 28, 2011 - BOE Meeting – Town Meeting

Mrs. Lord suggested that the district should invite the City of Manitou Springs Employees to our PERA Meeting to be held on February 1, 2011.

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

012411.07 Mrs. Lord moved to enter into Executive Session at 9:25 p.m.
with the Board of Education, and the Superintendent .
CRS. 24-6-402: 4 (h) Discussion of Individual Students

Mr. Mendoza seconded the motion.

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

012411.08 Mrs. Lord moved to adjourn from the Executive Session at
9:45 p.m.

Mr. Noufer seconded the motion.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Gino Mendoza
Secretary