

ABERDEEN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO.58
Regular School Board Meeting
November 20, 2012

The Board of Trustees of School District No. 58, Bingham County, Idaho met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. on November 20, 2012 at the Aberdeen School District Office in Aberdeen, Idaho.

CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Chairman Ritchey Toevs opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Present were Marc Foster, Elaine Blik, Ken Woods, Ritchey Toevs, and Andrea Myler.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

SWEAR IN NEW BOARD MEMBER

Newly appointed Board member Andrea Myler was sworn in by Board Clerk Ken Woods to serve as a Board Member representing Zone Five (5)

DELEGATION AND PATRON INPUT

Patrons Herb Bahrer, Steve Adams, and Ralene Wahlen addressed the Board with their reasons for being totally against the four (4) day school week. Patron Graciela Rodriguez addressed the Board on behalf of 43 Hispanic Parent Group members who were also against the four day school week. School Para-Professional Aide Mychelle Vollmer provided a letter from Snake River School District Superintendent Mark Gabrylczyk regarding their experience on a four day school week since the 2010-2011 school year. Mychelle expressed an against four day opinion.

Patron Ray Duffin addressed the Board with his reasons being totally in favor of the four (4) day school week.

SUPERINTENDENT and ADMINISTATOR REPORTS

Mrs. Ward added to her report by going over highlights the Idaho Association of School Administrators (IASA) 2013 Legislative priorities regarding discussions on Labor – continuation of parent input in the evaluation process, Pay for Performance-Create some kind of model for merit pay/pay for performance with emphasis on local control model based on student achievement measures that has to be approved by the State, and modernization and reform-access for technology, early completers, and dual credit program.

Mr. Pincock congratulated Tony Lemos for his selection to attend the All Northwest Wind Symphony. He also added to his written report by telling the Board that 74 Juniors/Seniors would be taking the ACT test this year. He also told them that the Gear Up Grant helped pay for the tests as well as purchasing two computers. He said that names will be drawn for the chance to win these two computers so that probably contributed to the increase in number of students signing up to take the ACT test.

Mr. Vaughn added to his written report by briefing the Board on what he learned from his attendance at a Regional Special Education Meeting about the effects of the federal budget sequestration on cuts to federal funds including special education. He urged all to write their Congressional Legislators asking them to vote against the sequestration bills.

Mrs. Mennear thanked Mrs. Erin Johnson for writing a grant proposal for technology. She received approximately \$39,000 in surplus INL laptops and CPU's. She also thanked all the volunteer coaches who coach Middle School Teams. Specifically thanked were Kelsey Funk and Ryan Wahler who are coaching the Middle School girls basketball team and Darren Hall and Bob Pankau who will be coaching the Middle School boys basketball team. She also told the Board about Middle School Respect Day where face book and texting protocol and being more responsible were discussed with students.

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Mrs. Colton had no additions to her written report.

Board Member Andrea Myler reported on what she learned from her attendance at the 2012 Annual Idaho School Board Association (ISBA) Convention. She said she learned a lot about Board Member responsibilities such as student achievement and Average Daily Attendance (ADA). She was able to ask lots of questions and received some great answers. She talked to other attendees about their school district's positive experiences being on a four day school week including reduced teachers absences, increased ADA, and that honor rolls increased by 15% since their starting the four day school week calendar. She learned that the Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho (PERSI) submitted a resolution to report hourly wages instead of daily wages when reporting sick leave calculations to PERSI when employees retire for school districts on four day school weeks.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Business Manager, Mr. Dye, reviewed action items from the October 17, 2012 regular board meeting and the November 8, 2012 special board meeting. The agenda was approved with the addition of adding an overnight trip request for Tony Lemos to attend the All Northwest Wind Symphony in Portland, Oregon February 14-17, 2012. A motion was made by Trustee Foster and seconded by Trustee Woods to approve the agenda with the addition. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT ITEMS

The following consent items were presented:

Minutes of the October 17th Regular Meeting

Minutes of November 6th Special Executive Session Meeting

Minutes of the November 8th Special Board Meeting

Approval of October 2012 Claims

Approval of October 2012 Financial Report

County Tax Report

Building Budget Reports

Approval of Overnight Trip Request to Sugar Salem HS, Malad HS, Wendell HS, Parma HS, and Portland, Oregon.

Following a discussion on the October 2012 Financial and County Tax Reports, a motion was made by Trustee Myler and seconded by Trustee Blik to approve Consent Items 8 (A-H) as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Approval of Policies

A motion to approve Policy 218 (Code of Ethics) was made by Trustee Myler, seconded by Trustee Woods, and the motion passed unanimously.

Policies for Review

Policy 670.50 (McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act & Attachments) was for review only, so no motion was made on this policy.

Discuss Modified 4 Day Calendar

Trustee Foster said he felt there would be actually more consistency on the modified calendar than on the present five day calendar with short days, data days, etc. interrupting the students teacher to student one-on-one time. Trustee Myler said she felt the four day calendar schedule would help bring back more programs. Trustee Woods felt that with Common Core Standards being implemented there would be enough changes being implement so he did not want to make any additional changes that students would have to deal with. Trustee Blik said she felt that with Common Core Standards being implemented large changes will be faced, mastery of subjects will be required, and teaching in the classroom will change so that the increased teacher to student contact time under the modified four day calendar was needed. She said attendance is the driving force for dollars to the district so incentives to student also needed to be looked at as a way to increase student attendance. A motion to approve the modified four day calendar was made by Trustee Foster and seconded by Trustee Myler. A roll call vote on this motion, as requested by Patron Bohrer, was as follows: Trustee Myler: Yes; Trustee Woods: No; Trustee Blik: Yes; Trustee Foster: Yes; and Chair Toevs: Abstained. The motion passed on a three yes and one no majority vote with one abstain.

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TRUSTEE INPUT

Trustee Myler said she is excited to be on the Board. She knows how hard district staff work and thinks there will be a positive outcome with the change to a four (4) day school week.

Trustee Woods says it is great to work on the Board and to see everyone doing their work during the trustee walk around. In regard to the Board vote on the four (4) day school week, he acknowledges that the majority rules and he is not mad at anyone.

Trustee Blik said that she has been on the fence regarding the four (4) day school week but change is coming and everyone will need to adapt. She said that we will all be on the same playing field. She would like to restore aides to the lower grades to help with the change and knows Mrs. Ward's heart is also with the lower grades and can get things done. She feels the modified calendar is more consistent and the change will be good. She added the four day is about quality, not quantity and the calendar change has four solid days which is not as interruptive as the current calendar schedule.

Trustee Foster welcomed Trustee Myler to the Board. He thanked all in attendance for coming and said their attendance means they care. He feels it a privilege to sit on the Board. Mr. Foster said the School Administration is appreciated along with all staff in the District. He also feels that the District will continue to have improvement even with decreased funding.

Chairman Toevs also welcomed Trustee Myler to the Board. He said in spite of the 20% decrease in funding over the last three (3) years we continue to teach each student individually not as a group. He said the attendance of patrons shows concern and is appreciated and he respects all who have been part of the four (4) day school discussion. Mr. Bohrer was thanked for his long time service on previous school boards. He said the school is defined by people and employees of the district and not by the calendar. Mr. Toevs said administrators, teachers, and other staff all contribute to future success just as they did in the past.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session was needed.

With no further business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Clerk: _____, Approved by Board of Trustees: _____.

Chairperson: _____,