

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 21, 2007
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Chairman Alexander, Trustee House, Trustee Rodney,

OTHERS PRESENT: Tim McMurtrey, Doug Johnson, Cliff Ogborn, Connie Donahue, Sharon Whitman, Phil Raney, Jackie Harper, Col. Laffey, Dennis Scott, Jim Jones, Nancy Brletic, Sandy Herrboldt, Albert Longhurst, Nikki Crusier, Ed Hall, Bill McCarrel, Ernie Elliott, Polly Sanders, James Gilbert, Sam Fields, Kathy LeFevre, Cliff Ogborn, Jose Lopez, Jeff Johnson, Paul Shrum

At 7:32 p.m., Chairperson Alexander convened the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees and called for the first item of business.

- I. **APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 17, 2007. APPROVE CORRECTED COPY OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 19, 2007.** Chairman Alexander called for a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 17, 2007, and the corrected copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of June 19, 2007 to correct the graduation date from May 30, 2007 to May 30, 2008. There being no comment, Trustee Rodney moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 17, 2007 and the corrected copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of June 19, 2007, with a second by Trustee House. Motion approved.
- II. **FINANCIAL REPORTS** - Cliff Ogborn. Mr. Ogborn reported on the financial statements for July 2007. The June 30 numbers are preliminary and unaudited so they are subject to change. The preliminary unaudited loss for FY 2007 is \$466,454, leaving the district with a fund balance of \$544,023. The statements for July reflected a balance of \$200,717. Unobligated cash and investments are \$1,828,196 net of interfund payables. The Income Statement reflected revenue through July is \$460,206. Expenses show salaries are at \$1,093,828 of original budget, and benefits are \$427,353. As of July 31, we have a net margin of expenses in excess of revenues of \$1,218,927. Trustee House moved to approve the financial report as presented by Mr. Ogborn. Motion seconded by Trustee Rodney. Motion passed.
- III. **CONSIDERATION OF BILLS** - Cliff Ogborn. Mr. Ogborn presented the district bills for approval. Trustee Rodney moved to authorize payment of the district's bills as presented, with a second from Trustee House. Motion carried. *(A full and complete listing of the District's bills may be reviewed at the District Office, Accounts Payable.)*
- IV. **STAFF/STUDENT RECOGNITION – None**
- V. **DELEGATION – None**
- VI. **PUBLIC INPUT** – James W. Jones approached the Board to voice his concern over an article he read in Time Magazine regarding the lack of funding provided to students with above average intelligence and the enormous amount of funding provided to students who are considered special education. He wanted to know why students with an IQ of 140+ are ignored while students with below normal IQ's are given priority. He stated that the Time Magazine article reported that funding for special education students was in the amount of \$8 billion while funding for Gifted and Talented (G/T) students was in the amount of \$800 million. The article also mentioned that 5% of G/T students drop out of school. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Luna, State School Superintendent, why this is. Mr. Luna replied that NCLB requires schools to bring low achieving students to a proficient level. Mr. Jones wants MHSD to provide the same amount of funding given to special education students also given to G/T students. Chairman Alexander thanked Mr. Jones for his input and said that the Board would take this under advisement.

VII. REPORTS –

- A. **MOUNTAIN HOME AFB UPDATE** - Colonel Tom Laffey/Mr. Dennis Scott. Col. Laffey introduced Dennis Scott to the Board. Mr. Scott is the new civilian mission support group deputy commander. Col. Laffey stated that Mr. Scott is a welcome asset to the base. He then reported that more houses have been accepted. Families will move in the end of September or the beginning of October (153 units in which 90 are currently occupied). Almost 60 new units will be ready by the end of September, which completes Phase 5. Phases 6 (147 units) and 7 (17 units) will be finished sometime in late 2008. He addressed some BRAC issues such as facilities projects and mission systems. F-15C's will leave MHAFB about FY10. The base is reading itself for the Singapore Air Force (RSAF). The first cadre of RSAF should start bedding down at the base next November/December. MHAFB is expecting some more airman and their families from Alaska and elsewhere.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

IX. NEW BUSINESS –

- A. **EMERGENCY LEVY/ENROLLMENT FIGURES** – Tim McMurtrey. Mr. McMurtrey thanked the administrative staff in each building for their hard work keeping the district office informed on the enrollment numbers. Enrollment in town has increased by nineteen students in the elementary schools, especially kindergarten enrollment at West Elementary. Enrollment is down in the secondary schools, but historically, enrollment increases significantly the week before the first day of school. More students will enroll after Labor Day. Enrollment is still low at the base with there only being 362 students enrolled. Chairman Alexander noted that the enrollment figure comparisons aren't quite valid because school started a week earlier last year than this year, so this year's enrollment figures will be lower than last year. Mr. McMurtrey also stated that if there is a significant increase in enrollment, by law, we could invoke an emergency levy. The timeline to meet the emergency levy is the second Monday in September. The District asked the County Commissioners to extend that timeline to September 12, 2007. He also requested the Board authorize Chairman Alexander to invoke an emergency levy as required by law. Trustee House commented that the high school is so full that it would be difficult to accommodate any more students. Trustee House moved to authorize Chairman Alexander to invoke an emergency levy, as dictated by enrollment and law, received a second by Trustee Rodney. Motion approved.

- B. **IN LIEU OF TRANSPORTATION REQUEST** – Doug Johnson. Mr. Johnson presented transportation reimbursement requests from Rebecca Whitted for Makayla Whitted, 3rd grade, Pine School, and Katlyn Whitted, 1st grade, Pine School; Kris Nitz for Joseph Nitz, 11th grade, MHHS, and Jordan Nitz, 9th grade, MHJH. A motion by Trustee Rodney to approve the In Lieu of Transportation requests, as presented by Mr. Johnson and with a second by Trustee House. Motion passed.

- C. **OUT-OF-DISTRICT OPEN ENROLLMENT APPLICATIONS** – Doug Johnson. Mr. Johnson requested approval of the open enrollment applications for 2007-2008 school year.

1. Janet Campbell-Hughes for William Hughes, 8th grade, seeks approval for her son to attend MHJH.
2. Glenda Day for Caitlin Day, 9th grade, seeks approval for her daughter to attend MHJH.

The parents will provide transportation to and from school.

Trustee House motioned to approve the Out-of-District Open Enrollment Applications for William Hughes and Caitlin Day as presented by Mr. Johnson, with a second from Trustee Rodney. Motion carried.

- D. **PERSONNEL** – Doug Johnson. Mr. Johnson made two requests. The first request was to declare an emergency hiring situation for elementary and special education teachers. Some applicant candidates haven't completed their ABCTE certification because the test isn't until October. The state will

authorize a provisional certification. The second was to approve all personnel items. Mr. McMurtrey asked the Board for the motion to be contingent on an ABCTE certification for applicants who don't pass the ABCTE test. Mr. Johnson stated that the applicants would still be issued a Provisional Certification for the current school year, even if they don't pass the test.

1. **Declaration of Hiring Emergency** - Mr. Johnson requested that the Board declare a hiring emergency in the area of special education and elementary education, thus allowing the District to hire people who intend to enroll in coursework leading to certification in special education and elementary education or who are signed up to test for the American Board of Certification for Teacher Excellence (ABCTE), or who are waiting to take their final portion of the tests enabling them to become certified through the ABCTE. Trustee Rodney moved that the Board declare a hiring emergency for the 2007-08 school year in the areas of special education and elementary education as presented by Mr. Johnson. Trustee House seconded it and the motion was passed.

Trustee House moved to approve personnel matters, including the addendum, as presented by Mr. Johnson, with a second from Trustee Rodney. Motion approved.

2. **APPOINTMENTS**

Bartles, Kimberly M., Second Grade Teacher, Base Primary
 Booth, Sharon R., B Custodian, Pine School
 Callister, Mary, Special Education Teacher, Base Primary
 Cameron, ReNae L., Seventh Grade B Volleyball Coach, Mountain Home Junior High School
 Carr, Leona I., Fourth Grade, West Elementary
 Everts, Julie A., K-8 Teacher, Pine School
 Foy, Tracy L., Second Grade, West Elementary
 Garza, Irene G., Receptionist, West Elementary
 Gustafson, Laurie M., BIC Teacher, Hacker Middle School/West Elementary
 Hennessey, Thomas N., Eighth Grade Heavy Weight Football Coach, Mountain Home Junior High School
 Horvath, Danielle H., Special Education Teacher, East Elementary
 Hymer, Teresa, Junior Varsity Girl's Soccer Coach, Mountain Home High School
 Marcus, Erin C., Second Grade, West Elementary
 Markham, Carrie J., Applied Math Teacher, Hacker Middle School
 Martinez, Teresa, ELL Paraeducator, North Elementary
 Mitchell, Katie I., Special Education Teacher, North Elementary
 Olds, Robin G., Title I Paraeducator, North Elementary
 Oliva, John L., Head Light Weight Football Coach, Grades Six - Eighth
 Peyer, Susan K., Second Grade Teacher, East Elementary
 Pollauf, Joan M., Special Education Teacher, West Elementary
 Robinson, Gary G., BIC Teacher, Mountain Home Junior High School
 Roemer, Pamela J., Special Design Paraeducator, West Elementary
 Ryan, Shelly K., Kindergarten Teacher, West Elementary
 Schroeder, Geoffrey A., Study Skills Classified Teacher, Mountain Home High School
 Smith, Sarah, Varsity Assistant Cheerleader Coach, Mountain Home High School
 Varnier, Susan G., Math/Science Teacher, Hacker Middle School

STUDENT TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS

Jake Shrum – University of Montana – September 3, 2007 – December 21, 2007 – Mountain Home High School
 Co-operating Teacher – Chris Asbury – U.S. History

Jake Shrum – University of Montana – September 3, 2007 – December 21, 2007 – Mountain Home High School
 Co-operating Teacher – Rachele Asbury – Business

RESIGNATIONS

Beard, Dawn M., Special Education Paraeducator, Hacker Middle School
Glover, Mike, Junior Varsity Girl's Soccer Coach, Mountain Home High School
Hernandez, Ruth N., Receptionist, West Elementary
Mespelt, Brandon E., Food Service Delivery, Food Service
Stephens, Julie A., Preschool Paraeducator, North Elementary

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

X. **ADJOURNMENT** - All business of the Board having been completed, the meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Chairman Alexander

Clerk Whitman