

MERIDIAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 505
MINUTES OF SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
February 15, 2006

Chair Charlie Crabtree called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Board members present were Judy Boxx, Charlie Crabtree, Brian Evans, Bryan Vander Yacht and Mary Mattison.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Irene Reither Primary School second grade students, Chris Poortinga, Conner Harris, Brett Horgen and Jamie Baeder, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA

A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Judy Boxx and seconded by Mary Mattison. Motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items on the consent agenda were approved on a motion by Mary Mattison and seconded by Bryan Vander Yacht.

- A. Minutes for January 18, 2006 and January 27, 2006
- B. Accounts Payable/Payroll
- C. Budget Status Reports

REPORTS

A. Superintendent's Report

Recognition for Dave Shockley

Mr. Dickerson reported that high school principal Dave Shockley was recently recognized as Whatcom County League Principal of the Year for 2005-06. The honor makes Mr. Shockley eligible to be considered for Principal of the Year at the state level. The members of the board congratulated Mr. Shockley on this special recognition.

Long Range Facilities Plan

Superintendent Dickerson reported on two community meetings held during the past week. He pointed to several display boards and charts utilized at the meetings, and he said they will be available for viewing after the meeting. Mr. Dickerson said the next step is to summarize discussion notes and written surveys from the community meetings. The committee will meet again and the added input will help shape the final Long Range Facilities Plan. Mr. Dickerson suggested having a "study session" with the board before the plan is submitted for final approval. He said the Facilities Plan will be a formal document and useful tool to help guide and direct the district in the areas of future growth and upgrading facilities.

Audit Report

Mr. Dickerson reported that state auditors had recently completed an audit of the district's federal programs. He said the audit was positive and that there were no "findings." He stated there was a management letter which noted the decrease in the district financial ending fund balance in the General Fund.

Senior Project Update

Mr. Dickerson reported that staff is continuing to communicate with students and parents about the graduation requirements. A portion of the day at the March 17 Learning Improvement Day will be

used for mentors to work with students to help prepare for the presentation for the community board. Mary Mattison asked for a summary after the LID as to how many students are not meeting the requirements.

Strategic Plan Goals – Progress Report

Superintendent Dickerson reported on Strategic Plan Goals. Highlights of progress made toward the five main goal areas of academic, community, facilities, administrative and staff were reported. (See attached.)

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Student Representative on Board

Superintendent Dickerson introduced Nick Meyer, a junior at Meridian High School. Mr. Dickerson stated that he and Nick have had several meetings to discuss student representation on the Board of Directors. Nick has chosen the topic for his Senior Project. Mr. Dickerson said he has researched the idea, and that several school districts have student representation. He shared a draft form of written guidelines and discussion followed. Mr. Dickerson suggested that Nick meet with the high school leadership advisor to work on developing ASB guidelines.

B. Second Reading and Adoption of Board Policy 2220 School Calendar

There was second reading of Board Policy 2220 School Calendar. Mary Mattison made a motion to approve Board Policy Number 2220 – School Calendar. Bryan Vander Yacht seconded the motion and the motion passed.

C. Approve 2006-2007 School Calendar

Mary Mattison made a motion to approve the 2006-2007 School Calendar and Bryan Vander Yacht seconded the motion. The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Personnel Report

The personnel report was approved on a motion by Mary Mattison and seconded by Judy Boxx. (See attached.)

B. Agreement for Interdistrict Cooperative Services with the Lynden School District

Brian Evans made a motion to approve the Agreement for Interdistrict Services with the Lynden School District and Judy Boxx seconded the motion. Motion passed.

C. Resolution No. 3-06 Interlocal Cooperative Agreement

Superintendent Dickerson explained the benefits of being part of a compensated absences liability pool proposed by Northwest ESD 189 and brief discussion followed. Bryan Vander Yacht made a motion to approve Resolution No. 3-06, Interlocal Cooperative Agreement. Mary Mattison seconded the motion and the motion passed.

D. ESD 189 Interlocal Cooperative Agreement

Mary Mattison made a motion to approve the ESD 189 Interlocal Cooperative Agreement and Bryan Vander Yacht seconded the motion. The motion passed.

E. Resolution No. 4-06 Requesting State Board of Education Waiver

Mr. Dickerson explained the importance of requesting a waiver of the 180 school day requirement through the State Board of Education. Bryan Vander Yacht made a motion to approve Resolution No. 4-06, Requesting State Board of Education Waiver. Brian Evans seconded the motion and the motion passed.

F. Approve School Improvement Plan for Timber Ridge

Superintendent Dickerson said each participating school must approve the School Improvement Plan for Timber Ridge, and that administrator Joe Hattrick will report to the board at a future date. Judy Boxx made a motion to approve the School Improvement Plan for Timber Ridge and Mary Mattison seconded the motion. Motion passed.

G. Plan March Board Retreat

Mr. Dickerson said it is time to make plans for the annual board retreat that is usually held in March. He suggested inviting administrators to part of the retreat where an exchange of ideas could be shared in an informal setting. Charlie Crabtree said forming a sub committee to work on an agenda would be a good idea. Lynne Jermunson shared several ideas as possible topics of discussion. Brian Evans suggested planning the retreat at the end of a week day versus a weekend.

BOARD SIGNATURE OF OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board went into executive session at 8:36 p.m. to confer with legal counsel and review personnel performance. The board returned to regular session at 10:12 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 p.m. by Chair Charlie Crabtree.

Chair of the Board

Burton Dickerson, Superintendent
And Secretary to the Board