

**MSAD #70 Board of Directors
School Board Meeting Minutes
September 12, 2005**

The MSAD #70 Board of Directors held their regular board meeting on Monday, September 12, 2005 in the central office boardroom. Chair, Estela Lane, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Estela Lane, Deanna Quint, Kevin Scott, Tim Blanchette, Joel Oliver, Trudy O'Bar, Darlene Scott-Rairdon, Debra Crane, Melissa Ivey, William Fitzpatrick, Kim Hall and Julie Chapla

Members Absent: David Cassidy, and Bruce Malone

Also Present: Peter Edgecomb, Interim Superintendent and Lisa Hutchinson

Staff Present: Loreen Wiley, Cindi McNutt, Mary Harbison, Clark Rafford, Karen Rochford, Dee Hutchinson and David Minzy

Audience Present: None

Public Comment:

None

Approval of Minutes: Consider minutes of August 8, 2005 an Special Meeting of September 6, 2005

It was moved by Trudy O'Bar and seconded by Kim Hall to approve the minutes of August 8, 2005, and September 6, 2005 as corrected. Motion carried-unanimous.

Agenda Order and Adjustments:

Action Item 5, Bullet No. 3 should be Ed Tech II position

Action Items:

Consider final reading of policy ACAC "Service Animals for Students and Employees":

There were various concerns raised regarding allergies, ADA compliance and liability issues. Lisa advised the board of the difference between a therapeutic animal vs. a service animal. With a service animal we must comply with ADA, however a therapeutic animal does not follow under this guideline. Also with respects to the liability, our insurance carrier advised us that we would need to have a policy in place, our lawyers should review the situation to advise us on what we are required to do, and we would also need detailed information from the individual

regarding the animal at which time they would review and advise us. The company that we are with, who deals with a majority of school systems as well as municipalities has not had to work with this type of situation before and would look at it on a case by case basis.

It was moved by Joel Oliver and seconded by Tim Blanchette to approve the policy. Motion carried-unanimous.

Consider final reading of Comprehensive School Reform Grant Rider A:

Clark Rafford and Dee Hutchinson explained the program to the board. There were questions raised as to who is overseeing the program, how the advisory program piece is working and what will happen once the grant finishes in three years.

After much discussion it was moved by Trudy O'Bar and seconded by Melissa Ivey to approve the final reading of the Comprehensive School Reform Grant Rider A. Motion carried-unanimous

Consider approval of transfer of Hodgdon Elementary Math/Science teacher to the High School Math Position:

Peter Edgecomb advised the board of his recommendation of Reginald Corey to the High School Math position.

A motion was made by Joel Oliver and seconded by Trudy O'Bar to authorize the Superintendent to transfer Reginald Corey from MSAD #70 Elementary Math/Science to Hodgdon High School Math. Motion carried-unanimous.

Consider increasing the hourly rate for driver's education instructors to \$15.00 per hour beginning with the spring 2006 class:

Peter Edgecomb discussed with the board the shortfall the program is experiencing this year as a result of increased cost of leasing the vehicle, fuel and low enrollment. The board was also advised the shortfall did not take into consideration the wage as this was paid through the extra-curricular program area. There was much discussion regarding the program and the board asked to table the decision to the next meeting in order to allow time for Peter Edgecomb to check on the enrollment count for both the fall and spring session.

Consider the Superintendent's recommendation and to authorize the Superintendent to employ the following:

- Ed Tech II Special Education Elementary: Leisa Devoe
- Ed Tech II Special Education Elementary: Jennifer Harmon
- Ed Tech II Special Education High School: Fred Griffith

It was moved by Trudy O'Bar and seconded by Tim Blanchette to approve and authorize the Superintendent to employ the above referenced individuals. Motion carried-unanimous

Consider stipend for NCLB grant work for Loreen Wiley:

After a brief discussion regarding the stipend it was moved by Joel Oliver and seconded by Debra Crane to approve a \$1500.00 stipend for grant work performed. Motion carried-unanimous.

Consider stipend for the Chemical Hygiene Officer.

Peter Edgecomb explained to the board why we needed a Chemical Hygiene Officer and the amount of work that needed to be done by this person to meet state requirements. Peter Edgecomb advised the board that Dee Hutchinson agreed to be the CHO at the rate of \$21.50 per hour not to exceed \$500.00 for the 2005-2006 fiscal year.

It was moved by Melissa Ivey and seconded by Trudy O'Bar to approve Dee Hutchinson as Chemical Hygiene Officer with a stipend of \$21.50 per hour not to exceed \$500.00 for the 2005-2006 school year. Motion carried-unanimous.

Elect Delegate(s) to Annual Delegate Assembly:

After considerable discussion, the board did not elect a specific candidate for Delegate to the Conference in October.

It was moved however by Trudy O'Bar and seconded by Melissa Ivey to approve whoever calls and states that they will be a delegate and alternate. Motion carried-unanimous.

Information Items:

Fuel price:

Peter Edgecomb advised the board that we are locked in for our heating fuel at 2.199 which is over budget by 19.9 cents a gallon. He also advised that we were unable to lock in our diesel fuel, which holds true for all area schools, however we did pay \$35,000.00 from last years budget that will help buffer the extra we are going to have to pay this year.

Meeting with SAD #29 re: consolidation:

Estela Lane advised the board of what took place in the meeting and areas in which we felt SAD #70 might be able to consolidate services, such as transportation. The board advised Peter Edgecomb to draft a letter to the area schools to see if there is an interest in meeting to discuss the possibility of consolidating services or increasing buying power.

Small Schools Coalition:

Peter Edgecomb advised the board that he spoke with Sandra MacArthur of Madison regarding the program. She indicated that there are 50 schools who participate. There is a per pupil fee charged to belong to the organization. There are 4 annual meetings. The goal of the organization is to resist forced consolidation. Find ways to help small schools. There should be local decision on consolidation and to find ways to increase funding for small schools. The board asked Peter Edgecomb to find out how long the organization has been in place and what have they accomplished thus far?

Transfer Students:

Peter Edgecomb, after discovering how many students are actually transferred in and out, advised the board of what he has started to do. Currently we have 54 students paying tuition to GHC. There are 64 Hodgdon students attending MSAD #29 and 44 Houlton students attending MSAD #70 with another 3 students attending MSAD #70 from SACHS.

Peter Edgecomb advised the board that he has begun the process of declining transfer of students who are changing buildings to continue on through the grades. Therefore at the end of 6th and 8th grades those students will now be required to return to MSAD #70. **In addition to 3rd going into 4th Grade.**

This change has been met with opposition, however, the board indicated they are pleased that this process has begun and would like to see it continue.

Classroom visits by Superintendent:

Peter Edgecomb advised the board that he has started doing some classroom visits as well as a bus ride. Peter Edgecomb indicated that he has been welcomed and the visits have gone well. He recently read his favorite story to the Kindergarten classes.

First reading of three policies.

- Family Care Leave-GBO
- Administration of Medication to Students-JLCD
- Chemical Hazards-EBAA

There was a brief discussion and typographical errors pointed out that need to be corrected for the final reading.

Review August Financial Statement:

No comments

Follow up questions on CAT 5 and MEA Testing by Loreen:

Loreen went through the Cat 5 and MEA test with the board pointing out the areas in which there

has been improvement. AYP should be out in a few days. Loreen also advised the board that we would be getting a column in the paper and the test results would be published acknowledging this accomplishment

Administrator Reports:

Clark also addressed the MEA results with the board for the 11th graders indicating the increased scores they have seen and also that the 11th grade did make AYP.

The board requested that Peter Edgecomb ask someone from the Technology department to report at our next meeting to the board on how things are going and what is being done.

Consider Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Edgecomb, Interim Superintendent