

SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING NOTES MAY 9, 2013 6:17-8:09 pm Junior High Shared Common Area

- I. CALL TO ORDER: The Special School Board meeting was called to order by Chair John Mazzola. Trustees Dianne Burke, Jami FitzGerald, Debbie Lester, Teresa Teagle (6:21 pm), & Michele Bashor & Carla Doxey (approx. 6:30 pm); Supt. Randy Cline; Principals Dr. Rory Weishaar, Jake Haynes, Judy McKay, & Cynthia Worrall; Technology & Activities/Athletic Director-Mark McMurray (approx. 7:00 pm); Special Education Supervisor-Dr. Jennifer Demmons; and District Clerk-Cindy McMurray were also present.
- II. MEETING OPENED WITH THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.
- III. PUBLIC COMMENT: Christy Jorgenston commented on the top notch Frenchtown Special Education program. Dalene Normand commented on the two recent community events, the Science Palooza & the Broncs Stampede, which she felt pulled the community together. Both were incredible and she wanted to thank Trustee Jami Romney FitzGerald who did most of the work to put them together.
- IV. A. OLD BUSINESS:
 - 1) Information/Discussion: Preliminary budget figures for 2013-2014. Supt. Randy Cline went over the "unofficial" legislative changes to the District budget. With the \$68,357 levy failure, the legislative changes reflect a \$78,360.17 increase over last year's budget. In the meantime, information in regards to the District's health insurance costs has more than doubled. With this new information, the District's estimated Fiscal Year 2013-2014 deficit has gone from -\$283,727 to -\$183,448. This deficit doesn't take into account potential salary increases, inflation, utility increase, fuel costs or sick and vacation leave buyout for staff leaving in fiscal year 2013-2014.
 - 2) Information/Discussion: 2013-2014 staffing updates. Supt. Randy Cline noted that the District would still need to cut 5.1% in Title spending; reduce staff by three full-time certified positions (this would be done by attrition and non-renewal of non-tenured staff and restructuring positions eliminated through further resignations or retirements; freezing hiring, & reduce discretionary spending by an additional \$50,692 from what has been reduced in the past couple of years. The possible options to look at in regards to discretionary spending would include: reducing copying costs for newsletter by only mailing out every other month, reducing instructional & curriculum supplies by 10%, a 10% cut in travel, & a 5% cut in operations & maintenance. In addition, the District may have to raise Extra-curricular & Driver's education fees to cover the costs of the programs. He is also considering putting together a committee to look into the cost savings of going from a High School Block schedule to a regular daily schedule.
 - 3) Information/Discussion: Update on Summer Maintenance projects. During the spring building walk-throughs the Board determined that the following items, listed by priority, are the Districts most needed maintenance items: 1) Replacing the West Entry road at the High School (estimated costs \$75,000-80,000); 2) Repair of the High School HVAC system; 3) Replacement of the Elementary roof (which leaks); 4) Abatement & encapsulate additional areas with asbestos at the Elementary; 5) Replace/repair faucets in the Family Consumer Science room at the High School; 6) Replace flooring in the Family Consumer Science room at the High School; 7) Make four sinks at the center Elementary wing handicap accessible; & 8) Replace entry door/frame at the Intermediate library entry & music hall entry. Board Chair John Mazzola asked if the District had the money to complete these items. Supt. Randy Cline noted that they would do the ones with the most priority with the monies remaining from this year and try to do the others with money from next year. Discussion occurred in regards to safety issues at the west entrance of the Junior High Building. Trustee Dianne Burke noted that during the recent legislative session a bill was passed that might allow the District to utilize reserve monies for safety reasons. The District has been looking at putting in an entry buzzer at the west entrance. Discussion occurred in regards to finding funds to obtain a School Resource Officer. Supt. Randy Cline will contact Superior to see how they are funding their position.
- B. NEW BUSINESS:
 - 1) Hiring Winter Coaches for 2013-2014: Moved to item 2 on the New Business agenda. This was picked up after agenda item 2) Hiring-Administration. Cheerleading coach Tami Hochhalter motion was separated from the other Head coaches. **Motion by Burke, to hire Jesse Long (Head Wrestling coach), Mike Botsford (Head Boys Basketball coach), Jim Tolman (Head Girls Basketball coach), & Sue Dansie (Head Speech/Drama coach) for the 2013-2014 school year.** Athletic/Activities Director Mark McMurray provided a run down on the season for each of the Winter sports. He noted that if there were issues during this year, they mainly involved miscommunication between the principal parties. He requested all of the head coaches to work on better communication skills. He noted the following good things that came out of the 2012-2013 winter sports: Jim Tolman created a website with information in regards to the Girls Basketball team; Mike Botsford helped the Boys Basketball team (which has struggled in the past) make it to State this year; Jesse Long did a good job of organizing and directly the Wrestling program; & Sue Dansie (a new coach to Speech/Drama) had a solid team where all but one went to State. Board Comment-Trustee Carla Doxey asked if the District was looking into adding Debate. Mark McMurray noted that he will add that question to the survey going out at the end of the year. Public

Comment-none. **Unanimous (Unan) --Motion by Burke, seconded by Romney FitzGerald, to hire Zach Long, Joe Heuchert Jr., Mark Quinn, Michelle Blood, & Lori Quinn as Assistant High School coaches for the 2013-2014 school year. Unan --Motion by Burke, seconded by Mazzola, to approve the hire of Tami Hochhalter as Cheerleading coach for 2013-2014. Lester, Mazzola, Burke, Doxey, Romney FitzGerald, Teagle voted aye. Bashor voted nay. Motion carried.**

- 2) Hiring-Administration for 2013-2014: Supt. Randy Cline recommended hiring the following administrators for the 2013-2014 school year: Judy McKay Intermediate (5-6) Principal/Director of Academic Services; Jake Hayes-High School Principal with the salary for 2013-2014 set at \$73,000; Jennifer Demmons-School Psychologist/Special Education Coordinator (50/50 each); & Mark McMurray-K-12 Technology Coordinator. The Board requested that a separate motion would be done for each administrator.--**Motion by Burke, seconded by Teagle, to hire Judy McKay as Intermediate (5-6) Principal/Director of Academic Services for the 2013-2014 school year. Lester, Burke, Mazzola, Teagle, & Romney FitzGerald voted aye. Doxey & Bashor voted nay. Motion carried.** Carla Doxey made disparaging remarks. Board Chair John Mazzola noted that her remarks were inappropriate. --**Motion by Burke, seconded by Bashor, to hire Jake Haynes as the High School Principal with the salary set at \$73,000 for the 2013-2014 school year.** Board comment-None. Public Comment-None. **Unan --Motion by Burke, seconded by Teagle, to hire Jennifer Demmons as School Psychologist/Special Education Coordinator (50/50 each) for the 2013-2014 school year.** Board Comment- Trustee Carla Doxey noted that Mrs. Demmons does an excellent job. Public Comment-None. **Unan --Motion by Burke, seconded by Romney FitzGerald, to hire Mark McMurray as the K-12 Technology Coordinator for 2013-2014.** Board comment-Trustee Teresa Teagle asked if this motion would also include hiring Mr. McMurray as the Athletics/Activities Director. Supt. Randy Cline noted that the Athletics/Activities Director position was a stipend position covered under the FEA Master Contract and was not included in the recommendation above. Trustee Carla Doxey made pointed remarks in regards to the position. Board Chair John Mazzola noted that her remarks were inappropriate. Public Comment-Michelle Wisherd, Mike Botsford, Sue Dansie, Kris Kelly and Veronica Morgan noted that the position and Mr. McMurray were very important to the educational and technology workings of the school district. Supt. Randy Cline & Board Chair John Mazzola noted that this was a tenured position, other Class A Districts had more than one Technology position, and that this job was more than a standard 8 hour/day/207 days/year position. Christy Jorgenson noted that she took offense, from a community member standpoint, at how Trustee Carla Doxey worded her comments about this action item. **Burke, Mazzola, Romney FitzGerald, Teagle & Lester voted aye. Bashor & Doxey voted nay. Motion carried.**
- 3) Hiring Tenured Teachers for 2013-2014: Supt. Randy Cline went over the list of recommended tenured teachers to be hired for 2013-2014. **Motion by Burke, seconded by Teagle, to hire the tenured teachers as recommended. Mazzola, Burke, Bashor, Teagle, Lester, & Romney FitzGerald voted aye. Doxey voted nay. Motion carried.**
- 4) Ratify Resignations: Supt. Randy Cline noted that the following staff members had submitted their letters of retirement: Rebecca Wickline-Speech Therapist. He also noted that the following staff members had submitted their letters of resignation: Ellen McKenzie-Music Teacher & June Rockwood-Bus Driver. For information purposes only, Ryan Rugg has indicated she wouldn't be interested in a JH Girls Basketball coaching position for 2013-2014. **Motion by Burke, seconded by Bashor, to approve the resignations/retirements as listed above. Unan**
- 5) Hiring: Supt. Randy Cline recommended hiring the following: (1) Staci Mether as the Administrative Secretary/Accounts Payable; (2) Jeff Westrom as summer driver's education instructor; (3) Gus Butler & Michael Rebarchik as summer grounds workers; (4) Brandi Houlihan as summer painter; (5) Ross Marquis as a half-time 2012-2013 JH Track Coach; & (6) Cody Lemons, Jake Bova, & Cody Warner as student workers. **Motion by Burke, seconded by Teagle, to hire the individuals as listed above. Unan**
- 6) Strategic Planning: Trustee Dianne Burke noted that Strategic Planning is important for the Board to be able to articulate & determine where they want the District to go. The School Improvement plan is a five year plan that is ongoing. She indicated that the Board should discuss this during one of their board meetings.
- 7) Gifted & Talented programs: Trustee Jami Romney FitzGerald provided information from an AGATE conference that she went to in regards to Gifted & Talented. She noted gifted students were a highly ignored segment of the student population. Of the State's \$250,000 monies going toward this program for 2012-2013, Frenchtown received \$2477. Discussion concerning the tremendous success of the Science Palooza occurred. Kris Kelly noted that special needs students benefited from this event also. Discussion on how to bring more extended activities into the classroom occurred. Trustee Carla Doxey noted that her mother was involved quite a bit in the International Odyssey of the Minds program.

