

**UNOFFICIAL/UNAPPROVED  
POWELL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
JOINT BOARD MEETING WITH DEER LODGE ELEMENTARY  
September 26, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

County Attorney Lewis Smith called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Mr. Smith welcomed all attendees and stated the purpose of the joint meeting between Powell County High School District (PCHS) and Deer Lodge Elementary School District #1 (SD #1). He stated that there will be no action items, and that the meeting is an informational meeting on the various interactions between school districts. Mr. Smith allowed Drug Testing as an addition to the agenda, as requested by PCHS Board Chair Maureen Mannix.

**2. ROLL:**

**Powell County High School**

Board Chair: Maureen Mannix

Board Members: Andy Dreesen and Donna Graveley.

Administration: Superintendent Rick Duncan and Business Manager Annette Meagher.

**Deer Lodge Elementary School District #1**

Board Chair: John Thompson

Board Members: Sean Bonato, David Miller, Scott Perkins, and Lisa Olsen.

Administration: Superintendent Rod Simpson and Business Manager Tara Garrison.

**3. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:**

Shelly Burton, Lewis Cozby, Kerry Glisson, Shane Olsen, and Renee Schoening.

**4. RESOURCE SHARING AND COLLABORATION:**

Rick Duncan and Rod Simpson jointly discussed the various agenda items and fielded questions from Chairman Smith, Board members, and attendees.

**School Meal Program**

Rod Simpson discussed the school hot lunch program and stated that the current model for the high school students isn't the best; he stated that only 14 lunches had been served to high schoolers so far this year. Discussion was held at the previous joint board meeting to possibly deliver sack lunch to PCHS; the consensus now is to deliver boxed hot lunch as it works better with the daily meal menus and nutrition guidelines. The kitchen would once again utilize its capacity, student nutrition would increase, and kitchen revenue would increase – not only from increased usage, but free and reduced lunch is reimbursed slightly higher than the lunch fees. Mr. Simpson stated, "We're only at 55-56% of students for free and reduced lunch." Tara Hunter stated that there are some direct-certified students for free and reduced lunch; other students' parents are mailed a letter/application each year. Mr. Simpson and Mr. Duncan agreed that the program will be put in motion this school year. PCHS students will pay through Deer Lodge Elementary, with the ability to use Infinite Campus to pay online.

### **Curricular Articulation**

Rick Duncan discussed curricular articulation and stated that the school districts have been working on this for a long time; most recently with a new math program that starts next year. Rod Simpson discussed algebra, language, and the Golden Triangle Curriculum training on a K-12 basis. Maureen Mannix asked suggested we coordinate with the rural schools that come into the junior high and high school. Trustee David Miller suggested PIR days with rural teachers. Mr. Duncan stated that he believes it is critical to have Curriculum Director, and that he would like to see a full-time position shared between districts. It was agreed that this position would be very advantageous and beneficial to students.

### **Shared Staffing**

Curricular articulation segued into shared staffing with questions about policies, payroll, teacher and management rights, teacher unions, bargaining agreements, etc. Board Chair John Thompson stated that this has been done in the past with a shared music teacher between PCHS and Duvall Junior High; he also stated that we shouldn't let the school's differing class schedules be a barrier to shared staffing. Rod Simpson stated that we need to think out of the box on this, and that we are one city and one county.

### **Board Training**

Rod Simpson began the board training discussion by suggesting joint training with Debra Silk from the MTSBA; he stated that he realizes everyone is busy, but we need to do this. All were for board training and dates will be set. Rick Duncan also stated that he needed to brag about Maureen Mannix, as she will receive the Marvin Heinz Award at MCEL in October.

### **Drug Testing**

Lewis Smith stated that since this meeting is an idea-sharing forum that adding drug testing to the conversation was appropriate. Rick Duncan stated that the PCHS Board of Trustees gave him a directive to investigate the possibility of student activities drug testing. According to the MTSBA student drug testing has not been tested in the courts, and Mr. Duncan said he didn't want to be a test case. Mr. Duncan also stated that PCHS has a draft policy that was discussed at the September regular board meeting, and further discussion between boards was beneficial. Discussion included consequences, policy, medical marijuana, etc. Lewis Smith stated that Deer Lodge has a licensed addiction counselor once again, and that he sees a drug/alcohol problem here. Rod Simpson stated that he would like to see the D.A.R.E. program resurrected, and to build a drug-free culture.

### **Future Joint Boards' Agenda Items**

- **Report on Curriculum Director and meal program**
- **Board Training**
- **Invite rural school boards**

**Public Comment**

None.

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:40 p.m.

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s/Annette Meagher, District Business Manager/Clerk

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s/Maureen McMahon Mannix, Chairperson