

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SCOTTSBLUFF PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education, in the School District of Scottsbluff, in the County of Scotts Bluff, in the State of Nebraska, was held at 7:00 p.m., on Monday, August 6, 2007, in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 2601 Broadway, Scottsbluff, NE 69361, with the following members present: Bob Kinsey, Mark Lang, Megan Massey, and Michael Shedd. Absent: Tim Lordino, Kim Magana. Notice of meeting was given by publication of time and place thereof in the Star-Herald on August 3, 2007.

**Vice President Kinsey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.**

**Motion to excuse absent board member, Tim Lordino, from this meeting, passed with a motion by Michael Shedd and a second by Mark Lang. Yes: Shedd, Lang, Massey, Kinsey; No: None; Absent: Magana, Lordino; Motion carried.**

**Motion to excuse absent board member, Kim Magana, from this meeting, passed with a motion by Michael Shedd and a second by Mark Lang. Yes: Shedd, Lang, Massey, Kinsey; No: None; Absent: Lordino, Magana; Motion carried.**

**Motion to approve the Consent Agenda items including: adopt agenda, approve the minutes of July 9, 2007: Regular Meeting and July 23, 2007: Regular Meeting, and expenditures in the amount of \$2,379,365.24, passed with a motion by Michael Shedd and a second by Megan Massey. Yes: Shedd, Massey, Lang, Kinsey; No: None; Absent: Lordino, Magana; Motion carried.**

Vice President Kinsey noted the public hearing was being held for the purpose of conducting the annual review of Board Policy #504.19, Student Fees for the 2007-2008 school year. Bill Knapper, Director of Business Services, reported the activity was to review the board policy and activities that have taken place due to the statutory requirement and also provides an opportunity for the parents and patrons to speak to the Board concerning the student fee policy. Mr. Knapper noted during the regular meeting agenda action to re-adopt the Student Fees Policy for the upcoming school year. There was no one from the public who addressed the Board on this policy.

**Motion to adjourn the public hearing and reconvened into open session at 7:04 p.m., passed with a motion by Michael Shedd and a second by Megan Massey. Yes: Shedd, Massey, Lang, Kinsey; No: None; Absent: Lordino, Magana; Motion carried.**

Dave Thiele, a member of the "Save BMS Committee, reported their committee met on July 12th and were honored to have a couple of board members, Megan Massey and Tim Lordino, in attendance. He noted they had a great exchange with the "Save BMS" group and the board members expressed their intent that there would be a formal committee established and more interaction once the school year starts up and noted his group was anxious to be to be a part of the process and thanked them for their attendance. Mr. Thiele noted Laurie Matisse, an architect from California of Matisse Studios and native of Scottsbluff, was in town so he invited her to address the board and allow her to provide information on her background and what she would like to see as far as their direction

when the steering committee is formed and begin meeting. He noted as far as their group goes they have already put themselves out there and recommended that she would be the direction that they would choose to follow and hopefully after the Board hears her talk they will get some impressions as to why. Mr. Thiele introduced Laura Matisse to the Board.

Laurie Matisse noted she was a licensed architect in Nebraska and Wyoming and has maintained an office in the area for a couple of years. Mrs. Matisse noted she has a passion to meet the project and noted it was not only about the project but about the whole region. She also provided information to the Board on being environmentally responsible; excel in commitment to facilitate and educate children while enhancing and educating community; create a financially feasible project; and choosing an innovative design team. She noted the BMS was structurally sound and a good existing building to work with, it is a historical building, the District should not patch and fix the existing building and noted there needs to be an overall solution that will give the District an energy savings and designed for the middle school concept. She stated the District has a responsibility to the community and the children and noted her main focus was the children and would like to create a learning laboratory. By choosing an innovative design team who will attempt to achieve the desired goal of a LEED certified building with alternative energy measures which will be in turn be an example to the children, community, and the surrounding region. Mrs. Matisse noted she would like to be considered as the architect when the committee is formed.

Mrs. Massey thanked the "Save BMS" group and Mrs. Matisse for taking the time to explain the LEED design buildings and noted this was very exciting and providing the Board with options but noted this will not be all of the Board's decision and will need to get people in the community behind it, the group will need to inform the community about all of the options because invariably it will be a bond issue again and possible tax increase that people will not like but noted the group is very positive and convincing and can be presented in that way it will be great. She noted this project will be expensive and wanted the group to understand that the District has all the schools that need to be addressed. She appreciated the groups input and encouraged them to continue working hard and educate the Board and public.

Vice President Kinsey reported the Mayor called and indicated they will be having a topic of discussion relative to the school crossing issue on their agenda which the District was suppose to conduct research on this.

Mindy Burbach, Communications Specialist, reported she attended the "National Night Out" and provided building supply lists, registration and physical forms and answered questions from parents regarding school start dates, etc.. She noted there was a really good turn out and handed out candy and pencils and plans on doing it again next year. Mrs. Burbach also noted she was working on the website adding the physical and registration forms.

Dr. Reynolds reported the first day and all staff picnic will be held on Wednesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mike Mason, BMS Principal, reported they originally talked about having Channel 1 during the home room/lunch periods but noted there was a series of 2 minutes commercials, may

be controversial; therefore looked around and found CNN student news which will be broadcasted throughout BMS during the home room/lunch period which allows the students to do homework or watch CNN student news which is geared toward middle school student current events and also have teacher materials and quizzes that teachers can use to make it more meaningful and keep the students attention. Mr. Mason stated they created a website for the Board to review and noted this program will really be engaging for the student and will begin on August 20th.

Mrs. Massey questioned if the BMS Open House were well attended. Mr. Mason noted the open houses were not well attended but noted they held four tours with approximately 20 people attending during the day and 40-50 people during the evening sessions.

Jim Schmucker, SHS Assistant Principal, reported that at the last Curriculum/Technology Committee it was determined the textbook for world history that had been selected was not appropriate in terms of the readability level; therefore he and SHS instructors (Gary Largo, Sid Miller, Denise Abts, and Nathan Rock) reviewed samples from four vendors: Prentice-Hall, Glencoe Publishing, Harcourt, and Holt-Rinehart. The faculty committee selected the 2008 edition of World History, published by Glencoe. Dr. Schmucker noted the Flesch-Kincaide grade level was 10.5 and the Lexile Reading level is 920L, which means that 10<sup>th</sup> grade students should have at least a 64.5% to a 100% comprehension rate in reading this textbook. Dr. Schmucker noted the textbook was also previewed on the standpoint of the graphics in the book, how it appears to the students, not only readability but also based on visual appeal, vocabulary words are highlighted and easy to find. The faculty liked the textbook based on the reading level and especially the standards coverage seems to be appropriate as well as the maps, graphics and documentation is good. The total cost for the series is \$9,968.37, plus shipping.

Mr. Lang questioned if the textbooks were in stock and would be received before school starts? Dr. Schmucker stated the problem due to the late date the textbooks themselves may not be available on the first day of school but the company noted they are printing rapidly since they are a 2008 edition; therefore he spoke to Mr. Miller who indicated they would be using the first couple of weeks of school to review world history to get the students to the point where they would start with the book. Also, the teacher resource books may be a week later in delivery.

Dr. Shedd thanked the SHS social studies staff and Curriculum/Technology Committee for reviewing the world history textbook since he felt the originally proposed textbook was a junior/senior/college level textbook and also reiterated Mr. Lang's question with regard to delivery of the textbooks and if there was an issue on receiving the textbook he would like to see that the textbooks are received immediately. Dr. Schmucker noted upon the approval of the textbooks he would call the Glencoe Publishing representative and see if the textbook order can be rushed.

**Motion to approve the SHS World History Textbook from Glencoe Publishing, in the amount of \$9,968.37, as presented passed with a motion by Michael Shedd and a second by Megan Massey. Yes: Shedd, Massey, Lang, Kinsey; No: None; Absent: Lordino, Magana; Motion carried.**

**Motion to accept the certified staff resignation from Holly Stevens, Lincoln Heights Grade 1 Instructor, effective immediately, passed with a motion by Megan Massey and a second by Michael Shedd. Yes: Massey, Shedd, Lang, Kinsey; No: None; Absent: Lordino, Magana; Motion carried.**

**Motion to approve the certified staff election of Julene Clarkson, Lincoln Heights Elementary Grade 1 Instructor for the 2007-2008 school year, passed with a motion by Mark Lang and a second by Michael Shedd. Yes: Lang, Shedd, Massey, Kinsey; No: None; Absent: Lordino, Magana; Motion carried.**

**Motion to approve the certified staff election of Anna McDonald, BMS Social Studies Instructor, passed with a motion by Mark Lang and a second by Megan Massey. Yes: Lang, Massey, Shedd, Kinsey; No: None; Absent: Lordino, Magana; Motion carried.**

Dr. Reynolds noted that Joyce Rein's position has been modified from 10 months to 9 months and she has agreed to the contract modification.

**Motion to approve the certified staff contract modification for Joyce Rein, SHS Special Education Instructor, as presented, passed with a motion by Michael Shedd and a second by Megan Massey. Yes: Shedd, Massey, Lang, Kinsey; No: None; Absent: Lordino, Magana; Motion carried.**

Dr. Reynolds noted the Senior High School has a concessions person who organizes and orders all of the supplies for their concession stand and noted the Middle School has had various people who have volunteered to run the concession stand. Mr. Mason would like to hire the same person who manages the SHS concession stand for the Middle School at 5% of the base salary for these extra activities, noting 3% has already been dedicated to this position with a 2% increase or approximately \$4,500 for this position.

**Motion to approve the BMS Concession Sponsor position at 5% of the base salary, as presented, passed with a motion by Michael Shedd and a second by Megan Massey. Yes: Shedd, Massey, Lang, Kinsey; No: None; Absent: Lordino, Magana; Motion carried.**

**Motion to adopt Board Policy #504.19, Student Fees, as presented, passed with a motion by Michael Shedd and a second by Megan Massey. Yes: Shedd, Massey, Lang, Kinsey; No: None; Absent: Lordino, Magana; Motion carried.**

Bill Knapper, Director of Business Services, reported the District received one bid for bread and one bid for milk. He noted the bids were incredible increases in costs with white sandwich bread up 7.4% and ½ pint of white milk was up 44%.

Dr. Shedd question why there was only one bid on bread and milk, if they were the only qualified bidders, and if there were any other forms of dispensing milk other than the ½ pint containers. Mr. Knapper noted these were the only people that are bring in semi-loads into the Valley and were basically the only qualified bidders. He noted bids were sent to two or three companies but noted they probably we're come into the Valley or they can't meet the volume requirements which has created a problem for some time. Mr.

Knapper noted there are other options for dispensing milk but the District would be looking at buying in very large bulk containers, stainless steel containers, which would be very cumbersome dispensing milk at the elementary school students possibly spilling milk. Dr. Shedd questioned is the District was at the point of looking at bulk because based on the bid it was incredible increase in cost for the milk and it will eventually be cheaper to have the bulk dispensers and paper cups. Mr. Knapper stated the District was to a point where they need to check the lunch regulations to see if buying in bulk would be permissible.

Dr. Shedd suggested approving the bid for this year but the District needs to look at other alternatives for the next school year.

**Motion to accept the bread bid from Sara Lee Baking Group as follows: white sandwich bread-\$1.45; wheat sandwich bread-\$1.60; and 12 ct. hamburger buns-\$1.76, as presented, passed with a motion by Mark Lang and a second by Megan Massey. Yes: Lang, Massey, Shedd, Kinsey; No: None; Absent: Lordino, Magana; Motion carried.**

**Motion to accept bid from Roberts Dairy, in the amount of \$125,433.01, for the 2007-2008 milk bid and to direct the administration to look at alternative methods for the next school year, passed with a motion by Mark Lang and a second by Michael Shedd. Yes: Lang, Shedd, Massey, Kinsey; No: None; Absent: Lordino, Magana; Motion carried.**

**It was the consensus of the Board to schedule the Special Meeting to take action on year-end expenditures for August 31, 2007 at 7:00 a.m.**

**Motion to adjourn at the meeting at 7:50 p.m., passed with a motion by Michael Shedd and a second by Megan Massey. Yes: Shedd, Massey, Lang, Kinsey; No: None; Absent: Lordino, Magana; Motion carried.**

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Katherine A. Reyes, Secretary  
Board of Education