

MINUTES

MORGAN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

WORK MEETING AND BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, November 11, 2014, District Office 5:00 P.M.

Present:

Board Members: President Bruce Galbraith, Vice President Ken Durrant, Neil Carrigan, Jody Hipwell, Mark Farmer, Student Board Members Chandler Hipwell and Dietrich Streuber

President Bruce Galbraith was called out of the meeting at 5:35 P.M. for a family emergency. Vice President Ken Durrant conducted the remainder of the work meeting and the board meeting.

District Staff: Superintendent Doug Jacobs, Business Administrator D'Lynn Poll, Secretary Denise Rich

Other Staff and Patrons: Gina Stuart, Tim Wolff, Roger Fowles, Aimee Perry, Jerri Belliston, Heidi Andreasen, Kathy Nelson, Jennie Earl, Michelle Duncan, Cortney Bowler, Joel Bowler, Terry Allen, Shana Croft, Auditor James Gilbert

Work Meeting:

President Bruce Galbraith welcomed everyone.

Board Review of Utah Core Math Standards for Third Grade

Jody Hipwell met with Morgan Elementary and Mountain Green Elementary third grade teachers to talk about the math core. Morgan Elementary is using a math program called *My Math*. Mountain Green is using a combination of math programs. She said teachers are doing well with the math core. The biggest issue is large class sizes.

Teacher Aimee Perry is seeing students grasp the concepts for the first time using a different teaching method. Teacher Roger Fowles said there is some frustration. *My Math* addresses the common core well. Teacher Jerri Belliston said teachers are starting to see the big picture and it is great. Teacher Aimee Perry said teachers talked with parents at Parent/Teacher Conferences and they seemed to be pleased with the direction math is going.

Neil Carrigan said people at the state office are getting complaints that the math isn't hard enough. Students are not ready for college. Third grade teachers feel it is definitely hard enough for their students.

SAGE Testing Results

MGES Principal and Assessment Director Heidi Andreasen gave a PowerPoint presentation on SAGE testing results. Test results were expected to be lower because SAGE testing is new. Morgan School District scored above state average in all areas (language arts, mathematics and science). Next year, SAGE testing results will be known by the end of the school year.

Principal Andreasen said teachers are discussing how to improve and utilize this information to assist them in developing curriculum.

MHS Trip Requests

Morgan High School FFA Teacher Chase Alder gave board members an updated copy of the travel request to take approximately 15 students to the FFA National Convention in Denver, Colorado in January. He is asking for board approval.

Vice President Ken Durrant is concerned about the cost for students because they are not doing any fundraising projects. He also questioned students being gone on a Sunday. Mr. Alder will make sure parents know and understand all of the details associated with the trip.

Principal Murdock said they have had problems getting a softball coach. A schedule hasn't been put together but the trip to St. George in March needs to be brought to the board for approval at this time.

Drama Teacher Candice Wilder is asking for board approval to take her drama classes to a conference at BYU. The trip is scheduled for January. Principal Murdock said it is a good opportunity but he has some reservations. He recommends a one-day trip rather than a two-day trip.

All three trips have been approved by Principal Murdock and Superintendent Jacobs.

The work meeting ended at 5:55 P.M.

Regular Board Meeting began at 6:00 P.M.

Vice President Ken Durrant welcomed everyone to the meeting. He excused President Galbraith.

Superintendent Jacobs led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the prayer.

Consent Agenda

Neil Carrigan made a motion to approve the agenda, the minutes of the October 14, 2014 board meeting and financial expenditures for October. Jody Hipwell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Nobody signed up to speak during the public comment portion of the meeting.

Superintendent's Report

Employees of the Month

Mountain Green Elementary School Principal Andreasen honored Fourth Grade Teacher Lanette Jensen and Head Secretary Angie Wardell as employees of the month for October.

Head custodian for Morgan Middle School Bruce Giles and Sixth Grade Teacher Joel Bowler were honored as November employees of the month.

Student Board Member Reports

Dietrich Streuber said it is FFA week at the high school. The end of the trimester is Friday, November 14. The drama department will present the play *Peter Pan* on November 20, 21, 22, 24, and 25. The Sterling Scholar process has begun. Winter sports will be starting soon.

Chandler Hipwell said there was a health fair at the DATC. Principal Murdock said about 25 high school students attended.

Report on School after School

Sixth Grade Teacher Joel Bowler said he saw a need at the middle school to have a School after School math program. Students and parents are invited to come after school to get help with math. Students and parents are taking advantage of this opportunity.

MHS Fall Sports Results

Superintendent Jacobs gave results on fall sports:

Girls' Cross Country – finished 3rd at region and 15th at state

Boys' Cross County – finished 3rd at region and 16th at state (Andrew Allen finished 1st individually at region.)

Boys' Golf – finished 11th at state

Football – finished 3rd in region – lost to Manti in the state quarter finals

Girls' Soccer – finished 3rd in region – lost to Desert Hills in state quarter finals
Girls' Tennis – finished 12th at state
Volleyball – finished 1st in region and 2nd place at state – lost in the state championship match to Snow Canyon
National FFA Convention in Kentucky – the Meats Team earned an overall bronze ranking – out of 44 teams they ranked in the top third

USBA/USSA/UASBO Legislative Priorities

Superintendent Jacobs referred to the handout in the board packet. It contains information on the upcoming legislative sessions.

Jody Hipwell encouraged board members to attend Day on the Hill and get involved in the legislative process.

Employee Stipend

Superintendent Jacobs said the negotiated benefit package this year included a stipend from funds set aside by the Morgan Board of Education. All full-time employees will receive \$135. Part-time employees will receive \$67.50. Stipends will be issued through direct deposit on December 12, 2014.

Granite District Bio Innovation Program and Salt Lake District Innovations High School

Superintendent Jacobs said Granite District has a Bio Innovation program. Students receive meaningful work experience interacting with company staff while working on real-life business projects. They learn what entrepreneurs do every day in a start-up environment. He said it would be good for students to tour this facility and learn about the opportunities available.

Salt Lake School District has a new Innovation High School. Students can take classes similar to classes at the DATC. They can progress at their own speed and they work independently. There is a teacher available to help students. Superintendent Jacobs likes the effort they are taking with independent, computer-based education.

Superintendent Jacobs attended a Prosperity 20/20 convention. This group of businessmen is looking at ways to get the Legislature to fund more money for education. He said they are receiving a lot of support.

Business Administrator's Report

D'Lynn Poll and Superintendent Jacobs met with representatives from the insurance company. The district is showing continued high usage. Over the last 12 months, there has been an increase of 10%. There are about three large claims in the district at this time. It is a big concern for next year's bid. Positive comments have been made about the TeleDoc program. Employees are using the program and like the convenience of it.

The state is looking at about \$168 million left over from fiscal year 2014 that will be one-time money. The law requires about 1/3 of that money be put in the Rainy Day Fund. There will be around \$112 million that can be allocated during the year; \$105 million will be put in the education fund and \$7 million will be put in the general fund. D'Lynn Poll is concerned about the ratio of this one-time money that will go to K-12 education.

The state has projected Morgan School District will enroll 71 new students for the 2015-16 school year. State-wide growth projections are down for next year.

Discussion Items

Policies FGE *Student Complaints*; FHAE *Disruptive Student Behavior*; FJ *Visitation on Campus*

Vice President Ken Durrant said the FGE Policy *Student Complaints* gives student a procedure to follow if they have a complaint. Mark Farmer suggested clarifying who the “adult” is in the following statement in the policy: *The student may be represented by an adult at any level of the complaint.* Superintendent Jacobs said it could be changed. Policy FHAE *Disruptive Student Behavior* explains what disruptive student behavior is and the steps to follow to resolve the problem. Policy FJ *Visitation on Campus: Students Leaving with an Adult during School Hours* says no person shall be allowed to remove a student from school during the school day unless that person reports first to the school’s administrative offices and follows the check-out procedure. Superintendent Jacobs will email changes to board members.

Vice President Durrant asked board members to review these policies. They will be approved at the next board meeting.

Accommodations for MHS Football Stadium Bleachers

Superintendent Jacobs said there has been a request to have handicapped seating on the home side of the football field. There is one bid still out. He said overall more seating is needed. Providing handicapped seating on the first level is not the best idea. Wheelchairs could even have a place made for them on the track. He said there are alternatives to look at.

Mark Farmer feels a portion of gate receipts should go towards the purchase of more bleachers.

Superintendent Jacobs said it is also time to resurface the track.

Approval Items

Audit Report

Mark Farmer introduced James Gilbert from Gilbert & Stewart Certified Public Accountants. Mr. Gilbert met with the finance committee and reviewed the audit. The Board requested that Mr. Gilbert come to a board meeting and give a summary. Mr. Farmer said overall the audit was clean but there were a few recommendations.

James Gilbert of Gilbert & Stewart Certified Public Accountants presented the audit report to board members. He reported on the Financial Statements of the district and the Single Audit and State of Utah Legal Compliance reports. The Financial Statements received the highest classification possible. The compliance reports also received the highest classification possible.

Mr. Gilbert said they also audited the adult education program, the October 1 count and the aggregate membership of the district and there were no problems.

Mr. Gilbert said the district is doing a great job on segregation of duties.

It was recommended that there are no unknown checking accounts that are not included in district records. If there are, they need to be brought in line with state auditing compliances. One school has the same person receipting the cash and taking it to the bank. There should be one person receipting the cash and another person taking it to the bank. Principals should not sign their own reimbursement checks. Using credits cards would be better. He also suggested having a way to monitor capital assets. Tagging and having a bar code reminds everyone that the district owns that item.

Mark Farmer asked board members if it would be necessary for the auditor to present the audit report or could it be done by the financial audit committee. They felt a committee report would suffice. More discussion is needed.

Mark farmer made a motion to approve the audit report. Jody Hipwell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Home School Applications

Jody Hipwell made a motion to approve the home school applications. Neil Carrigan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Policy FH Student Discipline

Neil Carrigan made a motion to approve the FH *Student Discipline* policy. Mark Farmer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Personnel Changes

Board members approved the hiring of Cheri Mathews as the drill team coach for the remainder of the 2014-15 school year and Courtney Hatch as the assistant drill team coach. Also to approve the resignation of Tammi Niederhauser as the drill team coach. The motion was made by Jody Hipwell, seconded by Mark Farmer and it passed unanimously.

Trip Approvals

Jody Hipwell asked that the three travel requests be approved separately.

Mark Farmer made a motion to approve the drama trip. Neil Carrigan seconded the motion. Jody Hipwell called for discussion on the motion. She feels a one-day trip would be sufficient. Superintendent Jacobs will put this item on the agenda for next month. Principal Murdock will talk to Mrs. Wilder and see if it can be changed to a one-day trip. The motion was withdrawn and tabled until next month.

Jody Hipwell made a motion to approve the softball trip to St. George in March. Mark Farmer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Jody Hipwell made a motion to approve the FFA trip to Denver in January. The motion was seconded by Mark Farmer. Question on the motion was called. Mr. Alder was encouraged to find some fundraising projects to help with student costs. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member School Visits and Committee Reports

Vice President Durrant reminded board members to continue working on the Master Board Awards program. He visited Morgan High School classrooms and spoke to several teachers and administration. Things are going well and teachers are great.

Neil Carrigan said there was a technology meeting. Morgan High, Morgan Elementary and Mountain Green Elementary schools are wireless and Morgan Middle School will be finished soon. He attended the COG meeting and they updated their list of priorities. The recreation board will allow businesses to advertise on the fences. The board will be selling advertisement space. Mr. Carrigan visited Morgan Middle School. He met with math teachers.

Jody Hipwell reported the DATC is looking at expanding the dental program. They want to work with the University of Utah to also expand the nursing program to accommodate 90 more students and offer evening classes. She said the scholarship board is doing a good job. She visited Morgan Elementary School and gave that report during the work meeting.

Mark Farmer said the Growth Task Force Committee will meet this Friday. The Morgan Education Foundation did not meet in November. He visited Mountain Green Elementary School and discussed SAGE results with Principal Andreasen. He gave credit to teachers for providing a good environment for students.

Advanced Planning for Upcoming Meetings

The December board meeting will be December 2, 2014 at the district office beginning at 5:00 P.M. with the work session. The regular meeting will be at 6:00 P.M. Legislators are invited to attend the board meeting.

The USBA conference for all board members will be January 8, 9, and 10, 2015 at the Little America Hotel in Sake Lake City.

Board member visits for December are: President Galbraith MGES, Vice President Ken Durrant Transportation, Neil Carrigan MHS, Jody Hipwell MMS, and Mark Farmer MES.

Neil Carrigan made a motion to adjourn. Jody Hipwell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Business Administrator D'Lynn Poll