

Proceedings of the Board of Trustees
Lockwood School District No. 26
Yellowstone County, Billings, MT
Regular Meeting of November 11, 2008

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REGULAR SESSION CALL TO ORDER - 7:00 pm

Chair Susanne Vinton opened the regular meeting, called it to order at 7:00 p.m., and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following trustees and officers were present: Trustees Susanne Vinton, Jason Hamrick, Holly Sather, Peter Freivalds, Becky Malenowsky, Greg Bochy, and Tamara Spillum, Superintendent Eileen Johnson and District Clerk Diane Brook.

Staff members present were Dave DeBoer, Mike Sullivan, Mike Bowman, Pam Richau, Keith Tresch, Don Christman, Darlene Hess, Charles Harvey, Mary Beth Gajda, and Art Anderson.

Registered guests were Pam Malek, Evelyn Pyburn, Taylor Stephens and Teri Stephens.

Mrs. Vinton welcomed visitors and advised the following:

Any person present who wishes to address the board or raise any question about public school district matters or governing policies may do so under public participation. **No discussion of personnel or individual students is permitted at this time.** A limit of three minutes is placed on each speaker. Persons who want more time may make arrangements to be placed on a future agenda. The public is also reminded that they may provide input on all motions being considered by the board at this meeting.

INDIVIDUALS, DELEGATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE, DISTRICT NEWS

Taylor and Teri Stephens were present. Taylor had implemented a program to provide toothbrushes and toothpaste to all students at Lockwood School. Taylor requested funding assistance from the Holland and Hart Law Firm Foundation for this project. The board congratulated her on her community service work and noted how just one person can make a difference. A total of 1,100 toothbrushes and toothpaste wrapped with a card acknowledging the sponsor were distributed.

BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE FROM HIGH TECH CONSTRUCTION

Representatives from neither JGA nor High Tech could be present. Superintendent Johnson advised the trustees that the costs had escalated significantly for air conditioning between the times it was value-engineered out of the project compared to putting it back into the project. Eileen distributed

information that showed the costs for cooling as follows:

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Value engineered the cost out of Bid Pack 4 - Intermediate Building:	\$265,115
Cost to add it back into the project is:	<u>\$346,500</u>
Value engineered the cost out of Bid Pack 4 – Middle School:	\$143,870
Cost to add it back into the project is:	<u>\$245,389</u>

She said that it might be possible with the unused project contingency and monies from other funds, we may be able to complete the air conditioning in one of the buildings. The decision can be made at a later meeting. Eileen advised that if we have to go to bid again, there are costs for advertising and everything else starts from scratch. We could also have a different contractor awarded the bid.

Supt. Johnson noted that the wording in the bond ballot said that we cannot use Building Reserve Fund for anything within the original scope of the bond project. We do have General Fund reserves, which could be used.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

A. Approval of Minutes

Chair Susanne Vinton noted the following corrections:

- 1) October 14, 2008 Regular Board Meeting minutes the dates on Page 4, Item E, Paragraphs 2 and 3 needed to be changed from June 30, 2008 to June 30, 2009
- 2) Special Board Meeting Minutes, Page 1, Paragraph 6, insert the following item which was discussed at the meeting: A fingerprint background check had been completed on Mr. Mitchell when he was hired as a substitute teacher previously.

She asked if there was any objection to the minutes as presented with the date corrections noted. Hearing none, the minutes of the October 14, 2008 regular board meeting, and the October 24, 2008 special board meeting were approved.

B. Approval of Bills

Chair Susanne Vinton asked if there was any objection to the bills and wages as presented. Hearing none, the bills and wages were approved.

C. Set Tuition Rates for New Day Students

Supt. Johnson recommended using the state rates as indicated on the attachment; she noted the rates cannot be any higher, but could be set lower.

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Greg Bochy moved to approve the state tuition rates per the recommendation of Superintendent Johnson as attached to the agenda. Tamara Spillum seconded the motion.

Eileen advised that Don Christman is working with OPI regarding our New Day students and other possible solutions.

Susanne Vinton, Becky Malenowsky, Holly Sather, Tamara Spillum, Peter Freivalds, Greg Bochy, and Jason Hamrick voted aye. The motion passed seven to zero.

D. Substitute Hiring

Peter Freivalds moved to hire Monica Borer, Marnie Emond, Valeria Long, Angela Trebas, Wes Urbaniak, Kevin Andriolo (added to the list), and William Wittpenn as substitute teachers. Jason Hamrick seconded the motion. It was noted that all had been fingerprint background checked. Susanne Vinton, Becky Malenowsky, Holly Sather, Tamara Spillum, Peter Freivalds, Greg Bochy, and Jason Hamrick voted aye. The motion passed seven to zero.

DISTRICT REPORTS ATTACHED TO THE AGENDA

A. Primary

B. Intermediate

C. Middle School – Mr. Sullivan said Senator Tester visited the Middle School today. The doors are finished and they work wonderfully.

D. Curriculum – Don Christman advised that next week Lockwood Schools will receive a \$7,000 grant for the Peaceful Playgrounds program. The first phase will be used to put 100 activities and games on the playground for the students. The second phase of the grant will be used for activity kits. Supt. Johnson advised that the grant Don had submitted for the Coordinated School Health Program summarized almost everything that goes on at the school and on campus.

E. Activities – There has been good participation in sports.

F. Technology – Pam Richau made a special presentation using classroom performance pads (CPS) and Exam View assessment suite. The Gifted & Talented Grant & Technology each purchased sets of 32 CPS “clickers”. This provides wonderful technology for kids and a great assessment tool for teachers.

DISTRICT REPORTS ATTACHED TO THE AGENDA

Trustee Peter Freivalds asked if Exam View has an ongoing cost. Pam said she thought it would be \$1,200 per year for all grades K-8.

There will be a lot of training provided to the staff. Teacher Charles Harvey informed trustees how he uses this system in his science classes.

G. Facilities – Art Anderson distributed his report at the meeting. He advised that they are replacing the Northwest Energy lights with security lighting.

The upcoming health insurance meeting was briefly discussed. Lockwood Education Association will be taking a vote after the meeting on November 20, 2008. Information is still being received. MUST has offered an 18 month plan; MSHWP is trying to match it. Stephanie Miller will distribute her Power Point presentation for the staff to review.

Mrs. Johnson advised that she would like to contract with Lainey Reynolds-Keene a medical manager who works with the district. She would help us to use insurance wisely and she advocates for the users. A medical manager also writes Requests for Proposals for health insurance and negotiates rates. The fees are \$15,500; one-half is paid upon execution of the contract. The balance of the fee would be paid at the end of the one-year term of the contract contingent upon savings equal to or greater than \$15,500. Then salary is negotiated based on savings in health insurance. Eileen said she believes it is well worth the investment; insurance is an intricate business and not everything is out on the table. They are working hard to make a decision prior to the end of November. There may have to be a special meeting for the board's approval of the insurance provider after the LEA vote. Eileen said the Health Insurance Committee is an excellent and diligent group.

The Board of Trustees was advised that the Lockwood School District contract with MSHWP can be ended on a monthly basis.

It was the general consensus of the trustees to post a special meeting for Tuesday, November 25 at 12:00 noon for the purpose of making a decision regarding the health insurance.

Supt. Johnson said she had conversations with Kathy Kelker regarding having Head Start for our students here on campus in Room 408.

TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustees reported on MCEL. Chair Vinton advised that she was proud of Lockwood and how well represented the Board of Trustees were at MCEL and as state representatives.

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Special Education Co-op Director Leonard Orth was chosen as the Administrator of the Year. It was noted that the closing speaker was excellent.

This was the 19th consecutive year the Lockwood Board of Trustees received the Golden Gavel Award.

ADJOURN

The next regular meeting is Tuesday, December 9, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

Becky Malenowsky moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Peter Freivalds seconded the motion. Susanne Vinton, Becky Malenowsky, Holly Sather, Tamara Spillum, Peter Freivalds, Greg Bochy, and Jason Hamrick voted aye. The motion passed seven to zero.

Sue Vinton, Chairperson

Diane M. Brook, District Clerk

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