

**SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6
COMBINED ELEMENTARY/HIGH SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2012**

The School Board of Trustees of School District No. 6 met in the district board room on Tuesday, February 14, 2012.

CALL TO The meeting was called to order at pm by Chairperson June Beartusk at 5:25 pm.

PRESENT: June Beartusk, Suzette Cain, Vincent White Crane, Kim Knobloch, Merrilee Red Robe, George Scalpcane and Winslow White Crane.

ABSENT: Rosanne Headswift excused and Waymon Mitchell excused.

OTHERS Bryan Kott, Lana Robinson, Frank No Runner, Sherry Foote, Aundre Bell, Jim Loy, Robin Nansel, John Bole, Angie Bell, Meredith Tall Bull, Byron Woods, Teresa McMakin, Bill Mason, Darlene Soldier Wolf, Lorna Soldier Wolf,

DELEG. None.

CONSENT W White Crane moved and Red Robe seconded to approve the consent agenda which include January 18, 2012 minutes, Payroll, District and Activity Warrants, Federal Programs Report and Roy Reece Retirement letter. All voted in favor with the exception of Cain who opposed.

EXEC.SESS. Board Chair and Bryan Kott decided to pull item # 16.e. (Legal Issues) to the front of the agenda. Board chair called for an executive session on this legal issue at 5:28 pm.

RESUME Board chair reopened the meeting at 5:50 pm.

HIRE CLAS. Knobloch moved and Cain seconded to hire Jose F. Castro as a teacher,
HIRE SUBS custodian, bus monitor sub (who is working on S endorsement to drive a bus), Markita Hunsalong as a teacher, custodian, kitchen & bus monitor sub and Belknapp J Htomanie as a custodian and maintenance sub (pending completion of background checks and Pattee Bement will be hired at the next board meeting when we have all board present). All voted in favor.

HIRE HS Kevin Lone Bear will be hired at the next board meeting when we have all
COACHES board members present.

HIRE EL/JH None.
COACHES

ELE.PRINC. Board Chair recognized Sherry Foote, Elementary Principal to address her report. Sherry's report was included in the agenda and asked if the board had any questions.

Cain asked if the Soppas Evaluations were completed. Sherry stated they were doing summative the very last one, Nancy Crans will be available the 20th and the 21st to complete them. Sherry stated they beat the deadline this year and it was a very long process.

Sherry spoke on the MAP Test Scores and where the student increased.

Cain asked if the awards were done yet, Sherry stated they are scheduled for the 24th of February and they plan on making it a very big thing for the students. They will announce birthdays first, principal award, classroom perfect attendance then popcorn and a movie.

JH PRINC. Board Chair recognized Aundre Bell, Bell spoke on attendance in the JH which has dropped a lot. He stated February will be worse and it's the same students over and over again. They enroll then miss ten days get dropped then re-enroll because they live in our district we have to allow them to re-enroll. Bell stated some students get kicked out of the surrounding schools then we allow them to enroll here then they are our behavioral problem.

Knobloch stated that is a state law and not our own. We have to enroll students when they live in our school district.

Foote stated that the students that miss ten days at Colstrip School have to meet with the school board with their parents because they are considered for expulsion.

Boar Chair suggested this be brought before our policy committee with the handbooks for better rules and regulations regarding this to see improvement. When would the board like the committee to meet.

Knobloch stated we should meet and hit it hard before school begins. It will take at least two years to mold everybody.

Kott stated we should start meeting now then by the time the new school year starts we will have all the handbooks we need.

Board Chair stated the policy committee should meet before the next school board meeting.

Board Chair had a comment on the book "Mentor Leader" she stated it was a very outstanding book. She felt it will help us as board members to understand how we can better serve our students and

mentoring. She praised Aundre Bell on how what he's doing by getting his team on board with this. We can apply some of the good principles in this book for good boardmanship.

Bell asked if there were any more questions. No questions were asked.

HS PRINC. Board Chair recognized Frank No Runner who was available to present his report to the board. No Runner passed out his report to the board. He stated they were planning a Family Bingo Night – CRT Information Meeting with parents which they would have prizes. He spoke on attendance; Behavior Reports; High School Projects; Professional Development Calendar; Principal Schedules; Achievement Data to Support Instructional Decision Making; He stated he needed a couple actions from the board to take Gear Up Students out of state for a college visit. He also is asking for the students regarding approving a soda machine at the high school. They are working on an ISS (in-school suspension) room working with the discovery program.

Cain asked if the high school has started an In-school suspension classroom. No Runner stated it kind of is ISS but also the Discovery room. When students have four referrals they are sent to that room. There is a trained instructor in that classroom to work with the students who will give them a problem solving sheet where they have to own their behavior and come up with four solutions to solve the problem if it happened again. The principal will sign this sheet once it is completed then the student takes it to the teacher, the teacher will sign it. Once everyone has signed the sheet then the student will go back to the classroom.

Scalpcane left at 6:30 pm.

HS PRINC.
GEAR UP Kott spoke on this item (Approve Gear Up Program). He stated it Gear Up needed a motion in the minutes before we are able to receive the funding which is a new requirement. He also stated this program does require matching funds but we can use in-kind to match.

Cain asked if Gear Up funds are to be spent only in Montana. Kott stated no, it's the SIG funds that you can only spend in Montana.

Knobloch moved and Cain seconded to approve of the Gear Up Program. All voted in favor.

1ST READ. Knobloch moved and Cain seconded to approve the first reading of the ADMIN.POL. Administrative Procedures Manual (Amendment). All voted in favor.

STUDNT. No Runner was asked to represent the students regarding their request for a pop dispenser flavors (pepsi & dr.pepper) at the high school. It was decided this will probably be a wellness policy change for this issue and

once the policy committee meets they will bring the first reading for this item.

No Runner spoke on the attendance issue. He suggested that the board go to the Tribal Council, approach them and ask them to change truancy to a class b offense from a class c. That way the parents will spend time in jail if they don't show up for court or pay a fine when they go to court.

W White Crane stated what he didn't like about that is if a grand parent or the guardian inherited a problem student and will be going to jail for a problem that someone else created.

Knobloch stated that if you're a parent or guardian you better be getting that student to school.

W White Crane stated he doesn't have the time to be at school everyday with a student.

Kott stated we need to build a relationship with the tribe and get that backing.

John Bole spoke and reminded the board it's important to hear what Frank and Bryan are saying, "for the kids" They are our responsibility and we as adults have to help them at what ever level.

Board Chair recognized Darlene Soldier Wolf who raised her hand to speak. Darlene stated how the Social Service Department had previously been having meetings to help parent/guardians and students with attendance problems. She suggested to get a hold of them regarding this issue or talk to Veronica Small-Eastman about it because she attended those meetings.

Discussion on the attendance issue.

O/S GEAR UP TRIP Cain moved and W White Crane moved to approved the out of state Trip to Sheridan Wyoming for the Gear Up Sophomores. Cain asked when this trip is planned. No Runner stated it will be after testing is completed at the school. All voted in favor.

O/S TRIP SD. LAW Red Robe moved and V White Crane seconded to approve the out of state trip to Rapid City South Dakota for Law Enforcement Program. All voted in favor.

AD REPORT Jim Loy was available to present his report to the board. He shared all of the High School spring activity schedules such as: JR Prom will be April 21, 2012; Activities Dinner will be April 26, 2012; Blood Drive will be on May 24, 2012 which is the first time here; This is the last month for basketball season.

He also spoke on the discovery program. He really likes this program and stated that it's a way to find personal growth and expectation with oneself. Loy stated the staff has to buy into it inside and out or it will not work. But stated it was an excellent program and it does work.

HS AD Jim Loy spoke on the issue with the HS boys basketball coach and players.
BBB COACH The issue came when the Head Boys basketball coach would not meet with the parents of the basketball players. When this happened he suspended the coach for one home game. Before this home game arrived the head coaches tires where slashed. They found out who did this to his tires and it was one of the basketball players. When Loy found this out he made a decision to lift the coaches suspension because he felt he'd already been reprimanded. The student did write a letter of apology to the coach.

Cain stated a wrong and a wrong does not make a right. She wanted an explanation regarding why Loy stated by the coaches tires being slashed that made everything a clean slate because it's two separate incidences. What is that saying to the student being accountable for his actions. By rescinding the suspension with the coach, she felt that its saying the students are free to give punishment for whatever they want on school property.

Red Robe stated Mr. No Runner stated earlier that the student's were being taught to own up to their actions/responsibilities. She stated these were two different issues and should've been dealt with differently with two different consequences. It doesn't matter they are two different instances.

W White Crane stated he has a responsibility is to the parents not to the students.

Loy stated he didn't see this as two different instances, he sees it a continuation of one problem. The problem was the coach and his relationship with his players and the coach missing the meeting with the parents. That is what the suspension was over (missing the meeting). When the tires were slashed the tires it was stated "he got what he deserved" for coaching or for missing the meeting we don't know.

Red Robe stated who are we to say that, that student is to be the judge. She felt Loy is basically saying it's okay for a kid being mad a teacher to slash a tire, break a their windows in a house, that it's okay to retaliate against them. Regardless of where it came from or not it's still two separate things. You've got one problem with a lot of tentacles and will keep growing tentacles until you deal with all of them.

Kott stated the one problem is already a tentacle in itself from handbooks to policies which dropped everything to a head. Such as concerns like attendance at practices, accountability for the coach taking care of that when it comes to a parent meeting do you have that backing when you say

your kids has not come to practice for two weeks that's why he's not playing. It all stems from past practice which has come to a head. The blame should be spread around and that's why we should look at an athletic handbook and a coach's handbook. The policies that we do write up will basically take the stuff and breaks them down plain and simple.

Cain stated she thought if it were nipped in the butt immediately it wouldn't have progressed. She asked what Jim Loy's reasoning was on rescinding the coach's suspension.

Loy stated when you have a group of people who are disgruntle or dissatisfied and a member of that group steps outside the group committing an act that is the same as making a statement for that group.

Red Robe stated he goes to jail because he stepped out of the group and made a statement on his own. He didn't have the group saying "you're the one who is going to slash tires".

Loy stated he spoke with that group and said emphatically don't give him any ammunition, don't get in his space.

Red Robe stated people have their own ideas and they are going to think what they want to think.

Unfortunately the person who did the slashing was from that group, unfortunately because of that he got what he deserves that is the statement that his punishment had been meted out. That doesn't mean he doesn't have to meet with the parents anymore, he still has to meet with them.

Red Robe stated described a scenario stating there is proper protocol for everything.

Loy stated they were in the process of following proper protocol when the incident happened. We let him off the hook.

Red Robe stated why the coach was let off the hook.

Loy stated because he was already punished.

V White Crane was confused on when the coach was suspended and why a home game.

Loy stated he believed to make a statement was to suspend him for a home game.

Kott stated one of the biggest issues we are talking about following these procedures and he doesn't think both ends are really true to be followed. Just like the meeting on how it was started and no chain of command was followed prior to this meeting scheduled. With the result of this issue we

need policies in place to address these issues and having evaluations for each coach at the end of each season will also help on whether to re-hire a coach. A lot of these issues have never been laid out for coaches on how they are to talk to the students or what is expected of each coach.

Red Robe asked if any policies were in place at all to go by currently.

Kott stated they were pretty out dated.

Loy stated the activities handbook and student manual do not match up right now so they need to be lined up.

Kott stated they need to be lined up so all of these issues can be dealt with.

Cain stated it was her understanding that the student was a basketball player and if he is, she was wondering if this student was still on the team. She wanted to know what kind of discipline was given to this student.

Bill Mason representing the boys basketball parents spoke regarding this issue. The coach speaks to the kids with an f word in every thing he says to the students. When he says to a kid that he is fn worthless it hurts those kids, that is why they were there. He called the superintendent at 3:00 pm in the afternoon he stated that he didn't want him suspended on Senior Night.

Kott stated if a Senior was not allowed to play then it would fall back on the assistant coaches and he didn't want that to happen.

Bill Mason stated that the student who slashed the tires should be taken to court and be handled by the authorities. He also stated that their was a petition and thought it was going to be addressed tonight.

Kott stated he had to allow everyone due process prior to discussing any issue.

Mason stated that if this issue was dealt with immediately it wouldn't escalate this far.

Kott stated he didn't hear about it until recently.

John Bole stated a policy has to be put in place as Kott stated so this will not happen again.

Bill Mason stated the board policy states that the school board will not tolerate winning at any cost and this is what is happening here.

No Runner stated most problems are solved between the individual's which is by following the chain of command. The parents did come to him with complaints but he informed them they had to talk to the coach

first he told them he would be willing to arrange a meeting. When the chain of command is followed most of the time the problems are resolved right then and there. He stated we should have arranged a meeting for the parents and coaches to avoid problems like this.

W White Crane stated a parent came to him stating he went to meet with the counselor. As they were meeting a student came in and said the f word five times and the counselor did nothing, if that's the attitude of the school I don't know.

Jim Loy welcomed White Crane to his classroom, that type of language is not tolerated in his classroom.

Bill Mason stated the issue is basketball is big and gets pretty intense. Yeah coaches get upset and their language turns in to verbal abuse and starts hurting those kids and destroys their confidence.

V. White Crane stated he won't tolerate it in his house so he doesn't expect it to be tolerated where he sends his kid to school.

Bill Mason stated that any staff member seeing kids being abused that employee is responsible to turn that in to the authorities.

W. White Crane stated to Loy that it's his responsibility to watch out for the students because he is the coach's supervisor.

Loy stated the decision to rescind the suspension he made the call. If there is another reason that his decision is being questioned this vexes him.

Kott stated it is difficult because we got the even number on both sides saying different things. We have put those things in place to monitor that these things are not happening. We need to work on driving that policy and enforcing it by making it black and white and follow it. Things have slipped because of past practice but this has to stop because it has come to a head this year.

JH AD Byron Woods was not available for his report.

SPED.DIR. Robin Nansel presented her report to the board, she spoke on the OPI Audit Monitoring process. They were prepared for this audit. She also spoke on the graduation issue and have been meeting with parents regarding the students who will not be able to graduate.

NC BOTAN. Merrilee Red Robe representing the Northern Cheyenne Land Committee was available to present this item. What they are requesting is they are planning a Botanical Garden and requesting to secure a three year lease the swamp area across the road from the Allen Rowland Gymnasium which is called school reserve. It's a lot of marsh land which has a lot of benefits for science.

Beartusk stated there was an agreement that the state would revamp that but was never done. We need to check into that to see what ever happen to that but we need to make sure they don't have any ownership to this area.

Red Robe is going to look into this issue and see what the state says.

K-8 SCIEN. Kott stated that he would like the K-8 Science Fusion Curriculum APPROVAL be adopted and the SIG funds will be used to purchase this.

Cain moved and V White Crane seconded to approve of adopting the K-8 Science Fusion Curriculum. All voted in favor.

POLICY Kott apologized because he was not able to get with Joe Brott on this TRANS. issue. This Policy will be helpful with all of the SIG/RTI workshops held which we receive reimbursements from these programs but they only pay a certain number of mileages. Kott stated he is looking at other school policies and how they conduct this issue.

IEC No one was available to speak on IEC.

ML.BALLOT Cain moved and V White Crane seconded to approve the resolution ELEC. For the Mail Ballot Election Resolution for two vacant trustee positions for the Lane Deer Elementary on May 8, 2012. All voted in favor.

ML.BALLOT W White Crane moved and Red Robe seconded to approve the Mail Ballot ELEC. Election Resolution for two vacant positions (a three year term and a unexpired one year term) for the Ashland Portion of the High School in May of 2012. All voted in favor.

GYM USE No requests were submitted.

HSGYM USE No requests were submitted.

APPROVE Cain moved and V White Crane seconded to approve three out of O/D ENROLL. student enrollments (E.B., D.K & T.B.) for the remainder of the school year. All voted in favor.

APPROVE Lana Robinson stated there was a Route Change Request for the Birney ROUTE CHG Route, we have a student who enrolled at the High School and we needed to cross the Birney bridge (approximately 16 miles difference) to pick this student up. According to the County Superintendent of Schools we as a board have to approve this first before the County Transportation Committee will approve it.

Red Robe moved and Cain seconded to approve this route change. All voted in favor.

APPROVE TR-6 Lana Robinson brought the TR-6 form for board approval which is the bus route reimbursement claim.

Red Robe moved and V White Crane seconded to approve of the TR-6. All voted in favor.

BOARD RPT. No Reports were discussed.

School Finance Resolution Group


MTSBA Finance Training in Miles City

SUPT. RPT. Elementary Construction will be discussed on the next board meeting.

SUPT. RPT. HS & Elem. Sig Update was tabled until next meeting.

SUPT. RPT. Notebook Overview item was tabled until next meeting.

AJOURN Red Robe moved and V White Crane seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 pm. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned.


June Beartusk, Chairperson


Lana Robinson, District Clerk