

**M.S.A.D. #44 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2010
7:00 PM – CRESCENT PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
MINUTES**

I CALL TO ORDER:

Directors Absent: Ms. Taylor

Others Present: Dr. Murphy, Mr. Kuzyk, Mr. Raymond, Mr. Deegan, Mr. Sabin, Ms. Waite, Mr. Rice, Ms. Littlehale, Ms. Schroeder, Mr. Hart, Mr. Brown, Ms. Aloisio, Ms. Tancresse

Pledge of Allegiance

II ACTION ON MINUTES:

Ms. Cross motioned to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2009 meeting.

MOTION: Ms. Cross SECOND: Ms. Davis VOTE: Unanimous

III CITIZEN COMMENTS: (maximum fifteen minutes)

Several members of the community were present at the meeting to express their concerns about the possible closings of facilities due to upcoming budget reductions. Another speaker invited interested parties to consider applying for jobs available to assist with the Census.

IV BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: (maximum fifteen minutes)

Mr. Brown suggested that the members of the community stay for the remainder of the meeting to view the Superintendent's Power Point presentation on the fiscal issues facing the district and the potential impact of these issues on the FY 11 School Budget.

Ms. Cross mentioned that a concert will be held at Woodstock Elementary School on Thursday evening.

Chairman's Report : None

V COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETINGS:

SAD #44 Board Meeting: Monday, February 22, 2010 – 7:00 PM- THS Library

Executive Committee: TBD

Finance Committee: Monday, February 8, 2010 – 6:30 PM - WES

Personnel Committee: TBD

Education Committee: Monday, February 22, 2010 – 8:30 AM – Ethel Bisbee Conference Room

Policy Committee: TBD

Facilities & Ancillary Services Committee: Thursday, February 11, 2010 – 6:30 PM, THS Library

Negotiations Committee: TBD

Region 9 Cooperative Board: Tuesday, February 16, 2010

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VI COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Education Committee: Ms. Arizzi – The Committee met to discuss possible implications of the upcoming budget. Members also viewed a presentation on the Adult Education program.

Facilities & Ancillary Services Committee: Ms. Cross – No report

Finance Committee: Mr. Brown – The Committee met and signed warrants.

Negotiations Committee: Ms. Cross – The Committee has met with the TEA but negotiations are currently suspended temporarily.

Personnel Committee: Ms. Nasta – No report

Policy Committee: Ms. Davis – The Committee has several agenda items.

Region 9 Cooperative Board: Ms. Arizzi – The Region 9 Finance Committee has been meeting weekly.

VII SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE:

- Appointments and Resignations – Dr. Murphy reported that Jim Rose has been appointed as THS Drama advisor.
- Department of Labor Update – Dr. Murphy reported that the Department of Labor visited the district last fall and toured all buildings, noting corrections that were needed throughout the district. All items on the list have been addressed and a presentation to the DOL will be made on February 24. Dr. Murphy noted that the district is requesting that all fines assessed to the school system be forgiven.

VIII OLD BUSINESS:

None

IX NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion
2. Adjustments to the Agenda – Ms. Morgan motioned to approve the addition of #12 to the agenda: To see what action the Board wishes to take regarding the addition of a Board meeting on Monday, February 22, 2010 at 7:00 PM in the Telstar High School Library with a snow date of February 23, 2010.

MOTION: Ms. Morgan SECOND: Ms. Cross VOTE: Unanimous

Mr. Smith motioned to move Item #11 on the agenda to #3 on the Agenda.

MOTION: Mr. Smith SECOND: Ms. Davis VOTE: Unanimous

11. Ms. Cross motioned to approve directing the Superintendent to develop a three-year plan that addresses the MSAD #44 School Budget, the ongoing reduction in state aid to education and the possible closures of several district facilities and to report back to the Board at the February 22, 2010 meeting.

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Prior to the vote Dr. Murphy provided the Board and the audience a Power Point presentation illustrating the present and future budget challenges the district will be facing. Although many school districts across the state will be negatively impacted by a reduction in state aid to education for FY 11, SAD #44 will face one of the largest cuts, approximately 11.6%. This is due to the increased percentage of property valuation within the five district towns as compared to the state average. SAD #44 valuation is currently approximately three times the state average and is expected to be about four times the state valuation in FY 12. Dr. Murphy noted that federal stimulus funds will no longer be available after FY 11. Dr. Murphy explained the terms ARRA, carryover and curtailment as they pertain to the budget. In addition to a “gap” of nearly \$850,000 due to reduced carryover funds for FY 11 and fixed cost increases, the district is also facing a decrease of over a million dollars in state aid in the FY 11 budget and must either absorb the cuts or pass it on to the public. He noted that between FY 05 and FY 10, the Board has kept budget increases to an average of just .6%. Despite their fiscal responsibility, the cost to the taxpayer has increased during this time due to the shift of costs from the state share to the local share. The net loss in funding for FY '11 will total approximately \$906,797.

Dr. Murphy informed the Board and community members present at the meeting that this Power Point presentation will be posted to the district website. He also encouraged those present to attend the February 22nd Board meeting which will be held in the Telstar Middle/High School Library beginning at 7:00 PM.

MOTION Ms. Cross SECOND: Ms. Davis VOTE: Unanimous

3. Ms. Davis motioned to accept the Policy Committee's recommendation and approve the SECOND AND FINAL READING of Policy AEC Accountability Reporting to the Public.

MOTION: Ms. Davis SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

4. Ms. Davis motioned to accept the Policy Committee's recommendation and approve the SECOND AND FINAL READING of Policy IHBA Referral/Pre-referral of students with Disabilities.

MOTION: Ms. Davis SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

5. Ms. Davis motioned to accept the Policy Committee's recommendation and approve the SECOND AND FINAL READING of Policy IHBAC Child Find.

MOTION: Ms. Davis SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

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6. Ms. Davis motioned to accept the Policy Committee's recommendation and approve the SECOND AND FINAL READING of Policy IHBGB Supplemental Statement of Rights for Private School Students with Disabilities.

MOTION: Ms. Davis SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

7. Ms. Davis motioned to accept the Policy Committee's recommendation and approve the FIRST READING of Policy ECA Energy Conservation.

MOTION: Ms. Davis SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

8. Ms. Davis motioned to accept the Policy Committee's recommendation and approve the FIRST READING of Policy ECB Pest Management in School Facilities and on School Grounds.

MOTION: Ms. Davis SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

9. Ms. Davis motioned to accept the Policy Committee's recommendation and approve the FIRST READING of Policy JEAA Student Attendance/Student Absences and Tardiness.

MOTION: Ms. Davis SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

10. Ms. Davis motioned to accept the Policy Committee's recommendation and approve the FIRST READING of Policy KDB - Public's Right to Know/Freedom of Information.

MOTION: Ms. Davis SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

12. Ms. Cross motioned to add an additional Board Meeting at the Telstar High School Library on February 22, 2010 beginning at 7:00 PM with a snow date of February 23, 2010.

MOTION: Ms. Cross SECOND: Ms. Morgan VOTE: Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT: 8:45 PM

MOTION: Mr. Brown SECOND: Ms. Everett VOTE: Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted:

David W. Murphy, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools