

Wyoming State Board of Education Minutes
April 16, 2010
Goshen County School District #1 Board Room
Torrington, Wyoming

Wyoming State Board members present: Phil Orton, Bill Anthony, Larry McGarvin, Norine Kasperik, Jan Torres, Sandra Barton, Mike Hejtmanek, Dana Mann-Tavegia, Joe Reichardt, and Jim McBride

Wyoming State Board members absent: Matt Garland and Pam Anderson

Also present: Mary Kay Hill, Wyoming Department of Education (WDE); Joe Simpson, WDE; Teresa Canjar, WDE; and John Shumway, Attorney General's Office (AG)

CALL TO ORDER

Chairwomen Sandra Barton called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Teresa Canjar conducted roll call and established that a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mike Hejtmanek moved that the minutes from the February 26, 2010 meeting held at the Hathaway Building in Cheyenne be approved as presented, seconded by Norine Kasperik, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Jan Torres presented the treasurer's report ending March 31, 2010 with an ending balance of \$64,451.24.

Jan Torres moved that the Treasurer's Report be approved as presented, seconded by Bill Anthony, motion carried.

AGENDA AMENDMENT

Joe Reichardt moved to amend the agenda to make Item Number 7 an action item rather than an update, seconded by Mike Hejtmanek, motion carried.

NASBE CONFERENCE UPDATES

Norine Kasperik said the NASBE 2010 Legislative Conference in Washington DC was very good. She was impressed with our congressional team because of all the participation. There are some concerns about a frontier state versus a rural state and NASBE is looking to setup a task force on this. Norine volunteered to represent WSBE on this task force.

Joe Reichardt thanked Sandra Barton for arranging the visit with our Wyoming congressional team J. Reichardt shared a concern that the education bill would be treated the same as the health bill with the delegates and they assured him this was not the case.

Dana Mann-Tavegia felt the visit to the U.S. Department of Education was too short and there wasn't enough time to ask questions. Overall the conference provided non-stop information and is a very good professional development tool for this Board.

Sandra Barton stated that it is important to represent Wyoming as a State Board and have a voice on key issues. S. Barton informed the board that the NASBE annual conference is in Salt Lake City will be held on October 14 through 16, 2010 and encouraged members to attend.

BOARD UPDATES AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Anthony complimented the Iditarod Dog Sled Race 5th grade display in the Goshen County School District #1 board room and expressed how it was an example of how to get students engaged in their education.

Larry McGarvin gave a brief and heartfelt overview of his trip to Haiti as a volunteer dentist. He said the most frequent question asked was "is it as bad as you thought it would be"? He said the immensity of the destruction was surprising and the one thing pictures don't capture is the smell. He was impressed by the stoicism of the people.

Dana Mann-Tavegia reported on the Common Good Study Group. They heard from 8 to 10 military academies and prep schools and what she found most interesting about them is how many have practices on developing study habits, time management, and doing self-evaluation. Several had post residential action plans and actually managed to keep in touch with students after they leave. The group will be working on our final report for June.

Mike Hejtmanek stated his last day is June 30, 2010. Dan Nicholas has been hired as the new superintendent in Worland.

Sandra Barton said the Job Corps is moving forward and hopes the WSBE will schedule another meeting in Riverton to coincide with the grand opening.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Jim McBride's report included many facets of education that we are facing. Dr. McBride gave an update on the PAWS and the upcoming common core standards. Dr. McBride pointed out that Wyoming will need to figure out how we can work with common core standards by 2015; otherwise, it could affect the federal dollars we receive. Dr. McBride shared his concern about the direction the new federal education law is going for failing schools and underperforming schools.

PRESENTATION

Jim McBride presented Bill Anthony with the Wyoming Superintendent of Public Instruction Award for his cooperation, focused leadership and an unwavering commitment to improve student skills.

WYOMING PUBLIC EDUCATION AND WDE STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Joe Simpson reviewed the strategic plan that been worked on by the WSBE and the WDE. Chair Barton asked the board if they would like to move forward to officially endorse this plan. This would make a statement and focus on the critical issues that WSBE and WDE are working on together.

Jan Torres moved that the Wyoming State Board of Education enthusiastically adopt and support the Strategic Plan currently presented, seconded by Dana Mann-Tavegia, motion carried.

OUT OF STATE RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT CENTER

Fred Hansen asked the WSBE for approval to have the New Hope Carolinas as an out-of-state Residential Treatment Center for a court ordered student placement.

Jan Torres moved to approve the New Hope Carolina's as an out-of-state facility, seconded by Phil Orton, motion carried.

SET ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE

June 15-16 in Riverton
September 20 22 – TBD (Retreat)
November 17-18 in Casper
January 13-14 in Cheyenne
April 11-12 – TBD (TOY)
June 16-17 in Newcastle

UPDATE ON DROP OUT MEDIA CAMPAIGN

Phil Orton has been in contract with Ernie Over at Wyoming, Inc. and he is working on the contract. Official Board approval for the contract and an action item for moving forward with the Wyoming Community Foundation will be on the June meeting agenda. Mary Kay and Joe Reichardt will talk with the Foundation for use as a funnel for donated funds. Joe Simpson suggested a fund raising brochure be developed and contain information on the Foundation to show the connection.

At 12:30 p.m. Larry McGarvin moved that the Wyoming State Board of Education adjourn and reconvene as the Wyoming State Board of Vocational Education, seconded by Joe Reichardt, motion carried.