



Mission: To be a world class, student-focused, community of teaching and learning.

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
BLAINE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 61
TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2011 – 6:30 P.M.
DISTRICT OFFICE

Board Member Steve Guthrie made a motion to convene to Closed Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code §67-2345(1)(b) to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student. The motion was seconded by Dan Parke and passed unanimously by roll call vote:

Julie Dahlgren: Aye

Dan Parke: Aye

Steve Guthrie: Aye

Paul Bates: Aye

Kathryn Graves: Aye

Present were Board Chair Julie Dahlgren and Board Members Dan Parke, Steve Guthrie, Paul Bates and Kathryn Graves.

Board Chair Julie Dahlgren stated that a quorum was present.

I. Closed Executive Session

- a. Pursuant to Idaho Code §67-2345(1)(b) to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student.**

The Board discussed a personnel matter.

There being no further business to discuss, the Board of Trustees convened to Open Session.

II. Convene to Open Session

No action was taken as a result of the Closed Executive Session.

REGULAR MAY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

For complete details, please logon to the Blaine County School District website www.blaineschools.org and watch the streamed broadcast of the Regular May Board meeting.

III. Call to Order and Welcome

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

V. Any Additions, Corrections, Modifications or Substitutions to the Current Agenda

Board Member Kathryn Graves made a motion to amend the current agenda with the following changes:

1. Addition of agenda items:

VIII. Consent Agenda

g. Approval of Personnel – Exiting and Entering

Classified Staff – Exiting

Christian Ayala-Casalez – English as a New Language

Paraprofessional – Wood River High School

Certified Staff – Recommending for Hire

***Liji Waite – 1.0 FTE Social Studies Dual Immersion Teacher
(Spanish/English), Grades 9-12 – Wood River High School***

2. Removal of agenda item:

XI. Board Chair Report – Julie Dahlgren

b. Board Self-Assessment Tallies

The motion was seconded by Steve Guthrie and passed unanimously.

VI. Accolades

a. Wood River High School Music Students

From Max Stimac, Wood River High School Choral Music Teacher:

Dear Staff,

Here are the results from the Heritage Music Festival.

31 Schools from around the United States (including Alaska) and Canada participated (over 2600 students) in the competition.

Wood River made a clean sweep of all the Trophies.

Trophies:

Heritage Festival Sweepstakes (top school combined)

Choral Sweepstakes (top choirs combined)

Instrumental Sweepstakes (Band and Orchestra combined)

Outstanding Choir - Colla Voce

Outstanding Band - Dixie Band

Outstanding Chamber Orchestra

Medal:

Concert Choir - Gold Medal and 1st place

Colla Voce - Gold Medal

B-Tone - Gold Medal

Dixie Band - Gold Medal

Orchestra - Silver Medal and 1st place

Concert Band - Silver Medal and 1st place

Jazz Band Silver Medal

I hope I didn't forget anything.

Tony, Rebecca and I would like to thank you all for your tremendous support.

Max Stimac, Choral Music

Wood River High School

April 27, 2011 front page Mountain Express article by Sabina Dana Plasse:

WRHS Music Students Sweep Anaheim Competition

Champions are made through practice and community

During the 2010 winter holidays, parents called the Idaho Mountain Express with desperation in their voices asking the newspaper to print information about a Christmas tree removal fundraiser for the Wood River High School band. Students needed to raise money to attend the Heritage Music Festival Competition in Anaheim, California on April 16.

At \$475 per student, the trip to Anaheim would be costly. Many students did not have the money, nor did their parents. But the more than 100 music and choral students who had worked and practiced year-round for this competition were not going to let a recession keep them from participating.

Kids raised \$100 to \$200 on their own, selling cotton candy at football games, Domino's Pizza coupons and candles at Christmas time. In addition, there were iPod raffles, a rock-a-thon chair rocking fundraiser and donations from the Papoose Club.

"We gave scholarships to the kids who really needed help," said music teacher Tony Randall. "The parent chaperones for the trip also helped with the fundraising."

Three months later, the Wood River students won more awards than any other participating school. Their performance was beyond everyone's expectations, including their own.

Students from the high school have attended the festival since 2004—among the more than 2,400 students from across the nation who perform. This year, 137 Wood River students attended. They represented the Wood River Concert Band, Jazz Band and Dixie Band, all led by Randall; the Chamber Orchestra, led by Rebecca Martin; and the Concert Choir and Colla Voce, the women's chamber choir, led by Max Stimac. Also participating were the B-Tones, the men's chamber choir led by R.L. Rowsey from the Sun Valley Summer Symphony School of Music.

Three chartered buses went to Anaheim, where students spent Friday relaxing at Disneyland and Saturday performing for the adjudicators and the 30 other competing groups.

Besides wanting to win, the biggest incentive for all the students to perform well was a bet with Stimac. If they won the competition, he told them at a rehearsal, he would get a Mickey Mouse tattoo.

"They started working hard," he said.

Plans for the tattoo are now pending.

"I had no idea we would do so well," Stimac said. "The competition is very strong."

To prepare for competition, the students met Monday through Friday for 70 minutes a day all through the school year. Other practice sessions were at 7 a.m. In addition, they gave a series of practice concerts.

"The concerts went well," he said. "One song was really hard. They really had to work hard at it before going. The kids practiced and practiced."

Each group that gets a medal also gets a ranking. The ranking is determined by scores out of 100 points. Three judges add scores for medals and placement for highest points. This is the first year the Wood River High School students won all the coveted trophies. Colla Voce won Outstanding Choir; the Chamber Orchestra, Outstanding Chamber

Orchestra; the Dixie Band, Outstanding Band; the three vocal groups combined, the Choral Sweepstakes; and the bands and orchestra combined, the Instrumental Sweepstakes. The entire music department won the Festival Sweepstakes trophy, the top prize of the festival.

"This win has set the standard for excellence," Stimac said.

Randall said the trip was not about going to Disneyland, it was about the competition. Disneyland was a perk and a bonus.

"These kids have zero ego," Randall said. "They are professional and very well behaved. My favorite part of the trip was to spend time with them."

b. Accolade for a Group of Teachers

From the April 20, 2011 edition of the Mountain Express – Letters of Thanks:

I want to thank all the people in this valley for making this valley my home and a warm place to grow up in and remember as I look back as I start my journey in Fort Benning, Georgia.

I want to thank all the people that helped me through school: Dr. Barber, Mr. Blackman, Mrs. Blackburn, Mrs. Bailey, Mr. Glen, Mr. Torseth, Mr. Trenkle, Mrs. Baybutt, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Sauvageu, Mrs. Azorski, Mrs. Andrews, Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Porth and Mr. Richards. You guys will always have a special place in my heart.

To Mr. Peters: You always told me that I had the ability to become a leader, and I promise I will. I will miss you all, especially my Gilman's and LARZ! To my family, I Love you. (Graduated two months early!) Class of 2011, Peace and good luck in life! God bless the Wood River Valley.

Tania Lopez

VII. Wood River Middle School Student Leadership Report

Principal Fritz Peters and Wood River Middle School students Real Weatherly, Grace Gorham, Niki Penrose, Jack Rizzo, and Sandra Murillo presented the Wood River Middle School Student Leadership Report to the Board.

[Please click here to view the Wood River Middle School presentation.](#)

VIII. Consent Agenda

a. Consideration of Minutes

Special and Regular April Board Meetings – April 13, 2011

Special Meeting of the Board – April 20, 2011
Special Meeting of the Board – April 28, 2011

b. Acceptance of Monthly Financial Report – Payment of Bills

Please click here to view the April 2010 financial reports.

c. Application for Student/Travel by Student Group – Tony Randall, Wood River High School Music Teacher

d. Approval of Request for Up to Twelve-Week Family Leave

e. Approval of Request for Up to Twelve-Week Family Leave

f. Rehire Continuing Contract Teachers, Category A Contract Teachers and Administrators for the 2011-2012 School Year

g. Approval of Personnel – Exiting and Entering

Classified Staff – Exiting

*Tracy Evans – Administrative Assistant – DSB – Buildings & Grounds
*Retirement 7/1/11

*Fred Evans – Custodian – Bellevue Elementary School
*Retirement 6/1/11

*Wendy Wenglikowski – Bus Driver – DSB – Transportation Department
*Retirement 9/1/11

Christian Ayala-Casalez – English as a New Language Paraprofessional –
Wood River High School

Certified Staff – Exiting

Trisha Eddy – 5th Grade Elementary Teacher – Woodside Elementary School

*Hollis Pincock – Music Teacher – Carey School
*Retirement 9/1/11

Certified Staff – Recommending for Hire

Amy Meierotto – 1st Grade Dual Immersion (Spanish) Teacher – Bellevue
Elementary School (Category “A” Contract)

Liji Waite – 1.0 FTE Social Studies Dual Immersion Teacher (Spanish/English),
Grades 9-12) – Wood River High School

Board Member Steve Guthrie made a motion to approve items “a” through “g” of the Consent Agenda.

Board Member Paul Bates recused himself from voting on the Consent Agenda concerning item “f”.

The motion was seconded by Dan Parke and passed by roll call vote.

Julie Dahlgren: Aye

Dan Parke: Aye

Steve Guthrie: Aye

Kathryn Graves: Aye

IX. Public Comments

a. Larry Schoen

Dear Board of Trustees,

Re: Dual Immersion Curriculum and Planning

Please accept these general comments with respect to tonight's agenda Item XIV, Dual Immersion. I write as a parent of two Dual Immersion students, both in 4th grade at Woodside Elementary.

School District Staff held a meeting for Dual Immersion Staff and Parents last Wednesday May 4, 2011 at WRMS. This meeting was successful in that the presentation, while complex, was clear, thoughtful, informative and, from my perspective, responsive to the many issues that have emerged in many prior DI parent meetings. I also appreciated the respectful meeting atmosphere. May I offer my compliments to the Curriculum and DI Directors and Staff who contributed to it.

May I offer also my very strong support for these three key elements of the presentation, which form the core for the future of the Dual Immersion Program in BCSD that you are being asked to consider:

*1) **Development and implementation of Spanish Language Standards:** These standards for Spanish language acquisition should be considered essential to the DI curriculum. This element should proceed as soon as possible. The standards will cover all learning components, language and content. In the view of many, the language component has been inadequate in the current model of immersion instruction. The establishment of standards, importantly, will facilitate better articulation of a vision for the DI program and promulgate common understanding and acceptance of goals and expectations. For example, "By X grade in Dual Immersion, my child will have achieved Y...."*

2) **Proficiency-based instruction model, including proficiency-based placement:** *The goals and effects of this multi-track model are well-covered in the presentation. In time, the same approach ought to be adopted for students entering Middle School. Changes ought to begin for those students coming up in the program, to prepare them for this transition.*

3) **Magnet school, K-5:** *This proposal makes sense for the reasons highlighted by the presentation and I would support it. With apologies to Mr. Henson for not having spoken with him about this, it does make sense that Woodside should become the magnet school, as has been proposed in the past. I realize it is not big enough; also, that the District has experienced some problems with modular classrooms. If a magnet school is the chosen course, however, solving the problems with modulars will be easy relative to gaining acceptance for Halley or Bellevue as the magnet school.*

Thank you for your consideration of my remarks, sincerely and

*With respect,
Lawrence Schoen*

b. Penfield Stroh

Even though I am no longer a parent of a Dual Immersion student, I went to the meeting the other night and I thought Molly Michalec put a lovely presentation together and I thought it was very comprehensive. I have not been involved in any Dual Immersion issues in the last few years, but I just wanted to comment that if there had been a magnet school, or if my child while he was in the program, which I think is a very good program, had not moved from school to school, in other words, if he got to go to the school and stay in the same school, instead of the additional stress of moving from school to school over the years, we would still be in the program. I just think it's a terrific program and I think the idea of a magnet school is a good idea. Personally I'd love to see it happen without the addition of another school. I think if you pull 80 children from Hailey, then 80 spots will open up in Hailey, and if you pull three or six classes from Bellevue, then three or six classes will open up in Bellevue, if you chose Woodside as the school. So I think there are possibilities without building; that's my thought. Thank you.

X. Guest Presentation

a. Arts In Education Programming – Denise Simone and John Glenn, Company of Fools

Please click here to view Denise Simone and John Glenn's presentation: BCSD & Company of Fools – Creating Together: A partnership that Works

XI. Board Chair Report – Julie Dahlgren

a. School Board Listening Session Report – *What Makes a Great Education and How do you Define It?*

Approximately 80 people attended the listening session in Ketchum at the YMCA on April 25, 2011, which is similar to the attendance at the November Town Hall. There were many familiar faces, which is good; but I'm hoping our next meeting will engage more folks – that silent majority we talk about. The Board heard many things that we are delivering in our Strategic Plan and new ideas beyond that scope.

The 17 exit surveys indicated the evening was a success and genuine appreciation was expressed for our teacher experts, which were an integral part of this success. Many indicated they would like to have been able to go to more sessions than two out of five. The topics were narrowed to 21st Century Skills, rigorous curriculum, teacher/classrooms, technology, and the whole child.

Now, what to do with the 300 comments and notes? Do we tweak the Strategic Plan? Do we incorporate some of the ideas into our Board goals? Should I have that definition for you tonight? I'm just digesting the ideas and look forward to discussing them with fellow Board Members. They will be a rich source of patron input for the new Board.

By having two Town Halls with patrons this school year, we have started a conversation that no doubt will be continued by the new Board. Bear with us as we experiment with new protocols and designs in our continuum of communication efforts. We are looking for maximum progress and maximum participation.

A special thanks to the Hemingway teachers (Char Roth, Barb Feehan, Tracy Atwell, Alicia Hollis, Scott Slonim, Jana Fitzpatrick, Kate Parnes, Kevin Stilling and Carla Scanlon) who helped facilitate this meeting after a full teaching day. Now, that's a true demonstration of professionalism and caring for the best of the District—our students. Duane Sorenson and his catering crew did an excellent job keeping the energy flowing with delicious food. And lastly thank you, Heather Crocker, for organizing, advertising, compiling data, and helping us reach our communication goals.

XII. Action Agenda

a. Approval of 2011-2012 School Year Calendar – Keith Nelson, Wood River High School Assistant Principal

[Please click here to view the Blaine County School District 2011-2012 School Year Calendar.](#)

Board Member Steve Guthrie made a motion to approve 2011-2012 School Year Calendar as presented. The motion was seconded by Paul Bates and passed unanimously.

b. Approval of Master Agreement for the 2011-2012 School Year – Julie Dahlgren, Board Chair

Blaine County School District ventured into new negotiating territory this year with the passage of new Idaho legislation that affected and defined what could be negotiated, eliminated any chance of multi-year agreements (Evergreen Clause), and required that all negotiating sessions, except for team caucuses, be held in public. I was surprised to see public apathy and except for the first morning of press attendance, the public virtually stayed away. If they had been there they would have seen the civility of the Interest Based Bargaining method used by the two very prepared teams. They should be congratulated on reaching a win-win agreement within four days. What is unique is that there also is an understanding and agreement that teachers will be at the table when contract items are placed into policy. The law mandates the following items be taken out of the master contract:

- Grievance procedure
- Class Size
- Professional employee protection
- Job sharing
- Certain Blaine County Education Association rights
- Evaluation procedure
- Reduction in Force procedure

Teacher Team: Tryntje Van Slyke, Liz Young, Tom Van Slyke, Mike Walsh, Kari Haugen, and Brian Sturges.

Administrative Team: Lonnie Barber, Mike Chatterton, Fritz Peters, Patty McLean, John Blackman, and Julie Dahlgren.

Pete Black, a former educator and legislator from Pocatello, Idaho, was our outside facilitator and helped with the IBB process. Joni Cashman and Marsha Azorsky shared scribing responsibilities and Kandy Blackburn masterfully formatted the Master Contract as was agreed upon and ratified by the Blaine County Education Association on May 9, 2011. 98.5% of votes cast approved the Master Agreement; 63% of BCEA (Blaine County Education Association) eligible members voted. Remember that BCEA represents all teachers, not just BCEA members.

The decision-making was based on a set of standards set by the teams:

- Is it legal?
- Is it fair?
- Is it fiscally responsible?
- Is it workable/practical to administrate?
- Is there mutual gain?
- Is it in the interest of student learning?
- Is it easy to understand?
- Is it acceptable to all stakeholders?

The Master Agreement will be in place from July 1, 2011 to June 29, 2012 and will cover 190 work days. It is restricted to Compensation and Benefits in accordance with the law:

Benefits:

A savings clause and a MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) that guarantees that any new laws or changes will be negotiated.

Health, Dental, Life Insurance, and Employee Assistance Plan shall be provided without cost to the employee (approximately \$300,000 increase to provide same level of protection).

The Sick Leave Bank remains as is.

Eleven (11) Leaves are provided:

- Sick Leave
- Bereavement
- Personal Leave with Pay
- Family Medical Leave (FMLA)
- Maternity Leave
- Leave Without Pay, (includes Sabbaticals and Child-rearing)
- Jury Duty and Subpoena for Court Appearance
- Military Leave
- Leave to Become a Candidate for Public Office
- Association Leave
- Professional Leave Time

Compensation:

A 2% cost of living increase on the base for teachers (approximately \$600,000).

The “steps and ladders” system will remain in place (approximately \$610,000).

A Memorandum of Understanding is also included:

- a) Employees reaching step 20 will receive a one (1) year, one-time, 1% increase for the 2011-2012 school year. The amount shall be as follows:

MA+0/BA+45=\$801

MA+9=\$833

These funds were made available through the Education Jobs Fund Program (Public Law No. 111-226, August 10, 2010).

b) PERSI Choice Plan Contribution ARRA Funds

The District will make a contribution to a PERSI Choice Plan 401(k) account for each classified and certified employee eligible in accordance with provisions of the ARRA (Federal Jobs Ed Bill). Each eligible employee (approximately 477) will receive an equal share of \$388,928 (2/3 of the ARRA funds available) minus the sum of money noted in the MOU (approximately \$94,000) used to fund the one-time 1% addition to the year 20 step on the certified salary schedule. The distributions shall be made in December 2011 based on the 2010-2011 salary schedule, step 20, lanes MA0/BA45 and MA9 only. The Board shall retain the remaining 1/3 of the ARRA funds (\$149,169) to offset the funding of full day kindergarten and pre-school programs and extended day programs.

- c) If by court order, legislative action or some other determination as to the validity of current legislation affecting the contents of a negotiated agreement, during the span of this negotiated agreement the parties will reconvene to negotiate the return of articles moved to board policy from the prior master agreement into an amended master agreement for 2011-2012.

I recommend that The Blaine County Board of Trustees accept the Master Agreement between Blaine County School District No. 61 and the Blaine County Education Association with the Memorandum of Understanding for 2011-2012.

Board Member Steve Guthrie made a motion to accept the Master Agreement between Blaine County School District No. 61 and the Blaine County Education Association with the Memorandum of Understanding for 2011-2012.

Board Member Paul Bates recused himself from voting on the stated motion.

The motion was seconded by Dan Parke and passed by roll call vote.

Julie Dahlgren: Aye

Dan Parke: Aye

Steve Guthrie: Aye

Kathryn Graves: Aye

c. Approval of Community Campus Auditorium Remodel Committee's Recommendation -- Buffalo Rixon, Ruscitto, Latham & Blanton and Preston Ziegler, Sawtooth Construction

Please click here to view the Community Campus Auditorium Remodel Committee's recommendation of Design Scheme "C".

Board Member Kathryn Graves made a motion to approve the Community Campus Auditorium Remodel Committee's recommendation of Design Scheme "C" with the preliminary budget of \$1,270,518. The motion was seconded by Dan Parke and passed unanimously.

d. Permission to Publish 2011-2012 Budget – Mike Chatterton, School District Treasurer

Mike Chatterton asked the Board for permission to publish the 2011-2012 School District Budget in the Mountain Express in the issues of June 1 and June 8, 2011. The Annual Budget Hearing Workshop is scheduled June 8, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. in the District Office Board Room.

Board Member Dan Parke made a motion to grant permission to publish the 2011-2012 Blaine County School District Budget in the Mountain Express. The motion was seconded by Paul Bates and passed unanimously.

e. Permission for the Wood River High School football team to use Blaine County School District football equipment from June 20, 2011 through June 30, 2011 to prepare for and participate in the WRHS Football Camp and Southwest Idaho Team Camp with the understanding the Idaho High Schools Association sponsored catastrophic insurance provides no coverage for the activity and any and all liabilities rest solely with the school, camp, or clinic. – Mike Chatterton, School District Treasurer

Board Member Dan Parke made a motion to grant permission for the Wood River High School football team to use Blaine County School District football equipment from June 20, 2011 through June 30, 2011 to prepare for and participate in the WRHS Football Camp and Southwest Idaho Team Camp with the understanding the Idaho High Schools Association sponsored catastrophic insurance provides no coverage for the activity and any and all liabilities rest solely with the school, camp, or clinic. The motion was seconded by Steve Guthrie and passed unanimously.

f. Permission to Advertise for Purchase of School Busses – Rex Squires, Director of Transportation

Please click here to view Rex Squire's memo to the Board regarding purchasing school busses.

Board Member Steve Guthrie made a motion to grant permission to advertise for the purchase of two school busses and two "mini" busses. The motion was seconded by Paul Bates and passed unanimously.

XIII. Information/Action Agenda

a. High School Day Care Proposal – Dr. Lonnie Barber

Please click here to view Dr. Barber's proposal to the Board regarding Teen Mother Day Care.

Board Member Kathryn Graves asked Dr. Barber to bring the Board additional teen pregnancy statistics for consideration at the next Regular Board meeting. The High

School Day Care Proposal will appear on the Action section of the Regular June Board Meeting Agenda.

- b. Approval of QSCB financing to cover the costs associated with building improvements happening this summer – Mike Chatterton, School District Treasurer**

Please click here to view Mike Chatterton's memo to the Board regarding the QSCB Borrowing Program.

Board Member Dan Parke made a motion to approve QSCB financing to cover the costs associated with building improvements scheduled this summer in the amount of \$4.7-million. The motion was seconded by Steve Guthrie and passed unanimously.

XIV. Information Agenda

- a. Overview and Sustainability of Dual Immersion – Molly Michalec, Latino Services Coordinator & Dual Immersion/LEP Coordinator**

Please click here to view *A Conceptual Framework for a Sustainable K-12 Dual Immersion Model*. This presentation was viewed by Dual Immersion Teachers May 3, 2011 and by Dual Immersion Parents on May 4, 2011.

The Dual Immersion Program will be brought to the Board in June for adoption of the Proficiency Based Placement for high school Spanish course offerings. The Board will also be asked to approve further exploration into the possibility of a K-5 Dual Immersion Magnet School.

XV. Public Comments Regarding Tonight's Regular Agenda

- a.** Sheri Thomas commented on the Dual Immersion program.
- b.** Tryntje Van Slyke thanked the Board for approving the Master Agreement and commented on the BCSD 2011-2012 Calendar approval process.

There being no further business to discuss, Board Member Steve Guthrie made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dan Parke and passed unanimously.

The Regular May meeting of the Blaine County School District Board of Trustees adjourned at 10:20 p.m.