***Mt. Blue Regional School District Board of Directors***

**Minutes**

**DATE:  October 28, 2014**

**Place:  The Forum-Mt. Blue Campus**

**Time:   Regular Board meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.**

Executive Session-Expulsion of students Title 1 § 405 (6)(B)

Motion to enter into executive session: Jennifer Pooler    Seconded: Helen Wilkey

Vote: Unanimous (746)

Entered into Executive Session at 6:30 p.m.

Exited Executive Session at 8:12 p.m.

**Board Members Present:** Mark Prentiss, Claire Andrews, Ken Charles, Ross Clair, ~~Nancy Crosby (E)~~, Richard Hargreaves, Jennifer Zweig Hebert, Betsey Hyde, ~~Tami Labul (E)~~, ~~Angela LeClair (E)~~, Jennifer Pooler, Yvette Robinson, Iris Silverstein, Keith Swett, Helen Wilkey,  JT Williams, and  ~~Autumn Clair (E)~~

**Also Present**: Tracy Williams, Gary Oswald, Darcy Dunphy (left before meeting), David Leavitt (left before meeting) Bruce Mochamer

I.         Call to Order at 8:15 p.m.

Motion was made from Executive Session to suspend student A for an additional 5 days out of school and 15 days in school: Claire Andrews      Seconded: Iris Silverstein

Vote: Unanimous (746)

II.         Consideration of the Minutes of October 14, 2014

 Motion to approve:  Jennifer Pooler                            Seconded:Keith Swett

Correction: Students were not present at the October 14, 2014 Board of Directors meeting.  Claire’s name should have an e.

Vote: 11/0/1 (Ken Charles) (662/84)

III.         Report of the Chairperson

A.     Good news stories from Board/Admin

JT Williams shared news about visiting a nursing home with the football team.

IV.         Administrator’s update:

Tracy Williams shared a hand out about Mallett School with board.  There is a different school make-up this year. The school is down about 100 students since third grade has moved on and less staff too.  Tracy didn’t want third grade to leave at first, but now it provides for more room in the building and increased interaction among staff because there are less of them.

Tracy shared a list of academic and behavioral committees including RTI A and RTI B (MTSS), Collaborative Problem Solving Team, PBIS, and PLCs.  Meetings take place almost every morning and afternoon except Friday afternoon.  Most of the staff members are part of one of the committees or teams.

PLC meetings are at the core of instruction.  There is a rotation between ELA and Math at every PLC.  Lots of teaching strategies and problem solving takes place at these meetings to improve student learning.

Tracy shared traditions and special events that are held at Mallett School.  Book Week is coming the first week of November!  All second graders will have a chance to be a student of the week.  The school has implemented Morning Meeting four days a week to build relationships, community, social skills, and connectedness.

Lots of support from PTA, but membership has declined!  They have helped by running fundraisers and hosting dinners.

We are also providing a 1,2,3 Magic Parenting Class with the Children’s Task Force currently in the fall and again in the spring.

Tracy also shared what the school is doing during Late Arrival time as well as that there are three school-wide goals - Literacy, Math, Behavior.

Tracy reported that some challenges with technology are still occurring, but that meetings are taking place with the companies to try to solve the issues.

V.         Old Business

A.              Personnel

New Hire(s)

Wendy Mairs Ross          Ed. Tech. III Special Ed.    Mallett

        Krista Nigals                    Ed. Tech II Special Ed.     Mallett

        Chris Duvall                     Security/Custodian           Mt. Blue Campus

        Keirra Keenan                   Car Driver                        Bus Garage

VI.       New Business

A.              Presentation- “Does homework benefit Middle School Students?” – Hunter Donald, Jack Cushman and Isabell Fifield

Jack and Isabell shared the benefits and concerns of homework in Middle School.  Homework provides useful practice, but it does create a significant amount of stress.  Their opinion - Homework is horrible.  It poses challenges of getting enough sleep and participating in after school activities.  Most of their peers agree.

Question: How many students responded to the survey?

Answer: 85 out of 90 students responded to the survey.

Question: What is the difference between homework and learning you have to do outside of school?

Answer: Independent work and learning is important, but kids need time to socialize and get out energy. Homework detracts from these things.

Question: Any pro homework?

Answer: Maybe about 4%.

Question: Did you survey parents and teachers?

Answer: No parents were surveyed, but a website stated that 72% of parents didn’t like homework.

Question: Is there time to do homework during class?

Answer: Strictly homework assignments. Class is already full.

Betsey Hyde shared that she is not a fan of homework because it cuts into family time.  Balance is really important.

There is more homework being given out now than in the past due to current demands.

 Motion to extend the meeting: Betsey Hyde Seconded: Jennifer Zweig Hebert

 Vote: Unanimous (746)

B. Additional Board Meeting dates, November 13, 2014 and December 18, 2014

Might need a hearing on next Monday, Nov. 3 at 7:00 pending an investigation.

Meet on November 18 and on November 25.  Could cancel Nov. 25 if not needed.  NO MEETING Nov. 13.

Meet only on the 9th in December.

C. Director of Curriculum/Assistant Superintendent’s Report-Leanne Condon

D.         Superintendent’s Report-Dr. Thomas J. Ward

 Nothing at this time.

Question by Jennifer Pooler: Why is there no time for public comment on the agenda?  When should the public come in?

Mark Prentiss suggested putting on further agenda.

VII. Adjournment: 9:12 p.m.

**NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS:**

**All meetings are held in The Forum at Mt. Blue Campus at 7:00 pm unless noted.**

**November 18, 2014                                               December 9, 2014**

**November 25, 2014                                               January 13, 2015**