Morton School District #214
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
February 16, 2016

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Pat Saldaña called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm, board members present are Ms. Pat Saldaña, Mr. Warren Dunlap, Mrs. Betty Hutchison and Mr. Chase Buffington. Mr. Josh Austin is absent and excused for the meeting. A quorum is present.

The flag salute was given.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Mrs. Betty Hutchison made motion to adopt the agenda with the addition of item 9.4 under New Business to Approve Resolution No. 2015-16/08 and 11.1 under Executive Session to discuss qualifications of a candidate, Mr. Chase Buffington seconded and the motion carried with all in favor. The vote carried 4-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Warren Dunlap made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular board meeting held on January 19, 2016. Mrs. Betty Hutchison seconded and the motion carried with all in favor. The vote carried 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mrs. Rhonda Krolczyk addressed the board as the MEA President. She wanted to thank the board, and thank everyone for their work in the passing of the levy. Mrs. Krolczyk wanted to touch on the subject of chronic absenteeism. The K-4 PLC is working on a tracking system and looking at research to come up with ideas. Mrs. Krolczyk discussed the tools used and that can be used to address this issue. Mrs. Krolczyk listed the number of students in each grade at the Elementary that are on track to be missing 18+ days by the end of the year, we are currently at 34 students at the Elementary. We are always working on ways to improve this. Mr. Warren wanted to know if this is a family issue, such as are there siblings that are consistent. Mrs. Krolczyk stated there are a few, and we are making multiple phone calls in the morning to make sure they get to school. Mrs. Betty Hutchison asked if these students have health issues. Mrs. Krolczyk stated she was not sure, but very little if there are. Mr. Chase Buffington asked about Saturday make up days, and if that is an option. Mr. Hannah answered state we would need to look into this. Mr. Warren Dunlap wanted to know if there is a policy that won't allow students to move up in grades with chronic absenteeism? Mr. Hannah

stated no, there is state law stating we cannot do that. Mr. Warren Dunlap asked who is doing the Becca's? Mr. Hannah stated both principals are doing this. Ms. Saldana asked what Becca is? Mr. Hannah explained the Becca Bill process and the story in which it was established. Mrs. Krolczyk stated the data didn't include any students who had yoyo'd in and out of the district. She also stated that in conferences and call homes with families, we are pushing the issue of absenteeism. Mrs. Hutchison asked if the Becca Bill pushed this back on the parent's? Mr. Hannah explained that this goes up to the Lewis County Juvenile Court, but if we file a Becca today for a student at this time in the year, there is a possibility that we wouldn't be called on until this time next year. Mr. Hannah explained the consequences of what can come from a Becca Filing.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mr. Chase Buffington made a motion to approve the vouchers for the month of February and payroll vouchers for the month of January. Mr. Warren Dunlap seconded and the motion carried with all in favor. Ms. Pat Saldana asked what the clothing reimbursement was for, Mr. Hannah explained this was from the Title 1 grant, we were able to purchase some clothing and distribute to some students. Ms. Saldana also asked why we have 3 mail boxes as they are expensive, Mrs. Carlie Womack stated the District PO Box is regularly full. Ms. Saldana also asked what TSA is? Mr. Hannah explained. The vote carried 4-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

Mr. John Hannah, Superintendent. Mr. Hannah went over the legislative conference. The fires from this summer put a damper on the budget, and will be taken away from the McCleary payments. Mr. Hannah stated it was a disappointing conference, the legislature will be going back to the Supreme Court in April. Mr. Hannah discussed that there is a possibility that year 1 teacher salaries may be increased. Mr. Hannah also stated we are hearing about possibly having retired teachers be exempt from the working hours to be able to sub and be retired. Mr. Hannah also discussed that there are two definitions of a school day, one being 180 days and 1080 hours. Mr. Hannah stated we already meet these requirements. Mrs. Hutchison wanted clarification that the first year teacher salaries would be increased? Mr. Hannah stated yes, they are looking at bumping it to $40,500. Mr. Dunlap stated they would overlap with the second year salary. Mr. Hannah stated yes, the way this is written right now it would. Mrs. Hutchison wanted to know what was happening with the highly qualified situation. Mr. Hannah stated so far we have heard that they are keeping it in effect at this time. Mrs. Hutchison asked about the bill for teacher negotiations to be open to the public. Mr. Hannah stated the intent would be to keep state negotiations more open, but the way it was written it

would affect all government agencies. Ms. Saldana asked what the point of this was. Mr. Hannah stated so the legislative could be more involved. Mrs. Hutchison stated and because there is a lot of money being talked about in bigger districts like Seattle.

Mrs. April Kaech, Financial Report. Mrs. April Kaech is absent from the meeting, however her report was provided to the board and Mr. Hannah went over the revenue, expenditures and balances for the different funds. Mr. Hannah explained that we did recently increase the Mineral Ranger Station rent in capital projects. Mrs. Hutchison asked if the attorney went over this thoroughly, as he didn't last time. Mr. Hannah stated we may need to do a budget extension, the ASB is very active this year and has higher revenue as well as expenditures this year.

Mr. John Hannah, Jr/Sr. High Principal. Mr. Hannah stated we are up in enrollment. Mr. Stoney, Mr. O'Neil and I are working on possibly updating our weight room, and have purchased the Bigger Faster Stronger curriculum for weight training. Mr. Hannah discussed the teacher report card that were completed last month. This allows students to give feedback to their teachers. Mr. Hannah explained that the teachers are really reflecting on this. Ms. West actually did another one by herself to see improvement. Mr. Hannah stated Spring is coming which means testing season. Staff member of the month is Mr. Jack Royle, he is doing a great job. The FBLA is taking all 8 members to state. Our FFA took 8th overall as a team at Regionals. Mr. Hannah asked Ms. West to discuss the Mock Trial competition tomorrow. Ms. West is taking 9 students, we are the only school from Lewis County participating, so we were invited to attend in Vancouver. They will be competing 9 times. Ms. Pat Saldana shared that Judge Steven Gonzales would love to come give a talk with the students. Ms. West stated we have Judge Buzzard invite the students to the court room to practice and help. Ms. West would love to have him come see the students. Mr. Hannah stated the Mock Trial Club is all Ms. West's doing. She will be taking a camera with her to possibly have Mr. Royle put the footage together.

Mr. Josh Brooks, Elementary Principal. Mr. Josh Brooks is absent from the meeting, however his report was provided to the board, Mr. Hannah presented his report. Cindy Neace came to the Elementary for Math professional development. Mr. Hannah explained her theory of discourse and how well her training is going at White Pass, we will continue on with her throughout the year and possibly next year. Staff member of the month, is Mrs. Tina Walker, Mr. Hannah doesn't know what to say about her, besides she's amazing. She excels at her position and is the first face of the Elementary. Ms. Saldana asked what grade levels the math training will focus on. Mr. Hannah stated she is being paid from Title 1 funds, so K-6th grade.

Mr. Josh Stoney, Jr/Sr. High Vice Principal. Mr. Stoney reiterated the great job that the ASB is doing with the FFA, FBLA and Mock Trials. Mr. Stoney is working with Mr. Royle to do highlights from throughout the year. Mr. Stoney stated we saw a spike in referrals this month. The 7th grade was the high need this month, we are doing check in/check out with some of the 7th graders. We are working on doing some more reward activities. Mr. Stoney stated Mrs. Wright took a group of no referrals bowling. We are planning another reward activity in March. Students of the month are Kenna Lewis and Manuel Martinez for Jr. High, and Emily Urban and Luis Pena in High School. Ms. Pat Saldana asked if the board received the link for the students news cast. The board discussed how awesome this was.

OLD BUSINESS:

Approve New or Revised Board Policies and Procedures

Mr. Chase Buffington made a motion to approve the new or revised board policies and procedures. Mrs. Betty Hutchison seconded and the motion carried with all in favor. The vote carried 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approve 2016-17 School Calendar

Mr. Chase Buffington made a motion to approve the 2016-17 School Calendar. Mrs. Betty Hutchison seconded and the motion carried with all in favor. Mrs. Hutchison asked if there were any big changes. Mr. Hannah stated this meets the contractual language negotiated with the MEA. Mr. Warren Dunlap asked if it had been agreed upon by the MEA. Mr. Hannah explained at negotiations it was agreed upon to have a perpetual calendar with stipulations to create a yearly calendar. Mr. Warren Dunlap asked if the March days off allow for a 16 team state tournament? Mr. Hannah stated there is a 16 team tournamant this year. Mr. Dunlap asked if those dates fall on the tournalment day. Mr. Hannah stated he is not sure, it is written by the contractual language. The vote carried 4-0.

Approve Resignation of Mrs. Angela Grantham, Bus Driver and Mr. Jared Lachine, Desktop Support

Mr. Chase Buffington made a motion to approve the resignation of Mrs. Angela Grantham and Mr. Jared Lachine. Mr. Warren Dunlap seconded and the motion carried with all in favor. Mr. Warren Dunlap asked if we were replacing Mr. Lachine? Mr. Hannah stated no. Ms. Saldana asked if we need desktop support. Mr. Hannah stated our contracted tech person does not feel it is necessary at this time. Mr. Dunlap asked if we are short a bus driver at this time. Mr. Hannah stated we are able to sub right now, but have posted the position. The vote carried 4-0.

Approve Coaching Hires and Renewals

Item 9.3 was broken up to remove Mrs. Casey Dunlap from the list. Mr. Warren Dunlap obstained from the vote as this is a conflict of interest. Mr. Chase Buffington made a motion to approve Mrs. Casey Dunlap Assistant Jr. High Track Coach. Mrs. Betty Hutchison seconded and the motion carried with all in favor, a vote of 3-0.

Mr. Warren Dunlap made a motion to approve the remaining listed coaching hires and renewals. Mrs. Betty Hutchison seconded and the motion carried with all in favor. The vote carried 4-0.

FApprove Resolution No. 2015-16/08, State of Emergency for Immediate Repair

Mr. Chase Buffington made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2015-16/08, State of Emergency for Immediate Repair. Mr. Warren Dunlap seconded and the motion carried with all in favor. Ms. Pat Saldana asked Mr. Hannah to explain. Mr. Hannah explained the pipe that carries water from the boiler room to the Jr. High end of the building for heating has broken. We are not sure exactly where this is underground. The water is going in underneath the foundation, we have lost thousands of water over the weekend. Mr. Hannah doesn't believe we will go over the $75,000 threshold for the bidding process. We have an estimate of $56,000-$65,000. With the resolution, we want to make sure we protect ourselves that we don't go over the $75,000. Mr. Chase Buffington asked who the company is doing the repair. Mr. Hannah stated McKinstry will doing repair. Ms. Saldana explained that McKinstry had updated the heating system 2 years ago, but this pipe was not part of the update. Mr. Hannah explained the options for the clean up and repair. Once temperatures drop below 65 degrees, we would need to shut down school by state law. Mr. Mrs. Hutchison asked if there was a way we could use the old pipe as a sleeve to put a new pipe in? Mr. Hannah stated he isn't sure at this time yet. Mr. Hannah stated hopefully the leak detection will work discover what the actual issue is. Mr. Chase Buffington stated that would be helpful. Mr. Chase Buffington stated the new piping now days is amazing and if we could go above ground it would most likely be cheaper. Ms. Saldana would be concerned about safe guarding the exposed pipe as it has hot water in it. Mrs. Hutchison asked how long this will take to fix. Mr. Hannah stated we don't even know that information since the leak detection hasn't taken place yet. Mrs. Hutchison asked since this is an emergency, but we aren't sure when the other company will come, could we do a 3 bid process? Mr. Hannah stated potentially, yes. Mr. Chase Buffington stated he had a large leak at Cispus and used DJ's Plumbing who did a great job. Ms. Saldana asked if there is a plan of what to do if the heat goes below the threshold. Mr. Hannah stated we will look at moving students to the other end of the building, but he is not sure if that would meet the law because part of the building would be cold. Ms. Saldana asked if we would shut down the elementary also. Mr. Hannah stated yes, this would add another day to bus driver times and pay. Mrs. Hutchison asked that Mr. Hannah get another quote from another company. Mr. Hannah stated yes, he can do that. The vote carried 4-0.

BOARD REPORTS:

Ms. Saldana asked Mr. Hannah to discuss the electric sign. Mr. Hannah stated this is an electric sign that would be community owned by different entities. The cost to the district would be $5,000, but we are working on a grant. John Casey is working on an interlocal agreement with the city. Mrs. Betty Hutchison asked if the board would need to approve this? Mr. Hannah stated no, not at a $5,000 limit. It was discussed what the limitations were for the sign. Ms. Saldana asked if the interlocal agreement would dictate who would be updating the sign. Mrs. Hutchison stated the Chamber. Mr. Hannah stated we are working on changing that to the school since we have the most events.

Ms. Saldana asked for a levy update. Mr. Hannah stated we are at 68% until the counts close. We are still second place, but are pretty happy about it. Mr. Chase Buffington wanted to mention the staff, teachers, and principals holding signs on the street. Mr. Hannah wanted to send out a huge thank you to two community members, Mrs. Debbie Elizaga who is the Levy Committee Chair, and Mr. Mike Fairhart who placed over 70 signs.

Ms. Saldana asked if Mr. Hannah would be taking any vacation days. Mr. Hannah stated yes, he is taking 1 vacation day. Mr. Hannah may also need to take another to do a wedding for a former student. He is also speaking in March at the Small Schools Conference.

Ms. Saldana asked for more information regarding the Mineral Ranger Station negotiations. There was an update about the building changes that when a code changed, that the district would be responsible. This was changed that only if there is a state requirement that ALL buildings update.

Ms. Saldana stated there is a District 5 WSSDA Meeting on May 5th in the evening at Tumwater. Mrs. Hutchison asked if Mr. Hannah could send out a reminder. Ms. Saldana asked for the board members to notify John, Carlie or herself about wanting to go.

Ms. Saldana stated there is still some question about whether the board really wants to move forward with Policy Governance. She would like everyone to get together and have a meeting to discuss questions and concerns about Policy Governance. She would like 100% of the board on board as a group of 5 to move forward. Mr. Hannah will send out a doodle with dates for the meeting. Mr. Warren Dunlap stated because he has missed so many meetings, he isn't sure he can come up with questions. Mr. Hannah will do another short presentation.

Mrs. Hutchison stated the Fire Mountain Arts Council had a dinner and it was amazing, a ton of people attended, and many students from Morton and White Pass who washed dishes and helped out. Mrs. Hutchison stated she was so impressed with how many students came and how well they worked. She said the food was the best Morton has ever had.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board recessed at 7:23 pm for Executive Session for approximately 30 minutes to discuss the qualifications of a candidate where no decisions will be made. Mr. John Hannah released Mr. Stoney and Mrs. Womack.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 7:50 pm where no decisions were made.

ADJORNMENT: Mrs. Betty Hutchison made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 pm. Mr. Chase Buffington seconded and the motion carried with all in favor. The vote 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Board Chairman

Attest: Board Secretary

Board Member

Board Member

Board Member

Board Member