

**Redmond School District
School Board Meeting
December 7, 2011**

In Attendance: Chair Jim Erickson, Vice-Chair Cathy Miller, Directors Ric Little, AJ Losoya, Bob Perry, Superintendent Shay Mikalson, RSD Staff; Mike McIntosh, Kristen Rooney Gleeson, Lynn Evans, Tony Pupo, Trish Huspek, Gina Blanchette, Chris Morton, Linda Seeberg, Karen Gray, Media – Leslie Pugmire-Hole (*Spokesman*), Eric Hidle (*Bend Bulletin*), association representative Josh Davis (REA), Bill Braly, Shannon Reynolds, Jan and Dennis Dorgan, and approximately 45 community and staff members.

Board Chair Jim Erickson called the meeting to order with a quorum of five at 5:36 p.m.

Cathy Miller and Ric Little reported they had the privilege of touring Vern Patrick Elementary School on Tuesday. Both stated they were extremely impressed with the individualized learning that was taking place in each classroom. “The commitment of the teachers was remarkable.”

Citizen Participation for Non-Agenda Items

Jim Erickson reminded attendees that this portion of the agenda is for patrons to speak on non-agenda items.

Bob Shaffery – Mr. Shaffery wanted to follow-up on the comment he made at the meeting in Terrebonne regarding teachers spending their own money on supplies. It was stated at that meeting by Josh Davis that teachers can receive a tax write off of up to \$250 each year. Mr. Shaffery is concerned that not enough teachers are aware of that tax write off and suggested it would be beneficial to provide that information via a district-wide memo. In addition, he still believes it would be important to find out from teachers exactly how much they spend on supplies so that can be a consideration when developing the budget for next year.

Karen Gray, REA President, stated that she sends out a notice every April to teachers providing them with important tax information that could benefit them. She will make sure this information is included as well.

Alishia Capson – Ms. Capson stated that as a parent and community member she has found it frustrating trying to get information from the high school and the district office. “As a parent I am trying to be respectful of the process but feel we are being stonewalled.” She stated the Board talks about being transparent and offering choices, but as a parent she can’t make choices for her children and inform the community if she doesn’t have the information. She emailed a teacher for a specific number, that email was referred to an administrator and that administrator advised her to go through the district office. She reported that her daughter had previously received the information in a timely manner but had misplaced it. When she went back to get the information again, she was told it was no longer available and if she wanted the information she needed to contact someone at the district office. She finds this to be very discouraging.

Jim Erickson stated, “It is important that we all understand that people have different ideas and will come down on a different side on an issue. It is possible that people will get into adversarial position and that people feel they need to prove themselves right. We need to understand that everyone can’t be pleased and that we are all doing everything we can for the students. We need to agree that we can all forgive whatever gets in the way sometimes so that we can get to a resolution. My invitation is for us to find a common place that unites us and where we have been slighted, understand that we are all people doing our best.”

Jan Dorgan – “Two years ago a decision was made to offer two diverse curriculums in the two high schools. Since then the financial environment has changed. IB is impractical for many students. If the intent is to meet the needs of the community, the curriculum should address the needs of the majority of students. Diversity is already available in the curriculum because the electives offered in the two high schools are completely different. A community should not be locked into decisions made two years ago when those decision no longer meet the needs of a community.”

Dennis Dorgan – Stated that during the last three meetings he has been listening all of the public comments. He is concerned that Ms. Capson did not receive the information that she had requested. He reported that at the last meeting the board stated they were going to stay on agenda but then made a decision about IB and AP curriculum.

Jim Erickson clarified for Mr. Dorgan that at the last meeting the Board did vote on transportation boundaries and student transfers. The subject of IB and AP curriculum is an operational issue that does not require a vote by the Board. Previously, the Board directed administration to come up with a plan to open two high schools. Superintendent Mikalson has made a recommendation about how to open those schools. The Board has not taken a vote regarding curriculum because those are operational decisions that don't require Board approval.

Cathy Miller further clarified that this topic has been brought forward for discussion tonight because of the concern that has been expressed regarding both the IB and AP curriculum. “We have not challenged the operational decision of Superintendent Mikalson. We are discussing this tonight to hear if there is any new compelling information that would have the Board change our position.”

PRESENTATIONS

Superintendent Update

Superintendent Mikalson stated that he has been in the district for 11 years and the only way we will get to a district we want to be is to collectively work together to engage students, have great teachers, and to spend our money as wisely as we can. He encouraged everyone to hang in together during the hard times.

Superintendent Mikalson provided an updated Performance Meter. The performance meter is a way to communicate regarding outcomes in the areas of graduation, academic achievement, attendance, parent and community engagement, school safety and teacher and principal effectiveness. This document will be continually updated a just one way of communicating district progress. Superintendent Mikalson thanked parents and the community to helping lives these goals out.

Superintendent Mikalson further reported that OSAA classifications have been determined for both Ridgeview High School and Redmond High School. Ridgeview will be classified as a 4A school and RHS will be classified 5A. OSAA is on four year cycles. Midway through that cycle they do adjustments because populations across the state change and they reevaluate the enrollment thresholds they set.

Association Report

Karen Gray – REA

- Had first buddy meeting with Bob Perry – Mr. Perry stated, “Guess what, I don't want to be a teacher.”

Dru Carpenter – OEA

- Nothing new to report since the last meeting

Vern Patrick Elementary School

Kristen Rooney-Gleeson, Principal at Vern Patrick Elementary School welcomed everyone to the school. Mrs. Gleeson reviewed the school's performance plan and reported that the growth they have seen in student reading performance is being accomplished through a sustained effort that began in 2007 to monitor and enrich systems that support student growth. Spoke about the Walk to Read program and stated the ability to offer that program was possible because of additional funding that was allocated by the Redmond School Board of Directors. Mrs.

Jennifer Rava, grade 1 teacher at Vern Patrick Elementary highlighted the Walk to Read program. She stated that she has watched the positive strides that have been made since this program has been put into place. She reported that the school will have students participating in the Oregon Battle of the Books competition. Ms. Rava stated she is very proud of the students and that literacy aides have made a huge difference in their school. She would encourage the same type of assistance for the math program.

Ms. Rava introduced Mrs. Kay Hunt who is an educational assistant at the school. She reported that the Oregon Battle of Books (OBOB) is a voluntary reading program. Every year students in grades 3-5 read 16 preselected titles. Students form teams of four to read the books. In February the students participate in a competition that tests what they remember about what they read. This is the first year that students at Vern Patrick have participated in this program. Mrs. Hunt reported that Charlotte Ralls, librarian at Tuck Elementary has been instrumental in getting the program started at Vern Patrick. In addition Costco, Safeway and the Vern Patrick PTC have provided support for this program.

Mr. Bahns, grade 3 teacher at Vern Patrick, led the students in a demonstration of the competition the students will be participating in during OBOB.

RHS Student Representative

Brooke Salter, RHS student represented stated they are working on our second annual winter wishes donation event. Families from our community are adopted by teachers other families in the communities. Money is raised to purchase gifts for the family. The event will take place December 10th at the Hartman campus. Families have the opportunity to go through the donations that have been received while children participate in activities. Last year they adopted 16 families and this year they have adopted 17 families. Ms. Salter stated this activity helps the community have a great Christmas and allows the entire student body to participate.

Ms. Salter is a senior at Redmond High School and is planning on attending OSU to get a double degree in mathematics and education.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

IB/AP Opportunities

Jim Erickson stated the Board has been in a listening and information gathering format around the topic of IB and AP curriculum. He reported that at this point it is very important for board members to have a discussion around this topic. For no other reason, time is an issue. Mr. Erickson wanted to make sure everyone understood the Board does want to hear from everyone but they also have work to do to move through the process of discussion.

He asked those wishing to address the board to only share thoughts that have not been heard before. The Board will then weigh all thoughts to move process forward.

Mr. Erickson stated that he believes in student and parent choice and when the design plans were first put into play for the new high school, the Board instructed the teams to design two high schools that would be different from each other in what would be offered. The Board wanted to make certain that specialized options were available at each school site and that the schools wouldn't be a mirror image of each other. However, core classes would be offered in both buildings.

With all of those parameters in place, the Board directed administration to move forward with plans to open two comprehensive high schools. As this process has moved forward, it became clear there were three more decisions that needed to be made; school assignment, transportation boundaries and student transfers. The Board has made decisions on all three of those decisions. "At this point, the Board needs to talk about IB and AP curriculum. Until that happens, the operational issues can't move forward."

Cathy Miller stated that she believes there are two issues that have been brought up in public hearings that need to be discussed; the content of IB curriculum and the availability of IB/AP at each of the schools. She recommended

taking each one of those issues separately to obtain additional comments and then let the Board discuss each issue separately. The Board concurred with the recommendation.

IB Curriculum/Textbooks

Barbara Bag – Stated that she came to the meeting tonight to discuss the issue of IB coursework content. She has always supported the school system. She believes it is the schools responsibility to “Not produce widget makers but students who can make their own decisions.” She reported that she is disappointed to have Zinn characterized as non-American. She believes he brings a voice that our children need to hear. “You can argue with his point of view, a lot of people will, but to deprive our kids of a really great program because there is something we don’t agree with is wrong. Our young people need to hear these things, to be able to come to reason decisions.”

Lucy Bracket – Stated that she came to the meeting tonight to address textbook by Howard Zinn. She reported that today is the anniversary of Pearl Harbor and she had the opportunity to interview several veterans, saw actual footage of the war, and was able to see hundreds of photos. She takes exception to the “nonsense” that Zinn has represented in his book. “It is a piece of crap book that is socialist nonsense and it doesn’t take a rocket scientist to figure out what this book is truly about. It is a prime example of a socialist agenda.”

Unidentified audience member – She wanted to attend the meeting to applaud the RSD Board for investigating the book and seeing if it is really worthy of taxpayer money for use in the Redmond High School. She encouraged the Board to take a long hard look at the book.

Richard Lance – Stated the Howard Zinn book has a unique perspective. He was excluded but found ways to become included in the democratic process. Mr. Lance encouraged the Board to not get into censorship of books. “The idea scares me that a school board would get into looking at individual books to decide what passes and what doesn’t.” He stated that he thinks it is great that families are talking about this but hopes curriculum is continued. “We all have our ideas on what is patriotic.” There is room for a lot of perspectives and hopes the Board will continue to encourage programs that do that.

Emily – Stated the IB program is worthy and does provoke healthy conversations. She left the October meeting a little upset because her daughter has been in the IB program. Went to the Hartman campus and spoke with the teachers to get their thoughts. Overall perception was that they are very supportive of the IB program and it would be wonderful at both schools but they did a good job in explaining what it takes in having this program in both buildings. Feels she has a better understanding. She will go into the next six years with students in both high schools. This is an amazing curriculum and she doesn’t understand what people are afraid of. Everyone has options and perceptions and everyone needs to be open.

Johnny Corbin – Stated he has been through university system and a lot of the history that is presented is, “A bunch of mush. However, in the community we have a great deal of first hand information on modern history that is available through the veterans and the senior community. Mr. Corbin reported that he is somewhat of an expert on the Cold War and has offered to present the information to our students but to date his offer has not been accepted. He is concerned the district is not utilizing some of the resources in the community.

Anna – She reported that she is a MYP sophomore at the Hartman Campus. She stated, “I have always been taught the day we withhold information from our youth is the day that we fail.”

Leah Wilcox – Stated that she has done a lot of research and has discovered there is a lot of controversy around the IB program across the United States. It is her belief that when you talk about ideologies it causes controversy. The IB program requires a certain atmosphere, certain library materials. All students become exposed to the material. In our desire to make sure our kids see all of the options, they don’t have an opportunity to focus on what makes this country unique. “We are unique because we don’t have to be any certain ideology or religion. If we don’t know our constitution or laws we can’t contribute to other countries. I am grateful to be an American because we can choose.”

Rick Bailey – Reported that he has four children and the oldest in the IB program. “Kids in the IB program are smart enough to know that Mr. Zinn’s book is a bunch of garbage. This program is the only program that challenges the kids on the upper end of the academic spectrum. The IB program has challenged my daughter to work hard and to see both sides of issues. Her college education is very important and this is a big step in it. This program needs to stay a part of this district because it truly addresses the kids on the upper end of the academic spectrum.”

Availability of AP/IB

Tony Oliver – She stated that it is important to understand what the district wants to accomplish for students by offering the IB program. Is the primary purpose for students to obtain college credit? Is the program just for gifted students? If that is the case she believes this can be accomplished in other ways because the IB program is very expensive to operate. She stated it is important to understand the expectations of students going through RHS and how those expectations can it be achieved equitably. If you don’t provide transportation, that is not equal education.

Alisha Capson – Stated that she has five children in the school system and two more at home. She is a graduate of RHS. She has a daughter who participates in AP classes and she has received a good upper level education. She reported that she has had many community members in her home discussing this issue. Through those discussions they have drafted a position letter from those parents, students and community leaders on what they believe will be best for their education. Ms. Capson read the position letter to the Board and audience members. She read, in part, “In the beginning of this process, many of us were advocating for the Advance Placement programs to be allowed at both high schools. Although it was not our intention to get rid of the International Baccalaureate program, were concerned that the presence of IB was competing with the resources allotted for advance learning. Our fear was that the majority of students were not being served at the expense of a program that is not flexible in its structure or curriculum. Now that we have done hundreds of hours of research and study, we find it irresponsible for our school district to consider the International Baccalaureate program as a responsible option for our students. Ms. Capson further read, “...We have learned that this program is not feasible in our school district. The ISC, a charter school specifically made for the IB program has closed. Obsidian Middle School is no longer a MYP school. This program is costly, inequitable, and redundant. It is not flexible in its course work or administration. This program does not represent the majority of Redmond High School or the community it serves. We would encourage you to reevaluate and reconsider.”

Rick Bailey – Stated that in listening to Ms. Capson statement she cites some very valid concerns. However, there is a group of students who have suffered for years because there isn’t a decent program for TAG identified students. “I am tired of hearing about equity. My daughter was not treated equitably.”

Jan Dorgan – Stated that IB coursework is offered in Bend and an option for those students who want to take those classes would be to get together to carpool.

Julie Wright – Asked if enrollment caps affect Ridgeview remaining a 4A school.

Superintendent Mikalson stated there will be a series of public meetings that will talk through those programs. He supports choices for kids and fundamentally believes that we need to look at individual student needs and personalized education. However, athletics do not drive choice. “The driver is talking with parents and students to determine what the best options for them are.”

Heather – Reported that she has been looking at the pros and cons of the IB program. She stated that the Redmond School District is driving the kids to college and that is awesome. It is great to see so many parents here to fight for their kids. One thing that concerned her about IB program is that IB credits cannot be transferred to college credits as easily as AP credits can. She stated that IB is more geared to students who are planning to attend international colleges.

Jessica Grindstaff – Sophomore in the MYP program. Jessica reported that because it was decided to make Hartman a freshman campus, IB students had to make a choice between the MYP classes and electives. Most

students chose electives because they didn't offer those electives at Hartman. Because of this there will be less IB students at the main campus next year.

Tom Wright – He stated that his son is a grade six student at EGMS and has 39 students in his class. Mr. Wright reported on various class numbers across the district and stated that the district is still trying to fill a niche for 1% of the high school population. It doesn't seem right when 90% of the students have large classes. He would recommend concentrating on the majority of the student needs and not the 1%.

Jim Erickson expressed his appreciation to everyone for the respectful presentation of their comments.

Mr. Erickson stated that is important for all students to think critically and that is an absolute commitment of our superintendent and teachers in the district.

Board Discussion

Cathy Miller asked Superintendent Mikalson for the cost of having the IB program.

- Annual dues: MYP and Diploma Program; \$18,000 in dues for both programs
- One FTE coordinator - \$80,000 (approximate)
- Training – Don't have a very consistent annual amount for training. Grants funded the start up costs. Last year there was a large amount in training but little if any this year. Grants are applied for to maintain the professional development for staff.

The amount of \$400,000 that has been stated during various public meetings is not an accurate yearly cost.

Jim Erickson stated that whatever is adopted becomes an operational decision to decide what is equitable across the options.

Superintendent Mikalson stated that if we want both programs they need to be housed separately. It is not a superintendent dictating a curriculum. It is driven by student sign up and historical data. If there aren't student sign ups to support a class, it is dropped. The forecasting process happens annually. Teacher leader teams and the collective departments provide scope and sequence on what they feel they can offer. In addition, graduation requirements enter into the number of class sections offered. That process has been ongoing for months now. It is anticipated that forecasting materials will go out to families in January. Students who forecast aren't always the ones that show up in the fall and that causes this process to be ongoing.

“Because we reduced a high school staff by 17 we must be as creative as possible. Cutting that many teachers represents a lot of class opportunities for students. It is also important to remember there won't be seniors at Ridgeview so both AP and IB class offerings will be available at Redmond High School.”

Cathy Miller asked clarification around class caps. Superintendent Mikalson reported the Staffing ratio is at 35 students per teacher. With those numbers we don't have a great deal of flex in our system anymore. We never set a hard cap but will be as close to 35 as possible. He reported that he cannot imagine increasing that number.

All freshman at the Hartman Campus are currently taking the MYP program.

When students forecast at the high school they will have access to both curriculum guides; Ridgeview and Redmond High School. They will have the ability to decide which school they would like to attend based on curriculum offerings. Students and parents will need to choose which program will get the student to where they want to be when they graduate.

The intent over the next two weeks is to provide opportunities for parents and students to meet to hear what the processes will be in choosing which school a student wants to attend.

Bob Perry read a statement to the Board regarding the IB program. In the statement he reviewed the process that he has gone through in doing research on the IB program since the November 16 Board meeting. His concern

with the Zinn book has been partially diffused by speaking with two teachers who have used it in Redmond classes. “The current teacher has only referred to the Zinn and *Patriots History* books for 30 minutes so far in the school year. The primary text is a third book entitled *America’s History*. I believe this primary text itself presents multiple sides of history, thereby fulfilling the state requirement to offering differing points of view without being antagonist of our country’s history and so unwilling to recognize the goodness of America.” Mr. Perry continues by questioning if the book is used so little, why use it at all and why use taxpayer money to purchase it. He does not take lightly the idea of wanting to remove or censor the use of Zinn. His concern is that students in IB American History don’t have the choice to “not listen.” “They are a captive audience to Zinn’s blame America message.” However, based on discussions with IB teachers, he better understands why Superintendent Mikalson and others are supporting the program. “It appears to represent the most rigorous education we now provide at Redmond High School. “...The program requires that the IB student be able to assimilate the data, gain knowledge from it and then apply the knowledge and gain wisdom from this application of knowledge.” Mr. Perry stated that, “I continue to be apprehensive regarding the influence of United Nations bureaucrats on IB curriculum and testing. However, if my own daughter were enrolled at Redmond High School I would encourage her to seek an IB diploma. I would do so for one simple reason. I believe that students taking IB courses will be better trained to analyze and apply their knowledge than students who do not take the rigorous IB curriculum.”

Mr. Perry reported that during his research on the program he had the opportunity to meet with staff. He stated, “I couldn’t have asked for a more open reception considering I made a lot of teachers angry. They were so forthcoming, I really appreciated it.”

Cathy Miller stated that she appreciated the opportunity to look through the Zinn book and appreciates the teachers who took the time to talk with her as well as the opportunity to observe a class. Her concern is not the content of the book, more important than the content is how it is delivered. “At RSD we have outstanding teachers.” She read a quote from page 542 of the Zinn book, “The purpose of the debates is not to learn official debating skills and tactics but to create a situation in which the students must argue. Structured argument develops critical thinking.” She also quoted from page 550, “Depending on which text one reads, one either cannot answer these questions, or one can have a definite opinion one way or the other. It is in reading all six versions that a more complex, less simplistic answer is available. The real lesson here is that the more detail one has, the more likely one will be close to the truth of what happened. The process of sifting through different versions of the same event is the process that develops critical thinking. An open and healthy debate over these questions allows students to discover how to think for themselves and not rely on external opinions solely.” Cathy stated that she applauds Redmond School District because she has seen this in the classroom.

AJ Losoya stated that both programs are doing what is right for the students, community and schools. In reviewing the test results of IB and AP courses, he stated that the district still has a great deal of work to do in both programs. In reviewing those statistics not one program is better than another. Once we go into the next school year, we will need to go above and beyond to know what the options are. We need to be innovative in overly communicating the different options to allow conversations to happen in the homes.

Ric Little stated that the district has ended up with a situation where we won’t be able to please everyone. There are so many choices and it will take a few years to see what the registration numbers indicate. “You can’t offer any more than that – choice.”

Cathy Miller stated, “We are advocates for taxpayers and community members but most importantly we are advocates of every student. We are competing for resources, every single one of our students is hungry and we need to make sure that we can sustain those students. We must look at the big picture as sustaining as many children as possible during this tough economic climate.”

Superintendent Mikalson stated that successful forecasting takes every adult in the system to help with that process. We have a lot of change and there are a lot of people who are working on this effort. We won’t be perfect but we will continue to be as proactive with the information as soon as possible. At a systems level we are trying to provide choice. If AP is the biggest driver your student wants, then that opportunity will be at Ridgeview.

Jim Erickson reminded everyone that “Every best choice in a system comes with a cost.” His concern is around what the board’s work is; policy and governance issues. He feels that the issues that the Board has been asked to consider do not fall under those categories. Once policies are in place, it becomes an operational decision to engage in the process that is happening in all of our buildings, that staff are trained to accomplish that work and then it becomes the job of a teacher to make it happen – not the boards. He agrees that it has been a healthy discussion but on the other hand it wasn’t a discussion the Board should have engaged in. “We need to work on policies and supporting staff to grow. I am not blaming the teachers that somehow in our system we have not invited our third graders to think at their highest levels, that we haven’t engaged our 8th grade students to think at their highest levels. It isn’t the job of one teacher; it is the job of a system. We have so many students who don’t choose IB because they know it is hard and it will challenge them. That is a systemic problem, how do we engage K-12 to look for the challenge.”

His caution to the Board is to sort through what is Board work vs. what is staff work, vs. teacher work. Need to have a work session to clarify these roles.

“The Board’s job is to hold the superintendent responsible for making sure policies are being implemented. If the Board hears a concern, it is their responsibility to give the information to the superintendent to follow-up on.”

Cathy Miller stated she does not feel a motion is necessary. She has spent a lot of time and put herself in everyone’s shoes around this topic. She acknowledges this topic may look differently a year from now, but at this time she continues to support the staff recommendation.

AJ Losoya stated that he concurs to support the superintendent’s recommendation. However, in the future this issue could be reevaluated in light of budget concerns.

Bob Perry reported that he believes strongly that it is an unequal system. “In our striving to makes courses different, we have made unequal options at it relates to advanced programs.”

Ric Little stated that he concurs that the Board should continue to support the superintendent’s recommendation.

Jim Erickson stated, “Hearing no action to move forward the Board, based on previous polices, supports staff to move forward with getting forecasting materials ready for students and parents to review.

Jim Erickson thanked everyone for their participation in the process. Appreciates everyone’s input and the respect that the input was given. At no point did anyone become uncivil.

PRESENTATIONS

Student Information System

Superintendent Mikalson introduced Rachel Wente-Chaney, Chief Information Officer for the region. Rachel reviewed with the Board that our current student information system (eSIS) has not kept up with the pace of technology over the last 5-6 year and will be phased out at the end of the school year. She is present tonight to give the Board the background on where we were, where we are now and where we are heading. She provided the board with an overview of the information that is kept on the student information system and reviewed the process for selecting a new student information system. A key question that was asked when selecting a new system was, “What system will help us to reach our goals of every child, every chance, every day?” The grade book was the key piece in the selection of a new SIS. They are currently in the process of moving data into the new system. In the spring they will be validating all of the data and the training of staff will begin. The reason they chose this product was because the new system will provide a greater flow of communication. Rachel spoke to the functionality of the system for parents.

Superintendent Mikalson expressed his appreciation to Rachel for her leadership in this process. The State of Oregon has also chosen this system. Rachel reported that Redmond is being looked at as a leader in this process.

Board members were provided an opportunity to ask questions.

Jim Erickson asked if changes are easy to make as time goes by. Rachel reported there are user defined data fields available in this system. Can actually add data elements; specific standards or areas that we need to track. They have two releases per year that provides enhancements to the system.

Rachel reported the system is very secure with firewalls but the biggest security risk is our users. They will be making sure staff understand when user names are readily accessible that becomes a security risk. System automatically logs a user out after a short time of inactivity.

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution 11:046 – Adoption of Supplemental Budget for 2011-12

Mike McIntosh and Kathy Steinert from the Fiscal department spoke to the Board regarding the budget that was adopted last spring. They will be presenting two resolutions for approval so the district will have spending authority in the correct line items.

In order to comply with local budget law, the School Board must take action to increase the adopted budget to enable the District to spend revenue that was not anticipated or appropriated in the FY 2011-12 budget as well as unanticipated expenditures and grant funds.

AJ Losoya moved and Ric Little seconded a motion to adopt and appropriate a supplemental budget for 2011-12 in the amounts specified in the resolution. Motion carried – 5-0.

Roll Call Votes: Cathy Miller – yes; AJ Losoya – yes; Bob Perry – yes, Ric Little – yes; Jim Erickson - yes

AJ Losoya stated the Finance Committee has reviewed both of these resolutions and commended both Kathy and Mike for their clarity in presenting the documents to them.

Cathy Miller stated she was concerned the district under-budgeted the substitute costs. She also expressed a concern that none of these funds are being put into savings. Need to continue the discussion on our policy around building our contingency funds.

Kathy stated that there was human error in getting the data downloaded on the costs for classified subs. Mike reported as we have depleted our contingency funds there is an effort to reimburse that fund. He doesn't consider any of this as extra revenue. "We live in a time where we are pinching pennies."

Resolution 11:047 – Recognize and Appropriate Additional Specific Purpose Revenue

Resolution 11:047 recognizes and appropriates additional specific purpose revenue for the fiscal year 2011-12 budget. Additional revenue received after the budget was adopted includes additional restricted revenue from the federal government for specific programs.

Cathy Miller and Ric Little seconded a motion to authorize the recognition and appropriation of \$303,800 of additional specific purpose grant funds not anticipated at the time the FY 2011-2012 budget was presented. Motion carried – 5-0.

Roll Call Votes: Cathy Miller – yes; AJ Losoya – yes; Bob Perry – yes, Ric Little – yes; Jim Erickson - yes

Consent Agenda

- Personnel Changes
- School Board Regular Minutes from November 16, 2011
- Gift to the District
- Out of State Field Trip Requests

It was noted in the minutes from November 16, 2011 there was a correction that needed to be made in the terminology used to describe the tax *write off* teachers can take for supplies they personally purchase up to \$250.00.

Cathy Miller moved and Ric Little seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda as amended. Motion carried 5-0.

Votes: Jim Erickson-yes; Ric Little-yes; AJ Losoya-yes; Bob Perry-yes; Cathy Miller-yes.

AJ Losoya commended Toni Duff and Moore Music for funding the Mariachi Band at RHS.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

October Finance Reports

Mike McIntosh and Kathy Steinert presented the October finance and investment reports. Kathy stated that the district will remain slightly ahead of our revenues on state resources. Expenditures were reviewed with the Board. The negative numbers listed on the Statement of Revenues and Expenditures will be eliminated now that the supplemental budget has been approved.

Investment Reports – Mike reported that some investments were sold at a net gain of \$6000.00. The finance committee felt it was prudent to expedite the sale to obtain a larger return. The finance committee will continue to get reports on the remaining of the bond savings balance.

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Mikalson reported that he and Mike McIntosh will be holding parent meetings to provide information around transfer policy. Provided a PowerPoint presentation that will be used at each of the parent meetings.

Superintendent Mikalson provided the Board with a document that outlines the processes that will be used in considering transfer requests as well as options at the middle school level. He reported that as a continuation of an initial conversation that has occurred in executive session, he reported that the RPA would like to expand to include a middle school option. The proposal would include the RPA leasing the Hartman building. The district is looking to provide increased options to middle school students. In addition, the December revenue forecast came out and was over \$100 million lower than anticipated. This move to lease the Hartman building could provide a sustainable solution to the use of the building while providing additional choices to the middle school system. We need two high schools to serve all of our students; we are currently operating two buildings to house our high school students; RHS and Hartman.

Superintendent Mikalson reported that originally it was estimated the district would need \$5 million as start up funds to open Ridgeview High School. His team has continued to sharpen that number down. By using the resources currently in the Hartman building and moving them to Ridgeview, we can save costs in staffing, library materials, computer equipment, etc.) Superintendent Mikalson will continue to keep the Board updated as he continues to investigate this possibility.

Board Updates

None

Requests for Agenda Items

- Contingency funds – a long term contingency fund plan. Work session after the first of the new year.
- Boardsmanship and Self-Evaluation – February

ADJOURN

Bob Perry moved and Ric Little seconded the motion to adjourn at 10:35 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Votes: Jim Erickson-yes; Ric Little-yes; AJ Losoya-yes; Bob Perry-yes; Cathy Miller-yes.

Jim Erickson, School Board Chair

Trish Huspek, Executive Assistant