

Board of Education

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Work Session

February 1, 2011

Work Session Notes

- A - Diann Rice
- B - Cindy Enos-Martinez
- C - Harry Butler
- D - Leslie Kiesler
- E - Greg Mikolai

Board of Education
Mesa County Valley School District 51
 Work Session Summary: February 1, 2011
 Adopted: March 29, 2011

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AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION
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WORK SESSION SUMMARY:

- Superintendent Steve Schultz welcomed attendees to the February Work Session.

- School Equity Advisory Committee: Mrs. Susana Wittrock, Executive Director of Equity, Ms. Donna Bennett, Community Member, Mr. David Eisner, Community Member
 - Mrs. Wittrock thanked the Board for the opportunity to present the proposal for the Equity/Advocacy Pilot Program. She introduced Mrs. Bennett and Mr. Eisner.
 - This group collaborated with many community members and interested parties and focused their efforts on formalizing their meetings. The group brought a proposal to create an Advisory Board. If approved, the Advisory Board would report to the School Board. The proposal was outlined for the Board. The Advisory Committee members would include community members, retired teachers, student council members, Hilltop personnel and Board members.
 - The group proposed a draft School Equity Advisory Committee Charter. Details of the Charter were outlined for the Board.
 - Board members asked questions and engaged in conversation. A resolution to approve the School Equity Advisory Committee and Charter will be presented at the February 15 Business Meeting.
 - The Board and Superintendent thanked everyone for their important work.

- School Calendar Planning
 - The Board requested information on alternative school calendars, including the 45/15, four-day week and traditional calendar. A committee made up of community people and staff members met and focused on finding facts regarding the four day week.
 - Mrs. Melissa Callahan-deVita provided summative information about the four-day week. She presented the model, process, schedule, finding of facts and final thoughts.
 - Superintendent Schultz provided a report which was done in 2002. He discussed the multi-track calendars and how they worked. Superintendent Schultz shared current research he had received from Mrs. Donna Miller. Mr. Jim Smyth, MVEA President, shared examples of some 45/15 calendars. Superintendent Schultz reported if the district went with the 45/15 calendar, the District would not be adding days, just spreading out the days we currently have.
 - Mrs. Callahan-deVita stated her research showed there is no savings by going to a 45/15 school calendar; and it could cost the District more money. Federal funds could be lost if we moved to the 45/15 calendar.
 - Board members asked questions and discussed the pros and cons of a 45/15 calendar. More discussion will take place at the upcoming Board Retreat.

Meeting
 Convened:
 6:00 p.m.

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- Superintendent Schultz shared three examples of a Traditional Calendar. The Traditional Calendar could be adjusted as the budget dictates.
- The three Traditional Calendar options were compared and discussed. A chart was presented which highlighted the differences in the three calendars. Ms. Lesley Rose shared information from a group of representatives at each school level (including elementary, middle and high school). Information included their support of all three calendars.
- Mrs. Callahan-deVita stated she is looking at options to cut money from the budget by adding time to each school day, making it possible to cut full days at the end of the calendar. Mrs. Callahan-deVita will present options at the upcoming Board Retreat.
- The Board and Superintendent Schultz thanked everyone for the information.

[Mr. Butler called for a short recess at 7:47 p.m.; the meeting reconvened at 7:55 p.m.]

- State of Technology Update: District Technology Plan: Mr. Odus Harwood, Executive Director of Technology Services, Mrs. Devonee Grams, Instructional Technology Specialist.
 - Mr. Harwood thanked the Board for the opportunity to discuss the technology needs and updates. He discussed the state of readiness of the District's technology. Mr. Harwood focused on teaching and learning, administrative and support services and the technical infrastructure and support of the District.
 - The presentation emphasized the assessed state and major gaps between where we are today and the District's target level. Potential solutions were presented.
 - Board members asked questions and engaged in conversation. Superintendent Schultz and the Board thanked Mr. Harwood for his dedication to the technology needs of the District.

 Terri N. Wells, Secretary
 Board of Education

Adjourned:
 8:34 p.m.