# Trout Creek School District #6 Board Meeting Minutes

2/13/2023

**In Attendance:** Scott Rasor, Chair; Carolyn Nesbitt, Vice Chair; Bryant Eaton, Trustee; Michael Linderman, Trustee; Zachary Hannum, Trustee; Preston Wenz, Superintendent; Jennifer McPherson, District Clerk; Staff Members: David Sorenson, Elizabeth Hart, Taylor Etienne, Debra Cashman, Elizabeth Glackin, Alicia Wenz, Others: Bev Brumbaugh, Paul Chambers, Bonnie Chambers, Carrie Greene, Sheila Hoffland, Chantel Schmidt, Ruth Allen, Monte Nesbitt, Jan Manning, Cara Eberly, Sam Wenz, Teena Molitor, Online: Art & Kathy Hassan, Matt Etienne, Carolee, Allie Viviano, Rosa Torretta.

**I. Call to order**

Mr. Rasor called to order the meeting of the Trout Creek School Board at 6:35 pm on 1/10/2023 at Trout Creek School.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Rasor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Recognition of Visitors/Public Comment**

Mr. Rasor asked for public comment:

Kathy Hassan thanked Mr. Wenz for allowing her and other community members to review the curriculum. They reviewed 1st & 2nd grade math, 4th grade Montana history, Kindergarten science and history, 7th & 8th grade world and Montana history and the US Constitution.

Liz Glackin asked the Board why staff was not being apprised of certain information. The Board responded that the items she questioned were protected by Confidentiality.

The Board Chairman also reminded attendees that any concerns or complaints must follow the chain of command and encouraged people to please adhere to the grievance policy. The Board cannot hear complaints until after the Administrator has had a chance to address them. There is a grievance form available in the office.

Chantel Schmidt addressed the Board and shared her experiences with the previous administrator and how she greatly appreciates the current Administrator and the things he has done for the school and for her child.

Jan Manning presented a check from the Whitepine Grange to the Trout Creek School Library fund. The Board thanked Mrs. Manning and the Grange.

Monte Nesbitt presented a check to the Trout Creek School Library Fund to match the donation from the Whitepine Grange.

Alicia Wenz, Kindergarten teacher, thanked the donors for helping put books into the classrooms.

Cara Eberly shared that this is the first time she has heard so many positive things that Trout Creek School is doing.

**IV. Approval of the Agenda as Presented**

Action Read By: Mr. Rasor; Motion Made By: Mrs. Nesbitt; 2nd: Mr. Eaton

**On the poll of the Board, the motion carried unanimously.**

**V. Approval of the Warrants**

Mr. Linderman inquired about the mileage reimbursement. Ms. McPherson explained that this is the last of the mileage reimbursement paid to staff that did milk runs. Mr. Linderman inquired about Paraprofessional training. Mr. Wenz explained that the District pays for the training as well as the training hours awarded on the certificates of completion. Mr. Linderman thanked all the staff members for making milk runs.

Mrs. Nesbitt commended Renna for her part in making sure all the students had milk.

Mrs. Cashman pointed out that Mr. Wenz’s hard work getting milk delivered to the school also provided a milk resource to Noxon and Thompson Falls.

Action Read By: Mr. Rasor; Motion Made By: Mr. Linderman; 2nd: Mr. Hannum

**On the poll of the Board, the motion carried unanimously.**

**VI. Approval of the Minutes from 1/10/2023 and 1/16/2023**

Action Read By: Mr. Rasor; Motion Made By: Mr. Linderman; 2nd: Mrs. Nesbitt.

**On the poll of the Board, the motion carried unanimously.**

**VII. Administrative Report**

Mr. Wenz reported on the following:

Enrollment

ANB count was 75

Enrollment is now 69 as we had a family of 5 and one single relocate.

Attendance

Overall 91%

Individual grade level breakdown is on the detail sheet.

Academics

State testing for us will be April 17-21.

Extracurriculars

Girls basketball wrapped up this past weekend with the District tournament.

Girls had a very good season, considering we had so many young players and players. who had not played before or had only played a year.

Their record was 5-10

PIR Day

We had CPR/First Aid training today for staff.

Agenda

- Safety policy from MTSBA is attached for first reading

- Exercise room - changing my request to allow for equipment to be put in the basement of the gym for the staff to use. We can address student and community use down the road sometime

- See Kriss Goss' emails - Board cannot undergo background checks **-** it is essentially against the law

- Recommending Board to approve the updated sub list

- Recommending:

Annie Taylor receive the cross country stipend

Beckie Doyle receive the stipend I was not allowed to receive for AD duties for her assistant coaching duties with girls basketball - she was at all of the practices and games while we were waiting for Kate's background check to return.

- Requesting the Board to approve moving $1,000 from the STAR account to Athletics account.

- Requesting Board to approve changing the wording in the staff handbook to be correct in saying our counselor is the Title IX Coordinator and not the Administrator

Needs:

Date for goals and my contract

Date this week for bus bids

Mr. Rasor shared that he was so impressed with the GBB coaches and the girls on the bench. He shared that the players were a great bunch, were very attentive, and perceptive to criticism. Mr. Rasor stated that he brought the Thompson Falls GBB coach to a game to see what was coming their way.

Mr. Hannum asked who was required to be CPR certified. Mr. Wenz stated no one is required but he felt it to be important. Liz Glacking shared that the staff were also defibrillator trained as well. Mr. Eaton said he would like to see the CPR/First Aid training opened to the public as well.

**VIII. Maintenance Report**

Mr. Wenz reported that the elevator is fixed. Mr. Linderman stated that he appreciates Mr. Wenz’s can do/will do attitude but asks if he can call subs so Mr. Wenz is not doing custodial work. Mr Wenz reported that custodial subs are hard to find. Mrs. Nesbitt reported that she filled the custodian role in her previous district many times.

**IX. District Clerk Update**

1. Financial Report - Ms. McPherson provided financial reports to the Board and answered questions from Board Members. Ms. McPherson shared with the Board her mistake about the TR-1 NQR for last fiscal year and the cost to the District of about $3,700 that the District missed out on by her not claiming them.

**X. Discussion (D) & Action (A) Items**

1. **Fast-Bridge Data -** Mrs. Etienne presented and explained the forms, school, class, individual. Wanted to share is that all the board sees is the color, but the teachers look at the individual growth and gains. Mr. Linderman stated that the District has a very small sample size. One student can skew the results, two students… The Data is unreliable in small schools and small classes; he would rather see the individual scores.
2. **Superintendent Contract -** Mr. Wenz stated that no action is needed tonight. Only need to set a meeting to discuss next year’s goals to work toward. Mr. Hannum asked if there were any deadlines. Mr. Wenz stated that the only deadlines are for evaluations and observations. Mr. Linderman stated that he believes that should be reflected in the administrator contract moving forward. Ms. McPherson reminded the Board that there is a special Board Meeting on 2/21/2023. Mr. Linderman stated he would like to see the Goals added to that meeting. The rest of the Board members agreed.
3. **Safety Policy - First Reading -** Mr. Wenz shared with the Board the first reading that was received from MTSBA. Mr. Rasor asked where we were with the Raptor System. Mr. Wenz stated that we are just waiting for the scanner. Mr. Rasor asked if there would be a demonstration, to which Mr. Wenz reported that we can probably do that in March. 2nd reading at March Board meeting.

**D. Transportation Bid Update -** Ms. McPherson reported that the District received 3 bids. Next step is to set up a meeting to review the sealed bids and come up with a recommendation. The Transportation Committee agreed to meet February 16, 2023 at 3:30 pm.

**E. Exercise Room -** Mr. Wenz stated that he wanted to nix the idea of a public workout room in favor of a Staff Only exercise room, equipped with donated equipment and equipment purchased with grant funds and donations. Mr. Hannum stated he likes the idea of a Staff Health and Wellness room.

Action Read By: Mr. Rasor; Motion Made By: Mr. Linderman; 2nd: Mr. Eaton

**On the poll of the Board, the motion carried unanimously.**

**F. Board Member Background Check -** Mr. Wenz shared an email from MTSBA stating it is not permissible to require a background check on Board Members or potential Board Members. Mrs. Nesbitt voiced her displeasure with that response from MTSBA. She stated that no one is above the law and even Board members should prove their past to the community members.

**G. Partial District Reimbursement for Volunteer Background Checks -**

Mr. Wenz shared the current procedure for obtaining a background check. The cost is $13 for 2 fingerprint cards at the Sheriff’s Office and $30 to MT DOJ for the search. Any volunteer needs to be background checked. He stated that he would like to see a policy that the District require a new background check of volunteerism lapses. The Board likes the idea of it but requires a sample policy to act on it.

**H. Substitute List Update -** Mr. Wenz presented an updated substitute list for Board approval.

Action Read By: Mr. Rasor; Motion Made By: Mrs. Nesbitt; 2nd: Mr. Eaton

**On the poll of the Board, the motion carried unanimously.**

**I. School Board Election -** Ms. McPherson stated that the deadline for filing Declarations of Intents is March 23, 2023. There are three seats available, 2 for 3 years and 1 for 1 year. For clarification, the 1-year seat is due to the fact that Mr. Eaton was appointed and must now be voted in.

**J. ExtraCurricular Contracts -** Mr. Wenz recommends and requests approval for:

Annie T. to receive the X/C stipend, backpaid.

Beckie D. to receive the AD stipend that Mr. Wenz turned down for her invaluable assistance with Girls’ Basketball.

Action Read By: Mr. Rasor; Motion Made By: Mrs. Nesbitt; 2nd: Mr. Eaton

**On the poll of the Board, the motion carried unanimously.**

**K. Fund Move from Bazaar to Athletics -** Mr. Wenz requested Board approval to move $1,000.00 of the funds raised by the Christmas Bazaar into the Athletics sub-account. Ms. Ohning gave Mr. Wenz her approval. That would leave over $300.00 for next year’s advertising. No future purchases for decorations, etc.

Action Read By: Mr. Rasor; Motion Made By: Mr. Linderman; 2nd: Mrs. Nesbitt

**On the poll of the Board, the motion carried unanimously.**

**XII. Next Meeting Agenda Items**

1. Reimburse BG Check march 14
2. Superintendent Contract
3. Clerk/Business Manager Contract

**XII. Adjournmen**t – Meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm

Next Meeting: Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jennifer McPherson, District Clerk Date

Approved on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

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D. Scott Rasor, Board Chair Date