

HARNEY ESD BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
MARCH 9, 2011

Present: Connie Barber, Chair
Pete Merritt, Vice Chair
Daniel Brown, Director
Charles Schmidt, Director
Robin Cramer, Director

Absent: Richard Jenkins, Director
Charles Dunten, Director

1. Connie Barber called the March meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. at the Harney ESD Administrative Office at 779 West Fillmore. CALL TO ORDER
2. Minutes for the February Board meeting were presented for review. Dan Brown made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Charles Schmidt seconded and the motion carried. MINUTES
3. Kaeko Blackburn presented the fund balance report for March 9th which showed an All Funds total of \$1,206,344. She stated that the ending General Fund balance should be \$300,000, but might be higher because some of the reserve funds need to be rolled into the General Fund. Kaeko stated that the vehicle reserve will become a capital fund and the ECC building fund will be closed after the loan is paid in full on April 1st. FINANCIAL REPORT
4. March disbursements in the amount of \$69,249.62 were presented for review. It was stated that the \$10,000 payment to Mindsight was for a professional development workshop for the Early Childhood Center staff. Kaeko stated that 2.5% of the Head Start grant must be used for professional development. The \$13,800 payment to The Hello Foundation was for two months of the SLP contract. The \$1,570 payment to Paulsen Environmental Consulting was for a new Asbestos Management Plan. Robin Cramer made a motion to approve the disbursements as presented. Charles Schmidt seconded and the motion passed unanimously. DISBURSEMENTS
5. Visitors: VISITORS/STAFF
Pat Sharp, Crane Schools Superintendent

Staff:
Donna Schnitker, Early Childhood Director
Gail Faulhaber, Instructional Support Director
6. Gail Faulhaber presented the Instructional Support report. She stated that assessment support was continuing. There has been a problem with slow connections which is most likely due to the new types of questions, they are no longer just multiple choice. The state contractor is troubleshooting. PROGRAM REPORTS

Singapore Math workshops were held on March 2nd, 3rd and 4th at several locations. Model lessons were presented at Slater and Crane

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Elementary. Slater School is implementing Singapore Math on a rolling schedule adding grades each year. The plan is to add the fourth and fifth grades next year. Hines teachers attended a session explaining the fundamentals of Singapore Math.

Donna Schnitker presented the Early Childhood report. Donna stated that the Head Start grant is due April first and every three years a complete application must be submitted. Donna informed the board that she would need them to approve the application today. After a brief discussion, Robin Cramer made a motion to approve the grant application. Charles Schmidt seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Donna stated that possible dates for the review are the weeks of April 10th, April 17th, May 1st, or May 15th if a thirty day notice is given. Also, Donna stated that Robin should be thanked for doing the self assessment for program design and management.

The Governor is still planning to place all early childhood programs under the direction of a cabinet member for a year. After the year, it will be moved to another agency's direction. Head Start would only be responsible for the education piece, so funding per student could be reduced from \$9,000 to \$5,225. The health requirements would most likely be moved to the Health Department and the social services to Department of Human Services. The Early Childhood Committee is beginning to plan for this transition. At this time it is unknown how much of the Governor's plan will be adopted.

7. Superintendent Mills stated that next year's funding for Harney ESD is still unknown. He stated that he is recommending a wage freeze for 2011-2012. Superintendent Mills stated that he would like the board to consider increasing the insurance cap from \$985.50 to \$1085.50. Kaeko Blackburn stated that it is anticipated that the rates will increase dramatically. She also stated that the state average insurance cap for last year was \$1,100. Crane Superintendent Pat Sharp was asked what the cap was at Crane. She responded that it was \$1,300.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT

Kaeko was asked how the cap would be funded. She stated that the building loan would be paid off in April; therefore there would be \$40,000 in the budget that could be used to fund the increased cap. Dan Brown made a motion to increase the insurance cap \$100 to \$1085.50. Pete Merritt seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Legislative Update

Superintendent Mills stated that he attended the Legislative Day at the Capitol on February 21st. He stated that he met with both Senator Ferrioli and Representative Bentz about the bills that could affect ESDs.

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SB 250 has changed and will eventually be merged with a house bill. The opting out clause in SB 250 will now be phased in over several years in order to monitor the effects on school districts and ESDs. School districts in Baker County and those in the Willamette ESD region will be allowed to use the opting out clause in 2012. Another bill would significantly lower ESD funding from the present 4.75%. HESD is a minimally funded ESD and the assumption is that funding would remain at one million dollars. The actual funding formula for HESD will not be finalized for awhile. HESD will prepare the budget for 2011-2012 with funding of one million dollars. If ESD funding is cut in half opting out may not look very appealing to most school districts.

Superintendent Sharp stated that if the small schools correction is eliminated all small schools will be hurt. Another funding change that could impact school budgets would be the transportation reimbursement being changed from 90% to 70%. This could become effective July first.

Superintendent Mills stated that he would attend the OAESD meeting tomorrow, March 10th. He also wanted the board to know that the OAESD Spring Conference will be May 20th and 21st at Eagle Crest. He hoped to have the registration information at the April board meeting.

8. Kaeko addressed the board regarding her attendance at a special District #3 board meeting held at HESD Regional Service Center on March 1, 2011. She stated that she had asked a question and this seemed to have caused District #3 personnel and some board members to become upset with the direction the meeting took. Some also thought of it as a personal attack. Kaeko assured the board that it was not a personal attack on anyone. She stated that she wanted to know if all the revenue was shown in the budget, specifically the ED Jobs revenue. I also asked how the ED Jobs money would be used. Kaeko stated that she wanted to know that they were using all possible revenue sources before they cut school days because her four children attend District #3 schools. Kaeko went on to say that she was not apologizing for asking the question, but wanted the board to know about the incident in case they were approached by the school district or public. LATE ITEM/KAEKO'S STATEMENT
9. With no further business Chair Connie Barber adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m. ADJOURNMENT

Connie Barber, Chair