



# Potomac Elementary School'

## School Board Minutes

for

April 11, 2011



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*"Potomac School equips each student for his/her future  
within a culture of excellence that values the small community experience."*

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### Call to Order

Board Chair Robert O'Boyle called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM by leading all in the Pledge of Allegiance. Those trustees present were: Jeff Hahn, Victoria Richardson and Jim Wrobel. Jill Thornton, clerk, was also in attendance.

**Public Input** (for issues not on the agenda) None.

**Consent Agenda** Jim moved to approve the consent agenda. Victoria seconded the motion. **Passed 4-0.**

### Principal's Report

#### Community

- PTC Bingo night raised over \$6,000
- Books for Bikes donated two bikes to two 5th grade Potomac students for books that have been read
- Discussions continue with Cully's owner Joe Johnson regarding a shared community event during late July or early August

#### School

- MAP and MontCAS testing finished; MAP scores reveal steady progress for most students.
- Kristina Davis received the VFW's local post and regional award for teacher of the year.
- Conferences this week – Wednesday and Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Early Release Day (March 10) purpose was to evaluate progress and determine modifications for student learning
- Principal attended Title 1 workshop in Helena.
- Website/email is progressing toward Google conversion. This will simplify the website and make it easier to work with.
- Grant writing team consists of 12 members. Programs being looked at are Athletics, After School and Adult Ed. Meetings are bi-monthly.
- Parent and Community (PAC) forum meeting March 31, 6:30; Potential topics included impact of budget. One parent showed up.
- 6, 7, 8th grade went to Hellgate for writing marathon. Students went to inspiration places in building, write and share writing (move to another location)
- New Flag pole arrived, will be setup soon. It was donated by the Student Council. John Ployhar volunteered to help put it up and said he'd pay for the concrete.
- Tim lost to Monica Martin (school psychologist) in Chocolate Chip Cookie bake-off...by one vote

#### Activities

- Dr. Seuss Day: stations of activities, birthday cake
- Volleyball enjoying lots of success!
- Track practice begins today
- Volleyball team took 3rd place at tournament at Hellgate HS
- State Science Fair- Potomac took 5 silvers and 2 bronze awards
- Grant Writing Committee is formed and working on narratives for needs (athletics, after school program and adult education)
- The SCRIP program is closed for Boosters; selling remaining cards

#### Vision Impact

- Professional development focused on communication using the Strength Finder 2.0 results related to culture of excellence
- Data driven instructional decisions based on recent MAP scores

**Clerks Report** None.

**School Budget**

The key bill for school funding, SB329, passed its second reading on the House floor today. So, funding for the schools is still under consideration.

Gary Long arrived at the board meeting, bringing the board members present to five.

**Contract Negotiation Committee's**

Jim stated that without final General Fund budget information, only one of the five contracts up for negotiation can be completed at this time. That is the contract for busses, which is funded from the Transportation Fund. Jim and Jeff have worked with Mike Krout from Majestic Bus Service, Inc. to prepare the contract for presentation to the board. This contract is included in the board packet.

Jim moved to approve this new 5 year contract for bus service with Majestic Bus Service, Inc. Victoria seconded the motion. **Passed 5-0.**

**School Policy Manual**

At this time, we are waiting for a response from MTSBA on some questions asked concerning the 7000 policy series. And since we have a town hall meeting at 8:00, the 8000's will require more time than we have this evening to discuss them. Jim requests postponing the 7000 and 8000 policy series until the May 9<sup>th</sup> board meeting. All agreed.

**MUST Insurance 2011-2012**

Jill presented the current proposal for health insurance from MUST for the 2011-2012 fiscal year. The increases to our rates would go up by approximately 9%. This results in an annual increase of a little over \$10,000. Due to the loss of funding in next year's budget, Jill does not see how we can absorb this increase. She called our customer service representative from MUST, Garth Cox, to see if he could come to a meeting with the entire school to discuss other alternatives. This will be set up within a week for further discussion.

**Interlocal Agreement with Missoula Area Educational Cooperative**

This agreement is with the Co-op we currently use for a Speech pathologist, Psychologist, and Psychiatrist. The language has been updated as shown in the agreement included in the board packet.

Jim asked if the agreement required us to use the Co-op services if we were unhappy with them. Jill said that past experience allowed us to use any of the services, or hire our own if we desired.

Jim moved to approve the intent to use the Missoula Area Educational Cooperative and sign the agreement. Jeff seconded the motion. **Passed 5-0.**

**Adjourn**

Chair O'Boyle adjourned the Board meeting at 8:03 pm.

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Robert O'Boyle, Chair

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Date

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Jill M Thornton, Clerk

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Date