The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Florence-Carlton School District #15-6 was called to order by Chair, Mrs. Vickie Cornish, at 7:01 p.m. on Tuesday, April 13, 2010, in the District Office Conference Room. Present at the meeting were Trustees Mr. Jim Shreve, Mrs. Dorothy Rhodes, Mr. Mel Finlay, and Mr. Leo Hansen. Superintendent Mr. John McGee; Elementary Principal Mrs. Chrissy Hulla; Principals Mr. Dan Grabowska and Mrs. Audrey Backus; and District Clerk Ms. Julie Mason. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mrs. Cornish.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:
The Board reviewed the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on March 9th and a Special Meeting held on March 15th, and the warrants for the month of April.

Mr. Shreve moved to approve the minutes of March 9th. Mr. Finlay seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Shreve moved to approve the minutes of March 15th. Mr. Finlay seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Shreve moved to approve the April warrants. Mrs. Rhodes seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

MEETINGS:
1. May 10th - Reorganizational Meeting
2. May 11th - 7:00 p.m. - Tuesday - Regular Board Meeting

There was a brief discussion on why the Reorganizational Meeting was being held when it was.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (limit of two minutes)
Mr. Kevin O'Brien wanted to know why he could not comment during the Board discussion at the last meeting. Mr. McGee explained the protocol that was followed at the last Special Board Meeting.

Mr. Rick Paris questioned the Public Comment procedures.
Mrs. Lena Nichols stated that she had made a comment at the last Board Meeting in which a Board member responded to and should not have and did not like how it was handled. Mrs. Nichols then stated she felt the school does not shine when it comes to a child with a disability.

Mr. Rick Paris passed out a request for information to the Board. He commented on public comment, Policy #4220, and Montana open meeting laws (3-103). He read these aloud and stated he felt the board did not follow the policy and law regarding public comment and/or the Montana open meeting law at the last special board meeting.

Mr. Jason Blodgett stated he was a 2008 Florence Graduate, graduated with a 3.5 GPA, and currently a U of M student. He stated he did not attribute any of his successes to the management of this school, but instead to family, friends, and teachers. He also stated he felt that all he learned from the administration was how to not run a business, that only two Board members had asked him how he thought the school was doing, and Mr. Blodgett stated he did not remember ever seeing the principal in his classrooms his senior year to evaluate teachers. He also stated that he was for getting rid of block scheduling.

CORRESPONDENCE:
None

STUDENT ISSUE:
A. Out of District Attendance-May Be Held In Executive Session
Meeting was closed at 7:24 p.m.
Meeting was open at 7:37 p.m.

Mr. Shreve moved to table the out of district student application until later notice. Mrs. Rhodes seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

HEALTH INSURANCE PRESENTATION:
Becky Byrne with Western States Insurance reviewed with the Board the fact that MUST insurance rates jumped for our District 28%-38%. Ms. Byrne then presented four different insurance carriers, their rates/options, and information about these four carriers. (MSHWP, Allegiance, New West, and Montana
Joint Powers Trust). Ms. Byrne stated that the best rate was from MSHWP, at a savings of 2.5% on our current premium. She also went through the pros and cons of each carrier. There was some discussion on the different insurance options, an assessment fee from MUST if we do not renew our coverage, and there was a special meeting set up just for health insurance discussion on April 20th at 7:00 p.m.

PERSONNEL:
A. Administration
1. Superintendent Performance-May Be Held in Executive Session
Mr. McGee stated that Rick Paris requested the Board to discuss a reprimand of the Superintendent for not following Policy #7110 for a second year in a row. Mr. McGee requested an executive session.

Meeting was closed at 8:05 p.m.
Meeting was open at 8:27 p.m.

Mrs. Rhodes moved to declare that Mr. Paris’s request is without merit. Mr. Finlay seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

B. Extracurricular Staff
1. Cheerleading Advisor
Mr. McGee informed the Board that Samantha Hatten had resigned her position as the Cheer Advisor.

Mr. Shreve moved to accept Mrs. Hatten’s resignation. Mrs. Rhodes seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

DISTRICT (STUDENT) ACTIVITY FUND DISCUSSION:
Mr. Paris spoke about that fact that there should not be negative balances in the Activity account, handwritten ledger cards, how many different accounts are listed, discrepancies and the audit comments were listed, and Mr. Paris stated that ending balances did not equal beginning balances from year to year. He also talked about some of the activity funds that he did not feel should be included in the Activity accounts, the Board should approve the checks from the activity account, and that the Board should set policy regarding these accounts and stick to it. He stated this account needed an audit.

Mrs. Cornish stated that the District is in the process of switching software, to Black Mountain Software, to make the activity accounts more transparent. Mr. McGee commented that, again, if the Board does not have faith and trust in the audit that is completed by Denning & Downey he would recommend a second auditor to focus solely on the student activity funds. He stated that he had an extremely high degree of confidence that the student activity funds have been managed appropriately and that monies are not missing from these funds. Mr. Paris stated that there were sixty-four accounts listed in the article in the Falcon View regarding the activity accounts, but he had paperwork showing there were two hundred and fifteen. He also questioned why the bank account balance and the ledger card balances were different in June. Ms. Mason stated that she had invited Mr. Paris several times to take a look and that the difference he saw was in outstanding checks, as there is a high amount of checks written in the end of June that do not clear until July or September. There was discussion on the Board approving/signing the activity checks and if other schools Boards approve their activity checks. Ms. Mason stated that she had contacted the other schools in the valley and not one school had their activity checks approved by their Board. Mr. O’Brien stated that he still had not received all of the information he had asked for in the past. He then asked where funds had come from to pay an IRS penalty. It was stated that this information had been given in a past Board meeting and had been paid from monies that had been reimbursed to the District from Allegiance Benefit Plan Management. Mr. O’Brien read aloud some of the notations made on the last audit and Ms. Mason stated yes that there were corrections that needed to be made, some of the past practices that were done did need to be changed, and that all notations made by the auditor help in updating, correcting, and/or changing practices in the way the accounting is done/reported. Mrs. Cornish stated that the District had offered many times to have the public come in and go over the information and that they had spent a lot of time going over old information. She stated that unless there were any other questions or a motion from the Board, they were moving on to the next Agenda item.

2008 AUDIT DISCUSSION:
Mr. Paris questioned the Board on if there were missing any pages on the audit report. Mrs. Cornish stated yes, the ones that were marked “this page intentionally left blank”. Mr. Paris stated that a Board member had received a copy of the audit that was missing twenty pages. Mr. Paris noted again the pages in which the deficiencies were noted and noted the ones that were repeated. It was stated that the repeat...
deficiencies were repeated because the previous audit was not complete until later the following fiscal year and there was not a chance to address those deficiencies as that year was over.

**POLICY:**

**A. Policy #7110 Budget and Program Planning Discussion**

Mr. Ward Wenholz had requested that the Trustees consider adding one teacher or more and a couple of community members to the finance committee. It would be changed to read, “consisting of two Board members, the Superintendent, two principals, and two community members.” Everyone was reminded that all public can always attend any of the committee meetings.

Mr. Shreve moved to accept School Board Policy #7110 as presented as first reading. Mr. Finlay seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

**B. Policy #8123 Driver Training and Responsibility Discussion**

Mr. McGee reported that there were issues with the use of cell phones by school bus drivers and that there would be a policy update that would address this issue coming from MTSBA. In the Board packet there was an example of model Policy #8123 from MTSBA.

Mr. Shreve moved to accept School Board Policy #8123 as presented as first reading. Mrs. Rhodes seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

**REPORTS:**

**A. Student Council President Report – Shelby Wenholz reported on the following:**

1. Will be doing things for Teacher Appreciation Week.
2. Student Council elections for next year will be held the end of May.

**B. High School Principal/Activity Director – Dan Grabowska reported on the following:**

**AD Activities**

1. There are 14 participants in softball. Softball field looks great. Only running a Varsity schedule with a few JV games thrown in.
2. There are 40 participants in track.
3. District music festival this weekend.

**High School**

1. MAPS testing
2. Working with students on building schedules.
3. Received a letter from OPI congratulating our Special Education Department and Coop staff on doing a great job. Would like our staff to train other districts on how to run their programs.

**C. 6-7-8 Principal - Mrs. Audrey Backus reported on the following:**

1. Working on transition from elementary school with the special education students.
2. Dante Avenia placed 7th at the State Geography Bee.
3. There are many field trips planned.
4. Special Olympics being held next week.
5. Assembly on drunk driving being held.
6. Indian Education week is this week.

**D. Elementary Principal Mrs. Chrissy Hulla reported on the following:**

1. Explained the fourth grade artwork hanging in the conference room
2. Second grade and first/second grade combo will be having music concert.
3. Parent/Teacher conferences held – 95% of parents attended.
4. This Saturday is the PACT Carnival.
5. April 22nd is Earth Day and the Elementary will be holding activities to celebrate that.

**E. Superintendent Report - Mr. McGee reported on the following:**

1. Mr. McGee informed the Board that there was a Civil Rights complaint filed against the District. This complaint has to do with inequitable treatment of the girls basketball program vs boys basketball program.
2. What was alleged was that there were more referees at the Loyola vs boys basketball game then the Loyola vs girls basketball game. Upon further review it was determined that when our boys played Loyola there were three referees at those games and there were two referees at girls basketball games against Loyola.
Mr. McGee has requested an informal resolution.

2. Greater Ravalli Foundation has formed a committee and asked Mr. McGee to sit on that committee and help with ideas on distributing funds.

3. In the process of reviewing with the administration block scheduling and the process of possibly changing to a seven or eight period day.

4. Still waiting on information from the engineer on the well on the church property.

5. There was a tree that fell on a trailer house next door. Our insurance had reviewed the claim and decided that the District did have some liability so our insurance will cover the claim.

6. OCR complaint filed in August is in the final stage of resolution.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Intersection of Long Avenue and Old Hwy 93 Discussion
The county road supervisor had given notice to the school district that it will be conducting a traffic load study with this intersection as a result of the school’s request for a stop sign at this intersection. Counters will be hooked up in the next couple of weeks.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Trustees Elect by Acclamation
Pursuant to MCA 20-3-313, the trustees of the Florence-Carlton School District #15-6, Ravalli/Missoula County, have determined the number of candidates filing for election (two) is equal to the number of positions to be elected (two). The trustees have also determined that the General Fund Levy portion of the election is not required. Being no other reason for the election, the trustees hereby give notice that the election has been cancelled for May 4, 2010.

It is further noted that at this Board meeting, the trustees shall declare those two candidates elected by acclamation and shall issue a certificate of election to each candidate at the May Board meeting.

Mr. Shreve moved that whereas, the Board of Trustees of Florence-Carlton School District #15-6, Ravalli/Missoula County, State of Montana, have received nominating petitions and/or write-in intent declarations equal to the number of positions to be elected, and there is no other reason for the Trustee election. Therefore, the regular Trustee election was not held and the necessary twenty-five (25) day Notice of Cancellation was made on April 8, 2010 after 5:00 p.m.

Be it resolved that Trustee Candidate Pat Appleby is hereby duly elected by acclamation for a three year term to the Board of Trustees of Florence-Carlton School District #15-6.

Approved this April 13, 2010.

Be it resolved that Trustee Candidate Mike Greger is hereby duly elected by acclamation for a three year term to the Board of Trustees of Florence-Carlton School District #15-6.

Approved this April 13, 2010.

Mrs. Cornish seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

B. 2010-2011 School Calendar
Mr. McGee stated that in the Board packet was the one calendar that the teachers had voted on for the next school year.

Mr. Shreve moved to adopt the school calendar as presented with a school beginning date of August 30, 2010 and a school ending date of June 9, 2010 for the 2010-2011 school year. Mr. Hansen seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

C. Little Guy Wrestling Request
Mr. Hoff requested that the Board consider letting Little Guy Wrestling build a wrestling building on the property. They are not asking for any funding to build the building, but the property to build on. Once a location has been approved then Little Guy Wrestling can start to plan the building and generate the funds to build the building. When it is all done, the school district would own the building and assume responsibility for insurance, all utility costs, all maintenance costs, and all liability. The organization was hoping that by putting up this building it would help alleviate the scheduling conflicts with all of the organizations that use the current facilities.
D. Falcon View Article Request

Mr. Paris had requested the board discuss allowing him print space in the Falcon View to retort both Mr. McGee’s and Mr. Grabowska’s articles. The board stated the Falcon View is a school newspaper and it would not be a good idea to create an opinion section this newspaper and denied the request to do so.

At 10:00 p.m., the Board Meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST: __________________________
Julie Mason
District Clerk

CHAIR: __________________________
Vickie Cornish
Chair