MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES held at the District Office, 240 S. 11th Street, St. Maries, Idaho, on Wednesday, July 27, 2011, at 5:30 p.m.

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Chair Margret Gannon, Vice-Chair Christine Ashmead, Trustees Sandy Kennelly, Donny Masterson, and Archie McGregor III

TRUSTEES ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Superintendent Joe Kren, Business Manager Danette Cordell, Board Clerk Karen Robinson, Principal Connie Mavity, and Lead Teacher Staci Truscott

OTHERS PRESENT: Summer Crosby, Berkli McGreal, Heidi McGreal, Pam Mitchell, and Doug Strong

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m., at the District Office, 240 S. 11th Street, St. Maries, Idaho, by Chair Margaret Gannon.

Chair Gannon welcomed the audience and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Superintendent Kren asked that the Board consider a motion to amend the meeting’s agenda to accept a staff resignation letter that was received July 27, 2011 and to release the staff member from the fully executed 2011-2012 Teacher’s Contract. Approval of the amended Agenda will support the need for District administrators to search for a staff replacement.

A motion was made by Archie McGregor and seconded by Donny Masterson that pursuant to Idaho Code Section 67-2343, the Board of Trustees amend the Agenda for the meeting to consider the resignation of Natalie Paasch as an elementary teacher at UpRiver School. The good faith reason that this item was not included on the posted Agenda was that Ms. Paasch’s Letter of Resignation was received on July 27, 2011, after the Agenda for the special meeting was posted. The record will reflect that the votes cast on the motion were:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>ABSTAIN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Gannon, Chair</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christine Ashmead, Vice-Chair</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td>Sandy Kennelly, Trustee</td>
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<td>Donny Masterson, Trustee</td>
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<td>Archie McGregor, Trustee</td>
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The Agenda stands amended.

Chair Gannon called for a motion to release Natalia Paasch from her Teacher’s Contract and to accept her Letter of Resignation. Trustee Kennelly so moved, with a second by Trustee Masterson, and the motion unanimously passed.
Chair Gannon addressed fellow Trustees and meeting attendees that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the proposal of re-locating UpRiver’s 6th grade students to St. Maries Middle School. A meeting was held at UpRiver School on July 19, 2011 for the purpose of seeking parent and patron comments and input related to the proposal. All Trustees were present at the July 19, 2011 UpRiver meeting, with the exception of Trustee Kennelly. Trustee Kennelly shared that she has been reviewing the information, visiting with patrons regarding the matter, and that she will be participating in voting on the motion when it is presented.

Superintendent Joe Kren, UpRiver Lead Teacher Staci Truscott, and Heyburn Principal Connie Mavity responded to Trustees’ questions related to:

- UpRiver’s projected enrollment for 5th grade for the next couple of years
- Transient student population of UpRiver School
- St. Maries Middle School’s projected class size for 2011-2012
- Class configurations related to combination classes
- Although not covered by Board Policy, the potential for use of classroom instructional assistants with larger classrooms based on Administrators’ recommendations
- Use of classroom instructional assistants to support elementary classrooms
- Successes/Difficulties of combination classrooms
- Selection process for staff members assigned to combination classrooms
- Selection process for students assigned to combination classrooms
- Allotment and design of instructional time per 5th grade and 6th grade for potential UpRiver 5/6 combination classroom
- Difference of Math curriculum between 5th and 6th grades, and ability of assigned teacher to implement two different curriculums, and options related thereto, including use of classroom instructional assistant
- Patron concerns with class configurations/classroom assistants assigned throughout the District due to differences in student numbers in regular and combination classrooms at both Heyburn Elementary and UpRiver School
- Availability of funding to pay for instructional assistants, with less State dollars directed toward salary based apportionment and more State revenue directed toward technology and teacher bonuses
- Curriculum changes on the horizon at the 6th grade level related to Common Core State Standards with tighter alignment at the secondary level tied to content specific academic areas including Math and English/Language Arts
- Peer relationships between UpRiver students who remain and UpRiver and their peers who make the transition through the Open Enrollment process
- Overall transition issues for students moving between District buildings as well as new students to the District
- Pros/cons related to small school/community and large school/community
- Availability of Lead Teacher to support 5/6 Math curriculum instruction as well as other assigned duties
- Academic growth of UpRiver student population
- Necessity to facilitate the relationships and perceptions of patrons throughout the entire School District as one unit collectively addressing the needs of all District students
- Historical UpRiver supplemental levy voting records/support
- UpRiver community sentiment related to the proposed relocation of the 6th grade students to St. Maries Middle school included:
  - Convenience of students attending school in the local community vs. traveling to St. Maries
  - Closeness and almost instant availability of teachers and staff to discuss student/parent concerns and issues
  - Continued patron disillusionment with the District’s decision to bring the 7th/8th grade students to St. Maries
  - Desires of some 6th grade students to remain at UpRiver
  - Alleged mistreatment of UpRiver students when they made the transition to St. Maries Middle School
  - Student emotional stability and anxiety related to transition issues
  - Distance between UpRiver communities and St. Maries Middle School does not support parental presence in the buildings
  - UpRiver support of supplemental levies to support existing programs

Chair Gannon called for a motion related to moving all sixth grade students from UpRiver School to St. Maries Middle School. Trustee Masterson made a motion to allow 6th graders to continue at UpRiver School for this school year. Trustee Ashmead seconded the motion, and Chair Gannon called for discussion. Trustee Masterson cited while the curriculum alignment issue will need to be addressed, other factors such as UpRiver’s academic success, and loss of funding related to re-locating the UpRiver 6th grade students to St. Maries Middle School, and the cost savings to the District when the 7th/8th grades classes were transferred to St. Maries Middle School as some of his rationale for the motion. Trustee Masterson further indicated that as the enrollment numbers increase/decrease at UpRiver School, that he believes the Trustees should look at the issue again. Trustees discussed the potential for the need to revisit the issue throughout the year. Trustee Ashmead indicated that she does not believe the matter needs to be revisited again this year, and she withdrew her second to the motion on the table. Following discussion, Trustee Masterson amended his motion to reflect that the UpRiver 6th grade students will stay at UpRiver indefinitely. Chair Gannon called for a motion to accept Trustee Masterson’s amended motion to reflect that the UpRiver 6th grade students will stay at UpRiver indefinitely, with a second by Trustee Ashmead. Chair Gannon called for a vote to allow Trustee Masterson’s amended motion to stand, and Trustees unanimously approved allowing the amended motion. Chair Gannon called for discussion on the amended Motion. Trustees discussed that if information or numbers significantly change related to the issue, the matter could come forth before to the Board of Trustees again for their consideration.

Chair Gannon called for a roll call vote on Trustee Masterson’s amended motion that the UpRiver 6th grade students will stay at UpRiver indefinitely as seconded by Trustee Ashmead and the roll call vote for the motion was:
Chair Margaret Gannon     Aye
Vice-Chair Christine Ashmead Aye
Trustee Sandy Kennelly     Aye
Trustee Donny Masterson    Aye
Trustee Archie McGregor III Nay

There being no further business for which the meeting was called, the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m., Wednesday, July 27, 2011.

/s/ MARGARET R. GANNON
Margaret Gannon, Board Chair

/s/ KAREN M. ROBINSON
Karen M. Robinson, Board Clerk