

SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

January 5, 2010

The special meeting of the Board of Trustees of Joint School District #391 was held in the conference room of the district office on January 5, 2010. Board members present were Thad Samuelson, Scott Gibbs, and Bob Stovern. Also present were Superintendent Pommerening, Clerk Rinaldi, Bonnie Farmin, Marilyn Mangum, Glenda Stern, and Susan Finlay-Clark.

Vice Chairman Samuelson called the meeting to order at 6:23 p.m.

Superintendent Pommerening began the discussion on the Race to the Top grant proposal. The State Department of Education must have a certain percentage of districts (LEAs) participate to apply for the federal grant. An eight page memorandum of understanding was provided to the board members and the WSEA members from the state department for review. Discussion was held on each section of the agreement. There were concerns about the assessments, how improvement would be measured, time and money constraints, and the scope of the project.

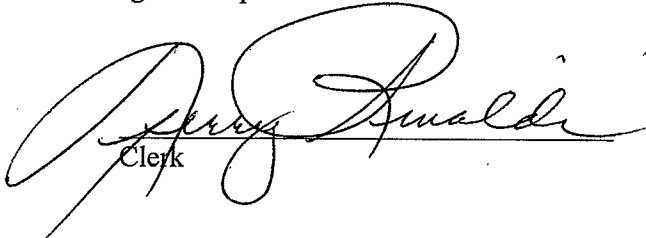
The initial application must be to Boise by the 12th of January and the state must submit their application by the 19th of January. It won't be until April that the state will know if they qualified for Round 1 of the grant. If they did not, they will have the opportunity to reapply in June for Round 2.

The preliminary scope of work includes: standards and assessments, data systems to support instruction, and great teachers and leaders. Evaluation of teachers will be based on the Charlotte Danielson Framework for Teachers. There is also an incentive pay pilot program. Superintendent Pommerening stated that a committee would be set up to govern the grant and make determinations beneficial to the district. This may include extra pay for hard to fill positions in the district.

Discussion was then held on the highlights of the Idaho Draft RT3 Plan. Concerns were discussed on the timeline. The 90 day response time, after Idaho would possibly receive the grant, allows districts to opt out if they decide they no longer wish to participate in the grant. The board and WSEA members discussed the commitment needed to work together. There were concerns about the time commitment involved and stipends were discussed for the extra work that would be required.

Superintendent asked the WSEA co-presidents if they were in favor of signing the memorandum of understanding. They indicated that they were in favor of signing. She then recommended to the board that as a district we proceed with the Race to the Top Grant proposal. A motion was made by Bob Stovern, seconded by Scott Gibbs to approve entering into a Memorandum of Understanding as a participating LEA with the Idaho State Department of Education in the Race to the Top Grant project. All in favor the motion carried.

The board members adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.



Clerk

Board Chairman