



FIRST MESA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Regular Governing Board Meeting
Tuesday, December 1, 2015
FMES Library-5pm

I. **Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 5:07 p.m. by President Lucille Sidney.

II. **Roll Call**

Present: Lucille Sidney, Rachel Maho, Carmen Honyouti, Judy Talawyma

Absent: Angeline Joseph, Priscilla Pavatea

For the record: Angeline Joseph arrived at 5:10 p.m. Priscilla Pavatea arrived at 5:20 p.m.

Quorum Present

Staff Member: Alma Siquah, CSA, Marilyn Lomahaftewa, Business Manager; LaRae Humeystewa, Emily Mutz, Rosita Claw, Samuel Tenakhongva.

Guest: Ivan Sidney Sr.

III. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion:

Judy Talawyma motioned to approve the agenda as is.

Angeline Joseph seconded the motion.

Vote: 4 Approved 0 Abstained 0 Opposed

Motion Carries.

IV. **Call to the Public-3 minutes**

Ivan Sidney Sr. shared with the Board how disappointed he felt on the condition of the exterior of the school grounds. He congratulates the staff for the improvement of the school. For the last 6 years our Village was in turmoil due to no representation at Tribal Council. This morning history was in the making with 4 Village Representatives were appointed to Tribal Council. Ivan Sidney Sr. stated one of the Village challenges is the election process by the village members and he suggested to the Village Representatives to start having public meetings to start compromising with the Villages. He would like all Villages and the school to work together by using the school building to hold general meeting for all Villages. Ivan Sidney Sr. stated we need to keep our students in mind and continue to move forward and do our best to bring our community students back to First Mesa Elementary School. Dale Siquah, A.T. Siquah, Valentino Youvella and Wallace Youvella Sr. are the current Village Representatives. Ivan Sidney Sr. informed the Board on the water issues, including the arsenic in the water. First Mesa Consolidated Village is held back because the Hopi Tribe is supposed to be taking the lead and they have not, therefore Ivan Sidney Sr. is moving forward with the water issues for the Village and is now working with NTUA Navajo Tribe. They are not for profit and they can also apply for a grant for our Village. Our Village has the largest water system on the reservation including a commercial water system. Ivan Sidney Sr. shared he received a grant to build a fire station and community building not far from here. He would like to be put on the agenda to give information on the master plan development.

Priscilla Pavatea arrived at 5:20 p.m.

V. **Approval of minutes**

A. November 3, 2015 Regular Governing Board meeting:
Governing Board reviewed meeting minutes.

Motion:

Judy Talawyma motioned to approve the November 3, 2015 Regular Governing Board meeting minutes with two corrections.

Carmen Honyouti seconded the motion.

Vote: 5 Approved 0 Abstained 0 Opposed

Motion carries.

B. November 18, 2015 Special Governing Board meeting:

Governing Board reviewed meeting minutes. Rachel Maho indicated she stated "Rachel Maho recommends having the Intervention Educator to hold morning activity since it was intended for that." Lucille Sidney asked Rachel Maho if she wanted to change the minutes to include the statement "to hold a morning activity as it was previous assigned to the Intervention Educator." Ms. Siquah stated it was not assigned to the Intervention Educator but was suggested by him. Lucille Sidney suggested we go with what is on the recording and informed Rachel Maho to see LaRae Humeyestewa or Alma Siquah if she has questions about the recording to verify the statement that she made. The changes can be made to the minutes. Lucille Sidney stated if the Board needs to review the recording to verify the statement on how the minutes should read the minutes will be tabled for the next meeting. Priscilla Pavatea asked Rachel Maho if she wanted to review the recording. Rachel Maho indicated she did not need to review the recording but will abstain her vote.

Motion:

Priscilla Pavatea motioned to approve the November 18, 2015 Special Governing Board meeting minutes with the change of taught to thought.

Judy Talawyma seconded the motion.

Vote: 2 Approved 3 Abstained 0 Opposed

Motion fails.

VI. **Reports**

A. Chief School Administrator reads her report to the Board. Rachel Maho suggested that each department give a report at the Board meetings including academics. Rachel Maho would like to receive information on the growth of our student's academics. Alma Siquah recommended doing these reports during the semi-annual retreat in January because of the amount of time it will take at the Board meetings. Rachel Maho suggested written reports from the departments will keep the Board informed about their reading and math programs. Lucille Sidney recommended a small written report by the Teachers along with the Principal's monthly report. A written report is recommended due to the amount of items to cover during board meetings. If there is a need at the end of the year for a summative report from the departments the Board will request for it at the end of the year retreat. Alma Siquah suggested providing the Board members the Teachers newsletters which includes student academic progress. Samuel Tenakhongva suggested to the Board members to visit the classroom to observe what is happening in the classroom. Lucille Sidney informed the Board members not to take a check list with them the Lawyer informed the Board not to use a check list during a visit. Carmen Honyouti suggested quarterly Teacher reports due to the workload of the Teachers. Lucille Sidney recommended highlights from the Teachers. Judy Talawyma would like to hear a report from Francelia Tom's Gifted & Talented training. Rachel Maho stated we are not on top of our academics, Alma Siquah asked what specific areas we are not on top of. Rachel Maho mentioned all areas of curriculum and support programs. Upcoming meetings will include department academic reports. Lucille Sidney would like to have a general education report by Alma Siquah for the upcoming monthly meetings.

B. Board President-Tribal Council report:

Lucille Sidney informs the Board on the oral report on the Tribal Council meeting held November 23, 2015. Noreen Sakiestewa gave her review on what the Tribal Education Department (TED) grant entailed and how the Tribe was anticipating the funds which were already awarded to the Hopi Tribe and awaiting drawdown of \$200,000 for the next three years. Dr. Sakiestewa's plan was to do a feasibility study for all grant schools and revise the educational ordinance code. She also provided information on the 20/20 grant which is identified in the US Code of Regulation as a grant that the Government can give to Tribal Education Departments, a letter to Tribal Council a letter from Dr. Charles Russell, Director of BIE which was not shown to anyone therefore Lucille Sidney is unaware of what the letter contained, frequently asked questions about the TED grant and the instruction documents on applying for the grant. No copies of the documents were given to the public to view. Vice-Chairman questioned who gave the authority to apply for the TED grant, but the question was never answered by Dr. Sakiestewa. Ms. Tenakhongva made statements regarding phones that were made to Dr. Charles Russell and his response was they did not need Tribal approval to apply for the grant. Dr. Sakiestewa gave information on the history of the TED grant and how the BIE set aside 2 million dollars to build capacity for Tribes, reorganization of the BIE, and how they were establishing two centers one for grant schools and one for BIE schools. The Western region will be using the Albuquerque office for assistance. Ms. Tenakhongva stated the goal for this grant is to provide a system that will help the schools for assistance rather than use the Albuquerque office. She used our school as an example as we were going through the conversion process that we reached out to the Tribe for assistance. Lucille Sidney made clear that we did not reach out for assistance from the Tribe but rather giving the Tribe the perspective about the conversion. Schools were concerned about losing their operating status and the School Boards have more knowledge than the Tribal Council of the operation of grant schools. The School Boards stated there is lack of confidence in the Education Department. Dr. Sakiestewa informed the Tribal Council the grant and budget can be revised. Lucille Sidney had a chance to speak on behalf of First Mesa Elementary School she pointed out statements made by Dr. Sakiestewa and Ms. Tenakhongva, identified the amount of time we were allowed to get our feet wet, reiterated how our school is only in its first year of being grant but we have made genuine and large strides within these past few months, including our funding which exceeds what we had been receiving before. She also invited them to visit the schools to see what programs were are implementing. Rachel Maho made a comment that she was proud of Lucille Sidney on the statements she made to Tribal Council. Tribal Council did not take action this item.

VII. **New Business**

A. Approve SY 2015-2016 proposed Budget Modification:

Budget was reviewed during the work session in November. Unmet needs budget has been included to the SY 2015-2016 Budget Modification. First Mesa Elementary School (FMES) has been receiving funding which includes the amendment that was received today for the amount of \$2,011,000 for ISEP. Marilyn Lomahaftewa recommends hiring a Reading Coach, Math Coach and a full time substitute. FMES received over 2 million. Marilyn Lomahaftewa will do another modification to Title I due to the additional funding we received. Title I funds need to be spent carry over is only 15%. Marilyn Lomahaftewa will give the staff a copy of the current budget and review it with them at the work session on December 5, 2015.

Motion:

Carmen Honyouti motioned to approve the SY 2015-2016 Budget Modification.

Judy Talawyma seconded the motion.

Vote: 5 Approved 0 Abstained 0 Opposed

Motion carries.

EXCESSIVE SESSION:

Motion In:

Judy Talawyma motioned for excessive session at 6:34pm.

Angeline Joseph seconded the motion.

Vote: 5 Approved 0 Abstained 0 Opposed

Motion carries.

Motion Out:

Priscilla Pavatea motioned out of excessive session at 7:18pm.

Judy Talawyma seconded the motion.

Vote: 5 Approved 0 Abstained 0 Opposed

Motion carries.

- B. Request for additional day for contracted Counselor:

Motion:

Carmen Honyouti motioned to approve an additional day for a male Counselor from the same firm.

Hudy Talawyma seconded the motion.

Vote: 5 Approved 0 Abstained 0 Opposed Motion carries.

VIII. Personnel

- A. Transportation Supervisor:

Motion:

Judy Talawyma motioned to approve the present Lead Bus Driver Anthony Fred to Transportation Supervisor.

Angeline Joseph seconds the motion.

Vote: 5 Approved 0 Abstained 0 Opposed

Motion carries.

- B. Resignation:

Motion:

Angeline Joseph motioned to accept the resignation of Wilmer Lomayaoma Jr., Assistant Cook.

Carmen Honyouti seconds the motion.

Vote: 5 Approved 0 Abstained 0 Opposed

Motion carries.

IX. Announcement

- A. First Mesa Consolidated Villages water report.
- B. Michael Hughes BIE FY 2016 Budget workshop deadline Friday December 4, 2015. Workshop is on December 16-17, 2015 in Albuquerque, NM. Board is suggested bringing Michael Hughes out to Hopi or a webinar.
- C. FMES work session agenda. Alma Siquah reviewed the agenda with the Board for the work session on December 5, 2015.
- D. Governing Board By-Laws. Alma Siquah recommended the Board to review both by-laws that are in the Board packet and decide which by-laws will be used. Decision will be made next board meeting.
- E. Letter of Community member. Letter was read into record. Lucille Sidney directs Alma Siquah to write a short response letter and to inform the community member of the process of the background checks. The letter is to include the current budget and other documents she refers to in her letter. Alma Siquah will invite her to the Board meetings. Send courtesy copies to the Chairman and Dr. Sakiestewa.

XI. Adjournment

Judy Talawyma motioned to Adjourn at 8:00 pm.

Angeline Joseph seconds the motion.

Vote: 5 Approved 0 Abstained 0 Opposed

Prepared by: LaRae Humeystewa, Board Secretary Humeystewa

Approved minutes: Regular Governing Board Meeting 12/1/15

Motion to approve minutes: Priscilla Paratea Date: 1/5/16

Second by: Judy Talawyma

Vote: 5 Approved 0 Abstained 0 Opposed Motion carried: yes

Governing Board President Signature: Shirley Pindy