

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING FOR THE PURPOSE OF AN ORIENTATION FOR STUDENT  
REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD**

**POCATELLO/CHUBBUCK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 25  
Education Service Center Board Room  
Tuesday, September 18, 2012**

**BOARD MEMBERS AND SUPERINTENDENT PRESENT:**

Janie Gebhardt, Chair  
John Sargent, Vice Chair  
Jackie Cranor, Clerk

Jim Facer, Assistant Treasurer  
Mary Vagner, Superintendent

**Convene Special Meeting for the Purpose of an Orientation for Student Representatives to the Board**

Chair Gebhardt convened the Special Meeting/Work Session at 5:03 p.m. She said the purpose of the Special Meeting/Work Session was to conduct an orientation for the Student Representatives to the Board. Chair Gebhardt conducted introductions. She said Mr. Vitale was a new Trustee that would be seated that evening. Ms. Vagner reviewed the agenda. She said the principals worked with their student representatives to the Board to make sure students were prepared to report on the activities at the school. She said the Board liked to hear about the academic, athletic and fine arts programs. She said if there are issues that the student body is dealing with the Board wanted to hear about those as well. She said the administration asked student reports to be kept to three minutes or less. She said student representatives were welcome to stay for the entire Board meeting but were free to leave when student reports were complete. She said agendas were posted electronically and were available the Friday before a meeting. She said sometimes topics were on the agendas that directly affected students, such as a dress code policy, which would be a good opportunity for a student representative to provide input on behalf of their school. She said occasionally committees were formed that needed student input in which case student representatives to the Board would be asked to participate. She said student representatives should meet with the principal once a month to review the Board agenda and go through their presentation to the Board. She said principals were good about making time to review what students planned to report. She said if the student representatives had any trouble finding the materials on the website either the principal or counselor would be able to help locate any materials. She said student representatives should speak to the student body about what they learned during Board meetings or from reviewing agendas. She said if a student couldn't make it to a meeting, the administration asked them to send a backup representative. She said students were only expected to come to nine meetings for the year and past representatives had been good about attending. She said the administration would set up email accounts for the students to contact them with relevant information. She said Board members were available to answer any questions beyond the building principal or counselor, as well as Mr. Devine, Ms. Johnson and herself at the District Offices. She said the Board and administration looked forward to working with the student representatives. She said it was important to note that student representatives were not Trustees and were not entitled to vote on any issues. She said student input was critical to how the Board voted but the students themselves could not. She said student representatives received all of the same materials as the Board for any meetings with the exception of confidential student or employee information. Ms. Cranor said she enjoyed having the students at Board meetings and appreciated their perspectives. She said the packets were like a novel every month but she recommended the student representatives review agendas to see if there were any topics that interested them. Mr. Sargent said the Board liked to hear about what activities were going on in the schools, like sports or highest honors. He said Trustees represented their own Zone area but also represented the entire District. He said the Board attended the dedication of the New Horizon Center and he thought it was fun and beautiful. Mr. Facer said he was the newest Board Member until Mr. Vitale was seated later in the evening. He said he enjoyed hearing about what was happening in the schools and enjoyed hearing it from the students directly. Ms. Gebhardt said she appreciated hearing the reports from the students as well because a lot of what was going on didn't end up in the paper. She said it was also important for the student representatives to see the work of the Board in action and to know who they were and what they did. Ms. Vagner said the Board held Work Sessions on the second Tuesday of every month from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. She said the agendas were posted to the District's website and if a student felt strongly about a topic he/she could attend those as well with permission from the principal and parents. Mr. Barnes said it was important for the students to show up. He said it was a little awkward for the Board to skip hearing a report on the school if the student was missing. He told the students not

to be intimidated or afraid. Mr. Devine reminded students that just as they would prefer a teacher come to them with a problem before going to their parents, the administration preferred students come to them with an issue before bringing it to the Board. He said no one liked to be put on the spot. Ms. Cranor said the student representatives were representing education and was a great thing and hoped people would take note of the great things students were doing. Ms. Vagner said this was a chance for students to be a spokesperson for their school. She said this is the best District in the state and the students had a chance to show that.

**Adjourn**

Chair Gebhardt adjourned the Special Meeting at 5:24 p.m.

**APPROVED ON:**

OCTOBER 16, 2012

**MINUTES PREPARED BY:**

  
Secretary, Board of Trustees

**BY:**

  
Chair

**ATTESTED BY:**

  
Clerk