

Miami-Yoder School District  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes  
Wednesday December 20, 2023  
Cafeteria  
7:00 PM

**1.00** The regular meeting was called to order by Board President, Mr. Leupp at 7:00 PM. On roll call vote the following members were present: Mr. Nelson Leupp, Mr. Eric Bringhurst, Mrs. Sharron Darby, Mr. Daniel Carneal, Mr. Martin Howard, Mrs. Desiree McKnight and Mr. Timmothy Davis was absent. Also present were: Mr. Dwight Barnes Superintendent/Principal, Mrs. Sheila Hartley Elementary Principal, James Dechant, Athletic Director and Ms. Robyn Klunder, Business Manager.

**2.00** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

**3.00** Additions to Agenda – none

**4.00** Motion to approve the Agenda by, Mr. Carneal second by, Mr. Howard

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mr. Howard, Mr. Leupp

**5.00** Recognition - none

**6.00** Correspondence/Reports - none

**6.02** Board Member Reports

- Mr. Carneal and Mrs. McKnight
- Mrs. McKnight, I learned a lot at CASB conference. There were a lot of people there. The Rural Breakfast was not so rural, there were 600 people there. I was expecting a round table and it was not. Rural school make up two thirds of the State. But they have the least amount of voice, which is sad. I got some handbook and brought them back for Mr. Bringhurst and Mrs. Darby.
- Mr. Carneal, it was good. I learned more than I thought I would have. I think all school board members should attend. Just hearing of bits and pieces, talking to a guy in Fort Collins and they are having some of the same problems that Miami Yoder is. It just amazed me, yes some of the bigger school have their issues too. Every School district has some of the same issues. We are all in the same game no matter the size. Just the different ways you are supposed to conduct the meetings. I would recommend it to everyone.

**6.03 Recognition of outgoing Board Members**

- Mr. Barnes, we have two members retiring tonight. We want to say thank you for your service. It seems like a small commitment, but it is not. There is always a lot going on. As a way to say thank you we have a few things for you. We appreciate all you have done for us. That is our President and Vice President we are losing.

**6.04 Swearing in of new Board Members - by the board President Mr. Leupp.**

- Mrs. McKnight – Oath of Office
  - Mrs. Darby – Oath of Office
- Mr. Barnes Congratulates and Welcome!

**6.05 Motion to approve going into re-organization session with new board members by,**

Mr. Bringhurst second by, Mr. Carneal

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mrs. Darby, Mrs. McKnight

- a. Mr. Leupp, (by roll call) – at this time I need Nominations from the board for the office of President, is there any other nominations for president – roll call  
Mrs. McKnight, I would like to nominate Mr. Carneal, Mr. Bringhurst seconds

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mrs. Darby, Mrs. McKnight      Mr. Carneal abstain

- b. Vice President (by roll call) – at this time I need nominations from the board for the office of Vice President is there any other nominations for Vice President – roll call  
Mr. Carneal, I would like to nominate Mr. Bringhurst, Mrs. McKnight seconds

Ayes; Mr. Carneal, Mrs. Darby, Mrs. McKnight      Mr. Bringhurst abstain

- c. Secretary – appoint - Mrs. Darby
- d. Treasurer – appoint - Mrs. McKnight
- e. BOCES Representative – appoint – Mr. Bringhurst
- f. DAC Representative – appoint – Mrs. Darby
- g. Legislative Representative – appoint – Mr. Davis
- h. CASB Representative – appoint – Mr. Davis

**6.08 Elementary Principal, Sheila Hartley**

- Since our last meeting, 5<sup>th</sup> grade has gone on a field trip to Air Force Academy for STEM activities.
- We just finished up our benchmark testing for the winter. For Kindergarten through fifth grade our medium percentile achievement for reading was at 47% and our goal is

60%. We have some work to do before the spring. Our math percentile was 53%, our goal is 60%, we have some work to do. Our growth was good, in math 48% met or exceed their growth and in reading 52%. They are growing but they came in low, so our achievement is struggling. That is where we are with our bench mark data.

- Today Santa visited our Tuesday-Wednesday Pre-School and tomorrow Santa will arrive on the fire truck. Our big day tomorrow is just fun with Santa.
- On January 8, it is a PD day. We will have de-escalation training for all staff. That is how to work those kids when they are upset and not make them more upset.
- We will be working on our new phone system also.
- Students come back on the 9<sup>th</sup> of January, which is our board meeting night.

#### 6.09 Secondary Principal, Dwight Barnes

- We are wrapping up finals. First day was today and the rest tomorrow. We are in the middle of field trip season pretty quick. Band has a few coming up. FFA and FCCLA will start their trips up soon.
- We have second semesters most of the schedules are ready to roll. We can make a few adjustments and we will be up and rolling.

Mr. Carneal, Is the SRO helping both you? Mrs. Hartley, yes. Mr. Barnes, He also has a field trip planned to a college when the students can sit in on Criminal Justice classes.

#### 6.10 Athletic Director

- We have just completed the first part of the season. The high school girls finish with 3/2 season. The boys are 4/1. Everyone is off on Christmas break, we will pick up practice on January 3.
- Middle school basketball the girls could finish as high as second. We have one more game in January with Calhan. Depending how they do, the girls could finish second and the boys between third to fifth.
- The Junior High tournament will start on the 16<sup>th</sup> of January. This year they are inviting the top eight. The boys will be in Elbert and the girls will be in Simla. The Semi's and Finals will be in Elbert on that weekend.
- James Orozco has been invited to play in the All State football game. Mrs. McKnight, that is awesome! Mr. Carneal, there are Officials who really like. They enjoy him. Mrs. McKnight, when is the All Star Game? Mr. Dechant, it is the first week of June. They will practice that week and the game is on the 7 or the 14. There are two games, 6 man and 11 man. Mrs. McKnight, so are we going to advertise? To get as many people out to support him.
- Mr. Carneal, is there a preliminary schedule for football and volleyball out yet? Mr. Dechant, I just got those schedules today. In 6 man they run the football and volleyball games together.

#### 7.0 Audience to Visitor

The Board of Education has set aside this 15-minute period for public comment. The Board asks that a person sign in and state the subject of their remarks on the form provided at the door. Speakers will then be called upon in the order of request. **The Board requests that speakers limit topics to school operations and programs. The Board must move any discussion of personnel or students to executive session**

- Melissa Bringhurst, I am not a fan of contention, I don't like to be part of. However, I have to stand up for what I believe is right. I attended last weeks board meeting for sole intention of learning more about what happened on December 2 between a board member/coach and an on duty school bus driver. I was not impressed with what I saw and heard. The school board member was given the opportunity to explain what happened and why. The board and audience were subject to someone who dodged answering questions, who was condescending to other board members, and made underhand comments that I would consider very rude and insulting. The little bit of information that I did gather, is that this school board member/coach left where he was at to confront an on duty bus driver. While he claims it was not his intent for things to go the way they did, I question him why, what was the intent. The facts I do know are the school board member knew the bus driver was on duty. That the school board member chose to confront the bus driver. Then began to engage in behavior that has already be deem by this board inappropriate and against school board policy. What was not brought up at the last school board meeting was that this board members behavior put the student athletes and coaches who were riding that bus, in danger. If the school board member truly needed to confront the bus driver I believe that it could have been at another time and place. Perhaps one that was not in front of the students and athletes and not when the students needed to ride the bus home. Confronting the school bus driver when he knew the bus drive had student to drive home was negligent, inappropriate and dangerous. While I know the school board has already Censured this board member, I don't think that was enough. The members of the school board should be people that are leaders and examples to this community, especially to the students of this school. I as a community member and a parent whose children ride the buses do not look at this board member as a leader or a good example for my children. I do not trust them or the decisions they make are in the best interest of students in mind. I believe they lack integrity as a leader, and I am disappointed and I am sure not the only one who notices that this board member is not here today. I am disappointed I can not look them in the eyes and ask them to take responsibility for their actions and resign their positions. Thank you.
- Audra Lopez, I am here in three different (inaudible) , Teacher, students in the school, community member and tax payor. She is requesting an agenda item to be added to the board meeting for information on the budget, cash flow problems, who is the budget committee, who handles day to day budget for district, reserves, Payroll, when budget is approved by the board, what bills are from the lighting strike, bus repairs, and kitchen equipment failure. Could employees who don't use school insurance saving the district the \$500.00, could there be an incentive for them. We would like our concerns and question answered. Thank you.
- Don Anthony, I am the vice chairman of the fire board. Last spring, we instructed our fire chief and assistant deputy chief to put together a fire respond plan for the school. It was going along pretty good. this includes, for the school, for the building evacuations, school activities, for football games, you name it, EMS, Fire, anything involving emergency response for the school. Point blank we have received little to

no cooperation from the school and the school board. We have instructed the fire chief to finish up the response plan and implement it. Things were working really good with the SRO until the last couple of months when he was instructed to put that on the way side. This is unacceptable. A school board member came to our fire board meeting and requested that plan be put in place. The last email response from anyone at this school is over a month ago. We need information so we can put this fire plan together? So, this school, the kids, the staff and this community knows exactly what going to happen in the event of a major emergency. This includes propane, a shooter, any kind of an evacuation. Anything, this is all together in the response plan. We need information, we need our emails answered. What can we do to get this? The school will be mandated to follow the plan, we want your input. Mrs. McKnight, So is that different then the red response books that we have in place? because I am new, I am not understanding what you are needing from the school? Mr. Anthony, we need as minor information as student count. Mrs. McKnight, Do you need general information on student count as it fluctuates. Mr. Anthony, we know that. We need to know what the roof weight limit is, where the propane is located, contact points, who do we contact. All this information we requested and have not received it yet. Mrs. McKnight, are you needing this information for your paperwork? Scott Markel, it is for our information for any emergency. I understand that students fluctuate, but there has to be a way to know about how many students and staff are here daily. Some kind of guesstimate. That way we are more prepared. Mr. Markel, I have a copy of the emergency response plan, but I think it needs to be re-worded in places and somethings need to be changed in it. Mr. Carneal, I think Debra Payne wants to make a comment. Mrs. Payne, I want to apologize if I need to. Someone met with Ruby a month or so ago. They gave her a bunch of stuff and we are working on it. With the SRO teaching classes and our schedules, it is taking time to get the information that was requested. We are not putting you off or someone dropped the ball, we are working on getting this stuff together. Mrs. McKnight, with 350 students on top of all that. We are a school and children come first. Mr. Anthony, I understand that, but I would think safety and welfare of children come first. If Mr. Barnes and the board thinks that other things come first before the safety of staff and students. Mr. Carneal, I am going to say my bit and we will move on. It sounds like it is a communications thing. I know that Miami Yoder has been trying for a year to get this done and not to offend Tri County but they drag their feet. Now it sounds like Miami Yoder is trying to get what you need and this is a communications thing. At this time, I don't think this is a Miami Yoder school board thing. It sounds like it is going to take time.

- Fernando Tinoco, Today I want to address the Superintendent Mr. Barnes. Mr. Barnes did your friendship or relationship with Mr. Davis stop you from doing your job correctly with regards with to the incident between Mr. Davis and your employee which is myself? I ask as you never contacted me after you talked to Mr. Davis right after the incident happened. I was on the clock, I was working and he was not. Thank you.
- Natalie Tanoco, she read a statement addressed to Mr. Davis.

Mr. Davis, I am asking for you to resign as a board member. It is sad that your family and mine have come to these terms. It is sad to see this side of you and your family. It is disappointing to see, in action, the other side of you. The sad part of this story was that I respected you. You were my computer teacher my freshmen year, and I thought you were one of the coolest, funniest, and most caring teachers ever. I thought you had my best interest at heart, but you did not. If you had my best interest at heart, you would have never allowed your wife and step daughter to file protective orders against me, stating that I be homeschooled and preventing me from participating in the activities I am most passionate about. My brother, who you coached, respected you as well. But you lost that respect the moment you got in my brother's face and came at my parents aggressively. You were supposed to be a role model because of the person you were and the positions you held, as a former teacher, coach, and board member. Not only did my brother and I look up to you, but also many of the athletes who witnessed the events that took place on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. A role model is someone who demonstrates a positive attitude, controlled and disciplined behavior, respectful behavior, and displays good aspects of a citizen. What would you describe as a good citizen? This is a person who has good morals, values, is respectful, is trustworthy, and helps the community. You do not demonstrate any of these qualities. At least not anymore, or maybe secretly you never did. What you did was unethical, and you should know what ethics are because you gave me a whole lesson on this topic in my class freshman year. As much as this community or I have feeling of hatred or dislike for you, I pray to God that your conscience gets cleared. What you did to my family and I was wrong, and I pray to God that you learn from it and that you understand. I pray to God that he forgives you and us for the sins we made, and that you and your family are blessed. I pray that God enlightens you in what it is to be a good human being. I pray to God that you never put any family at risk and at harm like you did to my family and to others, because not only did you affect my family or yours, but also the athletes that witnessed your actions, coaches, employees, parents, teachers and community members. I hope no individual has to experience the situation or emotional stress that you put me through. That is all I would like to say. Thank you all for letting me read this statement.

- Joshua Allen, First Mr. Barnes, I know that our budget is kind of low. I think Mr. Barnes need an assistant. There are a lot of times we come into the building and Mr. Barnes is not here, he is doing superintended duties. Instead of having a principal on site, we don't have one as Mr. Barnes is doing double duty. It is bad for our high school students when bullying is going on. My daughter was being bullied. I came into the high school office, Mrs. Tebo knew what I was there for and she told me Mr. Barnes was out of the building and would not be back until the following Tuesday.
- As far as what happened the night of the basketball game, our kids not getting home until 12:30 is what I am upset about. I know crap happens and people got into a fight. I get it. It should not have happened between a school board member and a employee. But my biggest issue is kids should have been home at 10:00. It took an extra 2.5 hours for my kid to get home, all because someone wanted to be a pain in the ass. That just blows my mind. I was not going to talk about the fire stuff. But I

know Mr. J on a personal level. As far as the fire stuff goes, I know we are all volunteers, if you all want to make time to meet with Mr. J. I have talked with him several times, he will meet with you. He would love to and get this sorted out. Mr. Carneal, who is Mr. J? Mr. Allen, Mr. Jaramillo the SRO. Mr. Anthony, (inaudible). Mr. Carneal, We have already discussed that on, can we carry on?

#### **8.00 Superintendent**

- You have heard about the phone system and now the PA system was approved by the insurance company. I am not sure when that will be installed, we have a buzzing in the PA system from the lightening strike. Most of the other stuff has been done. The insurance company is leaving the claim open in case other things come up.
- Our numbers look good. Our official count is 364.5 and the initial number from the State is \$13,685.00 per student. Those numbers are not set in stone, but those numbers are preliminaries and that is what we are using for our final budget. (inaudible) Mrs. McKnight, how many students do we have in the online school? Mr. Barnes, it is not an online school it is concurrent enrollment. The is about 38 students but some are part time so 28.5 FTE. We will do a breakdown in January, I will show you what they did for us.

Mr. Carneal, I am 99% sure we know this but, the structure is superintendent/ principal. When your gone, who helps you as principal? Mr. Barnes, Depending on what the aspect is, if disciple that would fall under Kevin (SRO). He has been doing a lot that work for us. Mrs. Hartley if she is gone, I am covering the elementary end. We both cover each other. If we are both gone, which is a rarity, then Kevin would cover us.

#### **9.00 Consent Items**

##### **9.01 Financial Reports**

- General Fund
- Capital Reserve
- Bond Fund
- Lunch Fund
- Activity Fund
- Class Fund

Motion to approve Consent Item 9.01 Financial Reports by, Mrs. Darby second

by, Mr. Bringhurst

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mrs. Darby, Mrs. McKnight

## **9.02 Employment**

Approve the resignation letter from paraprofessional

Motion to approve Consent Item 9.02 Employment by, Mrs. McKnight second

by, Mrs. Darby

Mr. Bringhurst, who was their supervisor? Mrs. Hartley, I was. (inaudible)

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mrs. Darby, Mrs. McKnight

## **9.03 Policy's**

First Reading

- BBBA Board Member Qualifications
- BCB School Board Member Conflict of Interest
- BDA Board Organizational Meeting
- BDB Board Officers
- BDF Advisory Committees
- BE School Board Members
- BEAA Electronic Participation in School Board Meetings
- BEC Executive Sessions
- BEDA Notification of School Board Meetings
- JICDE Bullying Prevention and Education
- LBD Relations with District Charter Schools

Motion to approve Consent Item 9.03 Policy's First Reading by, Mrs. Darby second

by, Mrs. McKnight

Mr. Barnes (inaudible) Mr. Carneal, Mrs. McKnight and Mrs. Darby, Mr. Davis made us a list of policy's that the State requires, a list that we are missing. I will make you a copy of these lists. I think our second reading are policys required by the State that we did not have.

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mrs. Darby, Mrs. McKnight

Second Reading

- AAD-E Safe Schools
- ADD Safe Schools
- CA Requirements
- DAC Federal Fiscal Compliance
- DIA Schools and Online Programs
- DJB Federal Procurement
- DJB-R Federal Procurement
- EHC Safeguarding Personal Identifying Information
- GBI Criminal History Record Information
- IHBD Equivalence of Services



## KDBA Parent Notification of Employee Criminal Charges

Motion to approve Consent Item 9.03 Policy's Second Reading by, Mrs. McKnight

second by, Mrs. Darby

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mrs. Darby, Mrs. McKnight

### **10.00 Action Items**

**10.01** Motion to approve the Minutes, November 8, 2023 Board Meeting by, Mrs. McKnight

second by, Mrs. Darby

Mr. Carneal, I have a question on our minutes, we voted last month for Cost of Living, do we have to un-vote that? Mr. Barnes, No as it will happen. Mrs. McKnight, is this for the work session minutes also? Mr. Carneal, no this is just the regular meeting. Mrs. McKnight, I see them now.

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mrs. Darby, Mrs. McKnight

**10.02** Motion to approve the Minutes, November 8, 2023 Work Session by, Mrs. Darby

second by, Mr. Bringhurst

Mrs. McKnight, I saw the graduation in the minutes, was that decided not to move the date or time? Mr. Barnes, the board decided to keep it the same time and date. Here is my two cents on that, this year you will probably lose your valedictorian and Salutatorian. So how is that going to work and potentially years coming up. Mr. Barnes, if you want to re-visit, we can put in the next work session. Ms. Klunder, please email me that you want to re-visit.

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mrs. Darby, Mrs. McKnight

**10.03** Motion to approve Honor Band attending overnight trip to Grand Junction from

December 7-9 by, Mrs. McKnight second by, Mrs. Darby

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mrs. Darby, Mrs. McKnight                      Mr. Carneal, nay

**10.04** Motion to appoint Robyn Klunder as Secretary to the Board of Education by,

Mr. Bringhurst second by, Mrs. Darby

Mrs. McKnight, are you not already Secretary to the Board? Ms. Klunder, the board needs to approve the Secretary with each new board.

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mrs. Darby, Mrs. McKnight

**10.04** Motion to approve Account Signers by, Mrs. Darby second by, Mrs. McKnight

Mr. Carneal, so who would be our account signers? Ms. Klunder, the treasurer and the president I think. Different accounts have different signers. Next meeting, I will have the answers to that. I will know for each account. I will also have the boxes to sign for stamps.

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mrs. Darby, Mrs. McKnight

**11.00** Executive Session - none

**12.00** Items Introduced by Board Members - none

**13.00** Discussion Items


Mr. Bringhurst, so is someone working with the Fire Department? Mrs. Payne, yes, we are working with the fire department. Mr. Carneal, the discussion has been going on since October 2022.

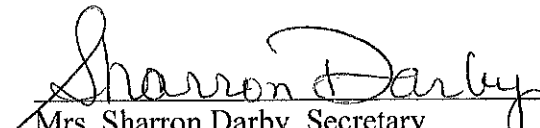
Mr. Barnes, on Thursday at 1:30 is our annual Christmas lunch. We hope to see you there.

**14.00** Motion to adjourn at 8:17 PM by, Mr. Bringhurst second by, Mrs. McKnight

Ayes; Mr. Bringhurst, Mr. Carneal, Mrs. Darby, Mrs. McKnight

Respectively Submitted

  
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Mr. Daniel Carneal, President

  
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Mrs. Sharron Darby, Secretary