

# ***SUBLETTE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #9***

## **OPTIONAL MILL PARITY REQUEST**

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### **HISTORICAL PARITY OVERVIEW**

- December 1971 – Sublette #9 and Sublette #1 required by state to re-organize boundaries or State plan would result in one county-wide district (see attachment A).
- January 1972 - Plan put in place by the **STATE** to reorganize boundaries into a 60/40 split (see attachment B).
- September 1973 to December 1974 – Problems are brought to light by the re-organization of boundaries and both districts discussed and implemented a solution for parity (see attachment C).
- December 1974 – Minutes document that the final boundary solution that was approved in December of 1973 called for an exchange of funds between the two districts rather than a change of boundaries in order to achieve parity (see attachment D).
- FY1974 to FY1983 – Payments to create valuation parity are made by both districts from FY 1973-74 through FY 1982-83 until 1984 when the Wyoming Supreme Court ruled on state-wide funding equalization for all districts (see attachments D to E).
  - **POINT OF HISTORICAL INTEREST**
    - Evidence shows that both boards worked cooperatively for over a decade to provide solutions which benefited both districts.
    - Attached Historical Valuation graph included as point of reference (see attachment F).

### **CURRENT VALUATION DISPARITY**

- SCSD #9 would like to discuss options:
  - 2010 valuation based on current boundaries provides a split of 89% for SCSD #1 to 11% for SCSD #9. This unprecedented disparity is larger than any recorded percentage difference between the two Districts by the Board of Equalization back to 1971. Due to 100% recapture and the funding model this disparity has little affect on school related funding (General Fund), but does have a pronounced affect on optional millage.
    - **Recreation Funding** Disparity 2010 – SCSD #1 with eight (8) times more expected funding than SCSD #9 (\$3.1 million vs. \$387,000)
    - **BOCES Funding** Disparity 2010 – Same disparity as reported above (\$1.5 million to \$193,500).

### **ACTION REQUEST**

Sublette County School District #9 requests that this Board take action to agree to help reduce the optional mill levy disparity and provide equitable opportunities for both district's student by agreeing to meet with representatives of SCSD #9 for an open discussion of solutions for valuation parity.

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SOUTHWEST SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 9, SUBLETTE COUNTY  
STATE OF WYOMING

**Attachment A**

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Southwest School Dist. #9 was called to order at 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 8, 1971, in the office of the Superintendent.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: John Tanner, Tharon Greenwood, Bobby Holgate, Robert Linn, Peter Olson, R. R. Robertson, Sandra Carr, Don Hood, Donald Wassenberg, R. V. Thompson.  
Absent: C. R. O'Neil.

**FOOTBALL FIELD AND LANDSCAPING:**

Mr. Hood presented his survey for the proposed football field and additional area to be landscaped. Mr. Hood pointed out that he had made allowances in the plans for the addition of a track in the future if such is desired. He noted that NCAA rules prescribe a minimum crown of 1½' for the football field and that this will require a considerable amount of soil moving (6,948.7 cu. yds.) which will have to be done with scrapers rather than dozers to obtain the exact degree of leveling necessary. Mr. Hood pointed out that some commercial and barnyard fertilizer will be needed, but that top soil will not be. Mr. Hood recommended that the dirt work be done before winter so that the area may be seeded as soon as possible in the spring. Mr. Robertson is to obtain bids on this project immediately.

**REORGANIZATION:**

Mr. Wassenberg and Mr. Thompson explained to the Board the plan originally submitted to, and accepted by, the state for reorganization of the county school districts and the mistake made by the state in land evaluation leading to the rejection of the plan. They noted that, as it is more expensive to operate district #9 than it is district #1, it was hoped that it would be possible to transfer 4 to 5 million dollars worth of land to district #1 and retain the rest in district #9. They noted that they also wished to incorporate into the plan a method by which district #9 would at all times retain 60% of the land evaluation of the county with the remaining 40% to be retained by district #1. This is due to the changing evaluation of certain areas caused by increase and decrease of oil and gas production. The land wanted by district #1 contains deep wells with rising production and evaluation, and the land which they wish to leave with district #9 contains shallow wells with decreasing evaluation. It is also possible that the Wagon Wheel Project which is presently being conducted within district #1 will eventually account for a considerable amount of evaluation. Mr. Wassenberg and Mr. Thompson noted that if a workable plan is not submitted by December 31 and accepted by the state, the state will then reorganize the districts according to their own plan. This will most likely result in a one county district.

**DRESS CODE:**

Some questions were brought up concerning the dress code. Mrs. Tharon Greenwood moved and Mr. Olson seconded that culottes and skooter skirts be allowed as suitable dress for elementary school wear. Motion carried.

**FUTURE HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS:**

Mr. Robertson reported that he is beginning work on guidelines to be presented to the Board for future high school programming and scheduling. He feels that the present program needs more weight and less "Micky Mouse", particularly in the senior year. Mrs. Greenwood suggested the possibility of some two hour lab courses.


**SWIMMING TEST - BOY SCOUTS:**

Mrs. Greenwood noted that Mr. Jim Thomas has requested the use of the swimming pool to give his boy scout group a test. It was noted that special times for boy scout swimming had been requested and refused, but that this would be a different situation which would be necessary only infrequently. The Board instructed Mr. Robertson to handle this administratively.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion for adjournment was made by Mrs. Greenwood and seconded by Mr. Olson. Motion carried.

  
John Tanner, Chairman :ATTEST

  
Tharon Greenwood, Clerk :ATTEST

## Attachment B

### OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION SUBLETTE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #9 STATE OF WYOMING

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Sublette County School Dist. #9 was called to order at 8:30 p.m., January 20, 1972 in the office of the Superintendent.

#### ROLL CALL:

Present: John Tanner, Frank Fear, Tharon Greenwood, Peter S. Olson, Frank Bray, R. R. Robertson, Sandra Carr, Donald Wassenberg, Stuart McKinley.  
Absent: None.

#### TERMS OF OFFICE:

The Board members drew for terms of office with the following results: John Tanner - three years; Frank Fear - three years; Peter Olson - two years; Frank Bray - two years; Tharon Greenwood - one year.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Mrs. Tharon Greenwood moved that John Tanner be nominated for the office of Chairman of the Board. Motion seconded by Mr. Fear and carried.  
Mr. Olson moved that the nominations be closed and Mr. Tanner be unanimously elected. Motion seconded by Mr. Fear and carried.

Mr. Fear moved that Mr. Olson be nominated and unanimously elected to the office of Treasurer of the Board, and that Mrs. Greenwood be nominated and unanimously elected to the office of Clerk of the Board. Motion seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.

#### MINUTES:

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

#### BILLS:

The Bills were reviewed and a motion made by Mr. Olson and seconded by Mrs. Greenwood to approve and pay them as presented. Motion carried.

#### BUS HEAT:

Mr. Tanner reported that he had spoken with two former Big Piney coaches and had been told that the heat in the large activity bus used to be quite adequate and therefore something must be wrong with the heating unit. Mr. Robertson replied that more work has been done on this since the last complaint and the problem seems to have been solved, at least for the present.

#### RETROACTIVE WAGES:

Mr. Robertson reported that word has been received from the State Department of Education giving approval on payment of retroactive wages to school district employees and that this will be done at the end of the present month. The legality of the collection of difference in rent for the retroactive period will be checked out with the IRS by Mr. Robertson.

#### AUDITORIUM:

The Board was shown pictures and a sketch of the Worland auditorium and Mr. Robertson reported that he had discussed this with Mr. Kellogg and requested that he come up with suggestions when he had had a chance to study the situation. He noted that the stage might not have to be as large as originally had been considered, which would allow for extra seating.

#### REORGANIZATION OF DISTRICT BOUNDARIES:

Lengthy discussion was held with Mr. Wassenberg and Mr. McKinley concerning the best method of reorganizing the district boundaries to comply with the State's order for a 60/40 split of the evaluation of the County for school taxing purposes. A meeting of the Board for further discussion will be held on January 24.

#### EARLY GRADUATION - GRINESTAFF:

Mr. Robertson read a request for early graduation submitted by Miss Coral Grinestaff who is presently an 11th grade student in Big Piney High School. Miss Grinestaff will have all but one credit needed for graduation at the end of this school year and stated that she would like to complete this by correspondence in order to begin college in the Fall of 1972. She wishes to follow a career in music and is presently looking into several schools specializing in this area. Mr. Robertson recommended that her request be granted. Mr. Olson moved and Mr. Bray seconded that Coral Grinestaff be allowed early graduation upon completion of the required courses. Motion carried.

#### CURRICULUM STUDY TRIP:

Mr. Robertson requested permission to send Mr. Gallemore, the District's Curriculum Coordinator, and Mr. Bromley, one of the fifth grade teachers, on a Curriculum Learning Caravan which will begin in Casper on March 27 and tour several schools in the State. He noted that this would allow one of them to concentrate on the secondary

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SUBLETTE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #9  
STATE OF WYOMING

# Attachment C

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Sublette County School District #9, Big Piney, Wyoming, was called to order at 8:00 p.m. on September 19, 1973.

## ROLL CALL:

Present: John Tanner, Tharon Greenwood, Frank Fear, Frank Bray, Peter Olson, Mike Murdock, R. R. Robertson, Sandra Carr.

Absent: None.

## TOUR OF FACILITIES:

Mr. Robertson and Mr. Murdock conducted the Board on a complete tour of facilities in all three buildings. The Board commented favorably on the improvements made and the appearance of both buildings and grounds. They noted that they felt this was due directly to Mr. Murdock's efforts, and that they have had many compliments from patrons of the District concerning his work.

## MINUTES:

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

## BILLS:

The Bills were examined and a motion made by Mr. Olson to approve and pay them. Motion seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.

## LINCOLN SERVICE:

Mr. Robertson and Mr. Murdock reported on some unnecessary costs and damages caused by the installation of the new wiring and metering system being done by Lincoln Service Corp. It was the opinion of the Board that Lincoln Service should be liable for any and all extra expenses and repair of damages incurred by them during the completion of this job.

## PHYSICALS:

The Board noted that they were not satisfied with most of the athletic physicals given so far this year, and felt that in the future more complete physicals should be required to protect both the students and the District. It was also felt that the students rather than the District should have to pay for these physicals, even though it was pointed out that Dr. Burgoon would give them only if the District paid the bill.

## SELF-EVALUATION FOR ACCREDITATION:

The forms sent out by the State Department of Education to be filled out by the administrators for Self-Evaluation for Accreditation were reviewed by the Board. The Board approved the manner in which these had been filled out, but noted that they felt that these and many of the other reports required by the State Department were mostly a waste of both time and money, and are generally useless.

## HIGH SCHOOL DANCES:

The Superintendent reported that one of the patrons of the District has expressed concern that the high school students do not have enough to do, and felt that it would be advantageous to hold more frequent dances in the multi-purpose room. Mr. Robertson noted that he had suggested that perhaps the Knothole might be a more logical locale for these, but was told that it is not large enough. The Board stated that the use of the multi-purpose room would not be a problem, depending on selection of chaperones, but pointed out that they did not feel that enough students would attend to pay for a band, and that few of them would be interested in dancing to records. It was also noted that although some of the students have complained of not having enough to do, the school calendar was now full with school activities and several other organizations have meetings and activities which seem to keep most of the students quite busy.

## HOMECOMING:

Mr. Robertson reported that the plans have been completed for the 1973 homecoming, and are much the same as last year. He stated that he, the coaches, and their wives would chaperone the dance.

## HOMEBOUND STUDENTS:

The Superintendent noted that the District is presently providing home-bound instruction for Chyril Thornton at her home, and a teacher in Rock Springs is assisting with Ralph Linn while he is in the hospital there. He also noted that there is one educable retarded student living in the District for which Mrs. Schaffer, Mr. Tomassi, and Mrs. Northway are providing special education classes.

## PROBLEM STUDENTS:

One of the Board members stated that the teachers should be watching carefully for students who need help, whether due to being slow or hyper-active. Mr. Robertson



# Attachment C

reported that many of the new students this year are extremely slow, and he will contact the Superintendents of some of the districts involved to try to find out the reasons for this.

## RE-VALUATION AMOUNT REQUEST:

The Superintendent reported that Pinedale has agreed to accept the \$7500 offered to them by District #9 to make up the discrepancy in valuation. It was noted that a letter of thanks should be written to Mr. Vernon Delgado for his assistance in settling the valuation differences.

## ACTIVITIES BUS ROUTES:

Mr. Robertson stated that he has received a letter from Mrs. Boe asking for help in securing a bus to be run following athletics and other after-school activities. He noted that Mr. Barp ran a bus last year to LaBarge and the Compressor Station for this purpose, but lost money on the project and had not considered trying it again. It was noted that just as many students who live in the river area would probably like transportation of this sort also, but that the school could not do anything about it at this time as no money was budgeted for this purpose. It was suggested that the only thing that could be done would be for the interested parents to contact Mr. Barp personally and assure him of a definite number of students at a price which would allow him to run such buses without losing money.

## DISTRICT LAND SURVEY:

It was reported that the last land survey for the District was made in approximately 1962 or '63 and that it will be necessary to have one done very soon in order to secure the water rights on the football field well. Mr. Scherbel has offered to do a complete survey for \$500, but Mr. Murdock feels that we could get by much cheaper with only a partial "corner survey".

## GARBAGE HAUL:

Mr. Robertson stated that we are now paying \$50 per month to Mr. Linn to haul the garbage to the dump at Daniel, but it appears that an approved landfill dump may soon be built nearer to Big Piney. If this is accomplished, the bill from Linn's will be proportionately less, but we will be billed additionally by the Town until the land for the dump is paid for.

## ACTIVITIES AND ACADEMICS:

A general discussion on coaching assignments within the District was held. Several opinions were expressed by members of the Board to the effect that they were concerned that the math classes being taught by Mr. Rick Costello might be suffering due to the fact that he was obliged to spend so much time in the coaching area. Every member of the Board felt that Mr. Costello is an outstanding math teacher, and the District must be very careful not to jeopardize this outstanding teaching ability for an activity. Mr. Robertson said that Mr. Costello would appear at a later date to discuss his feelings on this matter with the Board.

## VALUATION PROBLEMS:

Discussion was held concerning some of the boundary line problems affecting Big Piney and Pinedale after the reorganization. The Superintendent stated that he had attended a meeting with Don Gilliam and one other tax consultant from El Paso Natural Gas; Dr. Johnston, Chairman of the Board of District #1; and Spike Jorgensen, Superintendent of Schools of District #1. He stated that during the meeting, various avenues were explored for simplification of the manner of arriving at the monetary percentages to be received by each district. While Dr. Johnston felt strongly that it should be a county-wide school district, others expressed their opposition and felt the most feasible plan would be to affix relatively stable boundary lines for both districts, and then use a floating area with approximately \$5 million valuation to balance up the percentage for whichever district was low. It was pointed out that this is not legal at the present time, but it is hoped that this situation might be rectified in the next general session of the legislature. It was the feeling of the Big Piney representative that a county-wide district of money for the general operating fund would be acceptable, but only under the condition that the bonded indebtedness and bonded interest stay strictly within the district which had assumed these obligations.

## ABSENCES:

The Superintendent noted that he has been working on a new policy booklet which he intends to present to the Board at a later date, but that the Principals have asked for guidance concerning absences for hunting as this will be a problem in the near future. He stated that a one day vacation will be given for this purpose, but that several parents have indicated that they expect to take their children out of school for longer than this. It now needs to be determined whether or not this should be considered an excused absence. The Board stated that since these days will no doubt be planned in advance, the students should be informed that their school work will have to be made up in advance, but that it would be impossible to tell any parent that they could not take a child out of school if they so wish.

# Attachment C

## OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION SUBLETTE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #9 STATE OF WYOMING

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Sublette County School District #9, Big Piney, Wyoming, was called to order at 8:00 p.m., November 20, 1973.

### ROLL CALL:

Present: Pete Olson, John Tanner, Tharon Greenwood, Frank Bray, Frank Fear, Sandra Carr, R. R. Robertson, Louie Tomassi, Dennis Horsley.

Absent: None.

### MINUTES:

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

### BILLS:

The bills were examined and a motion made by Mr. Olson and seconded by Mr. Bray to approve and pay them as presented.

### ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Mr. Robertson presented the proposed attendance policy to the Board for consideration. (Copy attached.) Following discussion, Mrs. Greenwood moved that this policy be approved with the stipulation that changes can be made by the Superintendent if and when necessary. Motion seconded by Mr. Fear and carried.

### PERMISSION TO ATTEND SCHOOL - D. HORSLEY:

Mr. Louie Tomassi and Dennis Horsley appeared before the Board to ask permission for Dennis to attend school in Big Piney as a senior. Dennis informed the Board that his home was in Afton and he has attended school there, but did not get along well with the teachers or students. He noted that he likes Big Piney and felt he would fit in much better here, and would be willing to follow any rules set up by the school. Mr. Tomassi stated that he has known both the boy and his parents for some time and would be willing to see that Dennis is housed and fed and will give him any other assistance he can. The Board pointed out that, in the past, other students who were not under the direct supervision of their parents had caused quite a few problems, both in and out of school, and that the Board would therefore have to set up very strict rules of behavior if Dennis were accepted, and that he would be required to leave following the first violation of these rules. Following discussion, it was the decision of the Board in a motion made by Mrs. Greenwood and seconded by Mr. Olson that Dennis Horsley would be allowed to enter Big Piney High School under the conditions explained to him, and that these are to be typed and signed by both Dennis and Mr. Robertson with copies to be sent to Mr. and Mrs. Horsley and Dennis' sponsor, Mr. Tomassi. Mr. Robertson is to see that the boy has a full schedule of classes with only one study hall, and will write to the Wyoming High School Activities Association asking permission for Dennis to participate in athletics if at all possible. (Copy of signed rules attached.)

### MEETING WITH STATE BOARD:

Mr. Tanner and Mr. Robertson reported on the meeting which they attended in Cheyenne with the State Board of Education, State Dept. of Equalization, and several representatives from the Pinedale schools, as well as people from oil and gas companies doing business in Sublette County. They noted that some of the members of the State Board of Education were convinced that Sublette County should go to one school district, but that Mr. Vernon Delgado argued against this due to the many problems it has created elsewhere. He also stated that he has visited Hawaii where there is only one district for the entire state, and that this does not work efficiently at all. Mr. Robertson and Mr. Tanner reported that the final decision was that either boundaries would not be changed more often than every other year, or permanent boundaries would be set for the two districts plus one smaller "floating area" to be used for valuation discrepancies when one district's valuation goes up or down more than is fair according to the agreed upon percentages. It was noted that under the new accounting system, figures for the floating fund area would be available at any time.

### PAYMENT FOR ATTORNEY:

The Board discussed Pinedale's offer to pay one-half of the cost of Mr. Ross Copenhaver's attorney fees and expenses due to the fact that he was of assistance to both Districts in the recent meeting with the State Board of Education. It was the decision of the Board that this would be welcome so long as it is made clear to the Pinedale Board that Mr. Copenhaver is the attorney for District #9 and may not be shared by the two districts without the express approval of this district.

### ENERGY REPORT:

Mr. Robertson reported that he has been assured by Delgado Oil Co. that they will be able to provide the schools with a sufficient supply of heating oil for the coming winter months. He also noted that coal supplies will be available in Kemmerer but that the school might be required to haul this commodity. Oil and coal are needed only when it is necessary for Mt. Fuel to interrupt the natural gas supply, but they have already informed the Superintendent that this will probably occur much

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 SUBLETTE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #9  
 STATE OF WYOMING

# Attachment C

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Sublette County School District #9, Big Piney, Wyoming was called to order at 9:00 p.m., December 19, 1973.

## ROLL CALL:

Present: Frank Fear, Frank Bray, Pete Olson, John Tanner, R. R. Robertson, Sandra Carr, Mike Bromley, John Gallemore, plus the following patrons: Mr. and Mrs. Ray Wardell, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Smith, Deanne Bradley, Pam Bower.

Absent: Tharon Greenwood.

## MINUTES:

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

## BILLS:

The bills were examined and a motion made by Mr. Olson and seconded by Mr. Fear to approve and pay them as presented. Motion carried.

## DISCUSSION WITH PATRONS:

Several patrons were present to discuss problems which they felt existed concerning the teaching and discipline of one of the elementary staff members. The points discussed are included in the instructor's folder for future reference. Following the departure of the visitors, a lengthy discussion was held regarding this matter. Mr. Gallemore and Mr. Robertson both assured the Board that immediate steps would be taken to see if improvement could be made in this area.

The Board emphasized to the administration that they certainly had no intentions of acting on impulse in any trivial situations which might arise, but felt that with the number of complaints which have been received, both at and prior to this meeting, they thought that this matter had to be considered seriously and investigated thoroughly in order to be fair to all parties concerned.

## REORGANIZATION DEVELOPEMENTS:

The boundary revision prepared by Mr. Copenhagen, which allows the Mountain Fuel camp to be retained in District #9, was examined and discussed. A motion was made by Mr. Olson and seconded by Mr. Bray to accept this revision. Motion carried. Mr. Robertson called the Board of District #1, which was also in session, and they reported that they had also passed such a motion.

## SUBSTITUTE TEACHER POLICIES REVIEWED:

Mr. Robertson reviewed the present policies as they apply to the substitute teachers. It was noted that these allow \$20 per day to be paid for substitutes and should a teacher go over his or her accumulated sick leave this amount is to be deducted from the teacher's monthly salary check for the time he or she is off work. Teachers are given 9 days per year sick leave, cumulative to a total of 20 days. The Superintendent noted that while the \$20 per day paid the substitute is higher than is given in many Wyoming schools for only short periods of teaching, many other schools do have schedules allowing higher pay per day for substitutes teaching consecutively over longer periods. Another area in which the Board felt some new policies should be set up was that concerning pregnant teachers. As no decisions were made, the Superintendent will present proposals regarding these matters at the next meeting.

## TICKET TAKERS:

Mr. Robertson reported that several of the faculty members have noted that they feel they should be paid for ticket taking at basketball games as this requires them to attend a school function during their free time. They also noted that if this were done, they thought that many would volunteer for the job rather than having to be assigned this duty. It was the decision of the Board that paying for this would be fine, but they would rather see one of the high school student organizations take it over as one of their money making projects. Mr. Robertson will contact the Student Council on this.

## COMING ACTIVITIES MEETING:

Discussion was held concerning the upcoming meeting of the WHSAA which Mr. Robertson will attend. He reported that he will have quite a few letters from parents protesting the proposed dropping of the State Swim Meet. The Board noted that they are against dropping any activities by that organization as they and the Superintendent have already made cuts in this District's activity program because of the energy crisis, and feel it is not up to an outside organization to dictate more such cuts at this time. It was further stated that some students do try out for athletic scholarships based on swimming and that this would be nearly impossible without the State Swim Meet.

# Attachment D

## OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION SUBLETTE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #9 STATE OF WYOMING

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Sublette County School District #9, Big Piney, Wyoming was called to order at 9:00 p.m., December 18, 1974.

### ROLL CALL:

Present: Tharon Greenwood, Frank Bray, John Tanner, Frank Fear, R. S. Bennett, Jr., R. R. Robertson, Sandra Carr, Jay Lynn Orr, Marcia Waters, Lisa Cox, Darlene Boe, Beverly Thoman, Lynn Tanner, Steve Firth, Randy Hill, Mark Bennett, Danny Holgate, Mack Olson, Carol McKinley, Doug Barker, Marc Grinestaff, Chris White, Helena Linn, Bob Linn, Nancy Graham.

Absent: None.

### MINUTES:

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read.

### BILLS:

The Superintendent reported that the cement listed on a previously unapproved bill from Decker Oil Company was partly for the industrial arts and maintenance departments rather than all being used on the recent fencing project as had been assumed. A motion was made by Mr. Tanner and seconded by Mr. Bray to approve and pay this bill. Motion carried.

The current bills were examined and approved in a motion by Mr. Tanner and seconded by Mr. Bray. Motion carried.

### PRICE ISOLATION:

An isolation petition submitted by Marvin D. Price for one child for the amount of \$96 per month was reviewed. Mr. Price is required to travel 30 miles per day transporting his son to and from the school bus. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Tanner and seconded by Mr. Bennett to approve \$72 per month for the Price family. This amount was based on 12¢ per mile and an average of 20 school days per month. Motion carried.

### GRADUATION:

Lengthy discussion was held between the Board and a group of high school students regarding Karen Gilliam's intention to participate in the 1975 graduation exercises. It was explained that Mrs. Gilliam has met all the scholastic requirements needed to receive her high school diploma, and as she wants very badly to graduate this year, it was hoped by the Board that the seniors would have compassion for her difficulties and admiration for her determination. It was further noted that many new civil rights laws have gone into effect recently which have required changes in school policy in several different areas. It was the feeling of the Board that their original decision should stand, and that Mrs. Gilliam may graduate with the class of 1975.

### JUNIOR PROM:

Discussion was held concerning the request to have the junior prom held in the school. Several students lodged complaints regarding this move. The Board replied that they had had enough organized opposition against holding the prom at the Pit and Primer from parents to justify this stand.

Mr. Fear moved that the junior-senior prom will be held in the school in 1975, and also each year in the future. Motion seconded by Mr. Bennett. The motion was carried with three Board members voting yes and two members abstaining from voting.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL:

Mr. Robertson reported that he had received a complaint about the middle school basketball program as a parent felt that all of the participants should be



## Attachment D

each game and have the opportunity for more practice time. Number of students going out for this program that it would for each child to play in each game. He stated that of the students who wished to participate, as is done in many schools, Mr. Clark has been using a "move list" method of practice and play. He reported that lack of gym space did limit the amount of time allowed each youngster, but that additional practices would be scheduled for before school following Christmas vacation.

### RESIGNATION - HARVEY MARTIN:

Mr. Robertson reported that Mr. Harvey Martin has submitted his resignation due to his wife's health and the need to move to a lower altitude. The Board regretfully accepted this resignation and discussed a replacement. Mr. Bennett moved and Mr. Bray seconded that the Superintendent offer Mr. Mike Talley this position. Motion carried.

### FIELD TRIPS:

Mr. Robertson stated that Mr. Thomas has requested a two day trip to Salt Lake City for his biology class, and that the FTA group would again be wanting to visit other schools with different teaching methods, but that they would probably not require more than one day. It was stated that field trips can be very educational, but that they should be limited to one day whenever possible, due both to the loss of time from other classes and cost factors.

### JOHN GALLEMORE - NATIONAL CONFERENCE:

The Superintendent reported that Mr. Gallemore has been asked to attend and participate in the National Conference of Elementary School Principals to be held in Minneapolis during April, and has requested some school financial aid for this trip if he is allowed to attend. Mr. Robertson noted that he feels this would be of benefit to the district because of the varied information he would obtain there. No objections were raised, and it was suggested that Mr. Gallemore write a detailed report for the Board upon his return.

### BOUNDARY MEETING:

Mr. Robertson reminded the Board that they had not yet met with the Pinedale Board concerning boundaries, and that this must be done. This meeting is to be discussed and scheduled by the Superintendents of the two districts. Mr. Robertson further noted that Dist. #1 owes Dist. #9 approximately \$49,000 as a result of last years agreement to exchange dollars rather than changing the actual boundaries to reach the required percentage split. He stated however, that Dist. #1 had not budgeted enough money and would probably have to pay part of it during June, with the balance being submitted in July.

### JAY LYNN ORR - ALL-NORTHWEST:

Mr. Robertson informed the Board that Jay Lynn Orr has qualified for the honor of attending and participating in the All-Northwest Music Educator's convention in Spokane, Washington. As only a few BPHS students have ever qualified for this, Mr. Robertson requested that the Board grant their permission for Jay Lynn to attend with his mother serving as chaperone. A motion was made by Mr. Tanner to approve this, and allowing transportation plus \$15 per day per person for other expenses. Motion seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.

### PICKUP TRUCK:

Mr. Robertson reported that one of the district's pickup trucks has had to be junked and the other one is in very nearly the same shape. He noted that Suzanne Gallemore has a 1969 Ford pickup in excellent condition which she will sell for \$1,000. Mr. Fear moved to purchase this vehicle. Mr. Tanner seconded and the motion was carried.

**Attachment E**

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 SUBLETTE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #9  
 STATE OF WYOMING

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Sublette County School District #9, Big Piney, Wyoming was called to order at 9:00 p.m., January 22, 1975.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Sharon Greenwood, Frank Bray, Frank Fear, R. S. Bennett, R. R. Robertson, Sandra Carr, Trudy Skinner, Burl Hoopes, Ray Clark, Tom Brown.

Absent: John Tanner

MINUTES:

The minutes were read and approved with two minor corrections which have been made in the minute book.

BILLS:

The bills were examined and a motion made by Mr. Bennett to approve and pay them as presented. Motion seconded by Mr. Bray and carried.

PROCEDURE ON INJURIES:

At the request of a patron, the Board discussed the proper procedure to be followed if a child should be injured. This arose due to two recent accidents in gymnastics. It was the decision of the Board that all personnel who have not already done so should have at least a short course in first aid. The p.e. personnel, some of whom are qualified instructors, noted that they would also like to take a refresher course. The Superintendent stated that he would work with the Red Cross Director to see that a course is implemented as soon as possible, with emphasis being placed on the items felt to be most needed in a school situation. It was noted that in the case of an injury that might seem to be serious, an ambulance be called immediately.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT:

Mr. Robertson presented reports from the State Fire Marshal covering all three buildings, and reported that he has gone over these with Mr. Porter and the local fire department officials. While the reports were generally favorable, it was noted that extensive improvements and updating must be made on the alarm systems for the entire district.

BOILER & ROOFING REPAIRS:

Mr. Robertson reported that serious problems have been encountered with the high school boiler system, but that it was hoped that with rental of specialized tools from a company in Salt Lake, Mr. Porter and a local person may be able to do the repairs. He further noted that the bonding company covering the roof on the high school has been contacted and an inspection of this area is slated for June with the indication that proper repairs, or a new roof, will be provided.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROBLEMS:

Mr. Hoopes reported that he has been experiencing problems with over-crowding in the middle school as he has only six room for the 160 students presently enrolled there. He noted that the science room is not only too small, but is not properly equipped for anything other than lecture-type classes; the library is too small; and there are no indoor facilities for free-time activities such as would be provided by a combination student lounge-multi-purpose type room. He requested that the Board give serious consideration to a possible building program to alleviate these problems. Following discussion, it was decided that Mr. Robertson, Mr. Hoopes, and Mr. Gallemore would work up a projected enrollment for the middle school for the next few years, and information is to be obtained regarding "portable" classrooms which might be available.

TEACHERAGE - HOOPES:

Mr. Hoopes stated that he would still like to purchase the teacherage which he is in. If the Board would agree to this. If not, he would like to request that some repairs be made to the house as the bathroom wall has been damaged by termites, and the wiring and part of the floor need to be replaced. He noted that should he be allowed to buy this house and ever decided to leave Big Piney he would give the district first option to repurchase the house. It was suggested by the Board that Mr. Preston of Automation & Electronics be contacted to check the wiring in this teacherage.

NATIONAL MATH CONFERENCE:

Mr. Hoopes requested that he, and possibly other math personnel, be allowed to attend the National Math Conference in Denver during April. A decision on this was tabled until more information is received.

ALL-NORTHWEST CONFERENCE:

Mr. Robertson reported that Mrs. Orr has stated that she did not think that she and her son could possibly attend the All-Northwest Music Educators Conference in Spokane on the money allotted by the Board at the last meeting. Following discussion, Mr. Fear moved and Mr. Bray seconded that Jay Lynn and Mrs. Orr be allowed a total of \$42 per day for expenses over and above the cost of the plane tickets to and from Spokane. Motion carried.

FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD:

The Superintendent reported that the State Bank of Big Piney has offered to purchase a new football scoreboard for the school. The Board requested that Mr. Robertson write to the bank to convey their appreciation for this generous gift.

ROLLER SKATING:

Mr. Robertson stated that the Evanston schools are using one of their gymnasiums for roller skating and have reported that this is working very successfully. He suggested that this might also be done here in the old gym, and has information indicating the possibility of obtaining second-hand skates at a reasonable price. It was noted that the ideal situation would be to find an outside group, such as the Lion's Club to sponsor this project, otherwise school personnel could be used with payment of wages coming from the receipts.

HEALTH INSTRUCTION:

The Superintendent reported that, with the Board's approval, he would like to utilize the school nurse in instructing some girls' health classes in subjects which have not been covered before, but which the girls have requested. He noted that letters would first be sent to the students' parents outlining the class and giving them an opportunity to either give or refuse permission for their daughters to attend. The Board had no objection to this.

BOUNDARY MEETING:

Mrs. Greenwood reported that she had met with Dr. Johnston of the Pinedale Board of Trustees concerning boundary-valuation changes between the two districts. She noted that an agreement was reached whereby District #9 will receive 52½% and District #1 will receive 47½% of the county valuation for the 1974-75 fiscal year. This will amount to somewhere between \$48 and \$52 thousand which District #1 will pay to District #9. The exact amount will be determined by final valuation figures obtained from the county assessor.

GRADUATION POLICY:

The Superintendent reported that recent court rulings have nullified the present Board policy regarding graduation from high school. This policy on graduation by correspondence or the passing of a G.E.D. test was reviewed by the Board, and a motion made by Mr. Fear and seconded by Mr. Bennett that this policy be

**Attachment E**

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 SUBLETTE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT #9  
 STATE OF WYOMING

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, Sublette County School District #9, Big Piney, Wyoming was called to order at 8:00 p.m., June 22, 1977 in the office of the superintendent.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Frank Bray, Bob Tanner, Tharon Greenwood, R. S. Bennett, John Gallemore, Hal Moffit, R. R. Robertson, Sandra Carr, Mike Hughes.

Absent: Frank Fear.

MINUTES:

The minutes were approved as read.

BILLS:

A motion to approve and pay the bills as presented was made by Mr. Bennett and seconded by Mr. Bray. Motion carried.

USE OF FACILITIES -- MIKE HUGHES:

Mr. Hughes thanked the board for the use of the gym during the recent program put on by the Rick's College students. He noted that he was aware of the letter of complaint written by the local ministerial association, and was sorry if anyone felt that anything other than entertainment was intended. Mr. Robertson reported that policies from other schools were being examined so that comprehensive regulations can be written for the use of the new auditorium.

SCHOOL CALENDAR -- 1977-78:

The school calendar was presented for examination. Following lengthy discussion it was approved in a motion made by Mr. Tanner and seconded by Mr. Bray. Motion carried with one abstention. (Copy attached to minute book.)

BOND REFUNDING:

Mr. Robertson reported that under Wyoming State Law it would be possible to refund the school bonds, thereby obtaining a lower interest rate. Mr. Tanner moved and Mr. Bennett seconded that a meeting be held with Mr. DeMonbrun of Hanifen, Imhoff, and Samford, Inc. to discuss this. Motion carried.

REPORT ON SPECIAL EDUCATION:

Mr. Gallemore reported on the recent trip he took with Mr. Dillingham to the Big Horn Children's Center in Thermopolis where they studied the educational and vocational programs. He noted that it is hoped that a similar center can eventually be started in the southwestern area of the state.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER HANDBOOK:

The substitute handbook, as revised by Mr. Gallemore, was presented to the board for review. A motion to approve and accept it was made by Mr. Bennett and seconded by Mr. Bray. Motion carried.

SALARIES -- NON-CERTIFIED PERSONNEL:

Following discussion, Mr. Bennett moved and Mr. Bray seconded to raise the salaries of the non-certified personnel not already adjusted for the coming year by 6%. Motion carried.

BUDGET -- 1977-78:

Mr. Robertson reported that he expects the cash carry-over to be less than usual this year, and there is a strong possibility that the mill levy will have to be raised for the 1977-78 fiscal year to the maximum of 25 mills, but that nothing will be known for certain until July 1. If this is the case he plans



to cut drastically in some of the instructional areas. He noted that this district owes Pinedale \$63,000 for equalization.

**Attachment E**

TEACHERAGE RENT:

The superintendent reported that the possibility of raising the teacherages has caused quite a bit of controversy among the teachers. This will be reviewed at a later date.

STAFFING:

Mr. Robertson stated that the following teachers have been hired for the coming year: Toni Murdock - high school social studies and volleyball; Renae Pfister -  $\frac{1}{2}$  time middle school social studies; Joyce Massa - 3rd and 4th grades in LaBarge.

AUDITORIUM SEATING:

Mr. Robertson presented copies of the auditorium seating specifications to the board and noted that bids would be opened at the July meeting.

FOOTBALL FIELD SPRINKLER SYSTEM:

Mr. Robertson stated that the many problems with the underground sprinkler system in the football field has necessitated abandoning that system and that pipe for above ground watering has been ordered.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion for adjournment was made by Mr. Tanner and seconded by Mr. Bray. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAID IN JUNE 1977

ACTIVITY FUND  
CONSTRUCTION FUND  
GENERAL FUND  
PETTY CASH FUND  
SCHOOL LUNCH FUND

WARRANT NUMBERS

5843-5867  
138-139  
4660-4717B  
none  
1633-1636

AMOUNTS

2,418.06  
101,936.60  
161,209.40  
none  
367.60

  
Sharon Greenwood, Chairman

: ATTEST

R. S. Bennett, Clerk

: ATTEST

# Schools see assessed valuations climb

County assessed valuation figures for both school districts have increased, according to County Assessor Hazel Werner. The Big Piney school district's assessed valuation took a significant increase over its 1981 figure. For the 1982-83 year, the district's assessment was placed at \$95,457,475.00, compared with the 1981 figure of \$66,230,593.00. That represents an increase of \$29,226,882.00, or 44% over 1981's assessed valuation.

Pinedale's increment was not as hefty as its southern neighbor's. Pinedale's total valuation amounted to \$60,288,059.00, an increase over the \$56,910,536.00 figure for 1981-82 of only about 6%.

Big Piney's complete valuation amount was higher than the

\$95,000,000 figure when the district also takes into account the sum paid by the LaBarge assessment. In total, Big Piney's sum comes to \$118,194,204.00 when LaBarge's amount of \$22,736,729 is added to it. In 1981, the final amount came to \$86,959,354.00 with LaBarge's part set at \$20,728,761.00.

However, part of the increased assessment earned by the Big Piney district will be turned over to Pinedale. Because of an agreement reached in 1972 between the two districts, an effort was made to distribute money more equitably between them. Each year Big Piney has turned over an amount to the Pinedale district. This year that amount will be \$439,617.70 in actual money.

In order to determine the actual

monetary amount to be paid to Pinedale, the total county valuation figure, which came to \$155,745,534.00, was divided in half. From that \$77,872,769.00 figure, the amount Pinedale was originally allotted from the valuation figures, \$60,288,059.00, is subtracted, leaving \$17,584,708.00. This remainder is multiplied by .025 mills, which is the number of mills now being levied by the Pinedale district. The resulting \$439,617.70 figure is the actual money paid to the Pinedale district.

Levies in the Pinedale school district rose over those of last year, with rural property owners paying an increase of \$1.46 for every \$1,000 of taxable value. For patrons of the Pinedale district living in town, the increase in every

\$1,000 of value will amount to \$1.75.

In Big Piney, levying decreased for property owners. Rural residents of the Big Piney district will see their taxes decrease by \$8.10 for every \$1,000 of taxable value, while Big Piney residents will see theirs drop by \$8.15 and Marbleton's residents by \$14.01.

Mrs. Werner explained that the Big Piney school district experienced a decrease because this year property owners "don't have to have a double school levy" as they did last year.

Valuation figures increased somewhat because of the oil and gas activity in the county. The Big Piney area saw much more activity than did the Pinedale area, she explained, and this accounted for the dramatic increase in Piney's assessed valuation.

Published in Pinedale Roundup August 1982

**Attachment E**

# Attachment E

J.L.T. and Daughters	11,333.33
Wyoming Surplus Property	575.70
Wyoming Telephone Company, Inc.	1,317.75
Xerox Corporation	788.11
Auto Corner	741.42
Berger Plumbing and Heating	3,013.98
Midgley-Huber, Inc.	2,273.50
Sky Way Sales	1,434.10
Southwestern Publishing Company	1,179.57
U.S. Postmaster	500.00
Utah Power and Light Company	5,753.13
A&B Signs	352.00
Wyoming Peterbuilt	95,400.00
Payroll Account--School Dist. No. 9	130,865.86
Wyoming Social Security System	8,636.84
Wyoming Retirement System	14,707.96
Wyoming Workmen's Compensation Department	568.27
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wyoming	7,772.75
Wyoming Dental Service	1,543.17

## LEGAL NOTICE

According to the provisions of Chapter 3, Section 26 (b), Wyoming Education Code of 1969, the following warrants over \$300.00, excluding individual salaries were issued by the Sublette County School District No. 9 for the following month:

### DECEMBER 1982:

TO:	AMOUNT:
A&J Distributing	339.92
All American Sports	920.71
Barp Transportation	32,991.00
Town of Big Piney	638.15
Boise Cascade Building Materials Center	364.20
Burney and Company	675.49
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Wyoming	7,486.60
Carr's Appliance and Hardware	309.37
Central Electric Supply Company	808.38
Delgado Oil Company	308.78
East Slope Truck and Auto Parts	330.05
W.W. Grainger, Inc.	526.54
Great Western Chemical	420.00
High Country Tires	730.54
Medical Mart	690.00
Modern Printing	312.50
Mountain Fuel Supply Company	7,279.29
Ortho-Med Center	454.15
Referee Revolving Account	3,595.94
Stuart Electric Supply Inc.	482.68
J.L.T. and Daughters	11,333.33
Wyoming Electric, Inc.	3,110.65
Wyoming Telephone Company, Inc.	1,085.47
Xerox Corporation	1,182.12
Frey Scientific Company	491.39
Kem Manufacturing Company	845.26
Mobile Hearing and Speech Services	365.00
Xerox Corporation	570.63
Berger Plumbing and Heating	6,851.60
Sublette County School Dsit. No. 1	219,808.85
Wyoming Dental Service	1,543.17
Dwight Parrish	339.41
Utah Power and Light Company	7,336.18
The Swim Shop	342.66
Payroll Account--School Dist. No. 9	160,034.56
Wyoming Retirement System	17,997.96
Wyoming Social Security System	10,010.66
Wyoming Workmen's Compensation Department	424.16

LEGAL NOTICE - Published in Pinedale Roundup  
August 1982

Two-Year Term  
(Vote for One)

# Attachment E

## LEGAL NOTICE

According to the provisions of Chapter 3, Section 26 (b), Wyoming Education Code of 1969, the following Warrants over \$300.00, excluding individual salaries were issued by the Sublette County School District No. 9 for the following month:

JUNE 1983.

TO:

Bale Company	AMOUNT:
Town of Big Piney	\$815.60
Burney and Company	697.63
Cheyenne Sales and Service	736.49
CJ Enterprises	541.02
Delgado Oil Company	3,400.00
Green River Valley Distributors	439.15
Hearne Brothers	1,947.00
	528.00

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from page 12

High School Activity Fund  
Hillyard, Inc.  
I.B.M. Corporation  
The Learning Center  
Merback Award Company  
Midgley-Hueber, Inc.  
Mountain Fuel Supply  
Northwestern Scholastic Insurors  
Pinedale Roundup  
Revere Products Corporation  
Sublette County School District No. 1  
J.L.T. and Daughters  
United Parcel Service  
U. S. Postmaster  
Utah Power and Light Co.  
Visa Credit  
Wyoming Telephone Co.  
Xerox Corporation  
Barp Transportation  
Blue Cross - Blue Shield of Wyoming  
Tegeler and Associates  
Wyoming Dental Service  
Xerox  
School District No. 9—Payroll Account  
Wyoming Social Security System  
Wyoming Retirement System  
Western Wyoming Mental Health Center  
A & E. Electric  
All American Sports  
Blue Cross - Blue Shield of Wyoming  
Town of Big Piney  
Big Piney Annual Staff  
Big W Supplies  
Coru. Cable Company  
Dalton Microscope Company  
General Electric Co.  
Hillyard, Inc.  
I.B.M. Corporation  
Inkley's  
Intermountain Office Equipment  
Joe's Concrete  
Martin Stationers  
Mountain Fuel Supply  
Pacific Hide and Fur Depot  
The Riverside Publishing Company  
J.L.T. and Daughters

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442.80	United Learning	309.00
323.04	Utah Power and Light Co.	6,024.86
1,180.54	Visa Credit	801.52
1,698.01	Wyoming Telephone Co.	634.39
1,229.46	American Guidance Service	530.07
1,190.85	Beckley Cardy Company	441.53
7,687.61	Carolina Biological Company	478.94
2,500.00	Dalton Microscope Co.	1,950.00
1,282.73	Developmental Learning Materials	474.08
571.30	Ebsco Subscription Service	391.80
219,808.85	Follett Library Book Company	597.68
11,333.37	W.W. Grainger	314.23
400.00	D.C. Heath and Company	1,533.64
500.00	Houghton, Mifflin Company	796.03
5,631.56	LaMere Concrete	1,119.85
941.48	Charles E. Merrill Publishing Company	333.46
825.73	Nasco West	467.45
615.94	Onsite Training and Consulting, Inc.	400.00
4,939.08	The Perfection Form Company	337.83
7,633.66	Perma Bound	472.41
942.55	Popular Subscription Service	352.90
1,543.17	School Health Supply	509.37
487.29	Skyway Sales	2,525.40
122,375.16	South Swim	546.54
8,199.10	South-Western Publishing Company	521.35
13,425.43	Glenn A. Thomas	500.00
8,165.00	Utah Power and Light Co.	2,789.50
509.00	Whited Floor Surfacing	6,750.00
1,195.00	Wolverine Sports	416.32
8,426.08	Academic Specialties, Inc.	14,279.00
706.22	Harper and Row Publishers	6,280.37
800.00	Follett Library Books	509.26
811.89	Midwest Shop Supplies, Inc.	600.29
831.00	Xerox	1,790.00
452.02	Apple Computer, Inc.	3,793.55
931.50	Helen's Shop	327.00
3,470.87	Sky Way Sales	1,600.50
11,444.00	Sky Way Sales	728.00
3,628.79	Sky Way Sales	627.60
1,431.00	Butler Enterprises	6,000.00
1,056.00	Strassman Construction	1,300.00
	Sawtooth Construction Company	10,000.00
	Teacherage Imprest Account—	
604.42	School District No. 9	30,000.00
10,737.40	State Bank of Big Piney	50,000.00
673.90	Porter's Camera Store, Inc.	2,129.13
314.97		
5,104.00		

Publish August 18, 1983 in the Pinedale Roundup.



# Pinedale school district Audit shows \$2.1 million nest egg

by Ric Samulski

The annual audit of the Pinedale School System has revealed that the district currently has on hand a nest egg of \$2.1 million. That figure has grown from a \$1.2 million reserve last year, and a \$600 thousand cash carry-over at the end of the 1980-81 school year.

Despite the fact that the nest egg nearly equals the \$2,952,000 spent by the district during the district's budget period ending June 30; Superintendent of Schools Don Bryngelson defends the cash accumulation.

"We know we were going to have a surplus," Bryngelson said. Referring to the implementation of this year of the new state school financing formula, he justifies the build-up on the grounds that such an accumulation was needed. "Going into equalization we weren't sure what they [the state] was going to do to us."

Bryngelson says that in previous years certain major expenditures, like a portion of the swimming pool, were paid from the cash carry-over. This past year there were no major expenditures resulting in the increased cash accumulation.

The superintendent also says that the district needs operating capital between the close of its fiscal year on June 30 until tax dollars are received from the county in December. "I am going to need \$1.2 million to \$1.3 million to operate until December," Bryngelson said. "That really leaves us with \$900 thousand."

He also anticipated that the nest egg will be reduced in the future. "We're getting less revenue. We're not going to have \$2.1 million next year." He

points out that the new equalization formula will result in less carry-over, and that there will be no payment from the Big Piney district in the future.

This year \$440,000 was transferred from Piney to Pinedale to bring assessment parity to the two school systems.

The accumulation of such a cash nest egg is not illegal. Dennis Kane of the State Department of Education reports that such a fund is within the provisions of Wyoming law.

State Senator John Turner (R-Sublette/Teton) says that under the new equalization plan such cash balances, "shouldn't happen." Turner serves on the Governor's Select Committee on School Finance which created the new school financing formula. "If we have districts all over the state socking away large amounts of funds, then we've overfunded education; but at the same time I don't think the Legislature should tell Pinedale they can't have all their money."

Turner says that the question taxpayers should be asking is, "How much is too much?" with regards to any cash accumulation.

The new equalization formula approved by the Legislature requires that every school district in the state assess a minimum of 25 mills. A check of "Wyoming Property Tax Rates-1983" distributed by the Wyoming Taxpayers' Association (WTA) confirms that Pinedale and every district in the state currently assesses at least the 25 mill minimum.

Bill Williams, research analyst with the WTA, reports that impending school equalization may have encouraged districts like Pinedale to feather their nests. "Recently it has not been unusual," says Williams. "A lot of the school districts have been rat-holing funds." He says that Albany County

School District recently reported a \$6.5 million balance.

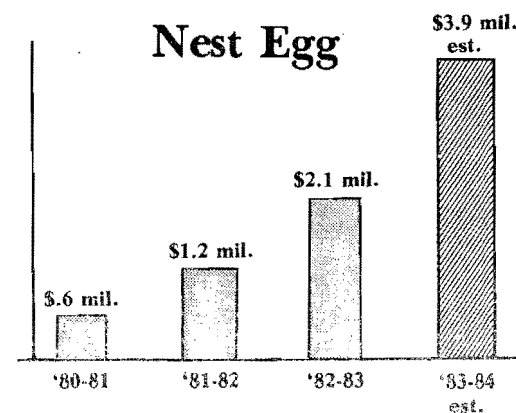
The Big Piney School District reported a \$1 million cash balance as of June 30.

Bryngelson explains that the Pinedale school board may have been motivated to tax to the maximum 25 mill levy in order to receive state funds, "but not in the last two years."

Bryngelson also explains that a cash fund balance is nothing new to the Pinedale district. "The district has had one for at least the past ten years."

Please turn to page 18.

## School District No. 1



*How Much is Enough??*

# Attachment F

Historical Assessed Valuations for Sublette County School Districts

