

WASHOUGAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 112-06
Board of Directors' Meeting
Tuesday, November 19, 2013
5:30 p.m. Executive Session; 6:30 p.m. Regular Meeting
Gause Elementary School

PRESENT: Blaine Peterson, Board Director; Ron Dinius, Board Director; Karen Rubino, Board Director; Jocelyn Lindsay, Board Director; and Dawn Tarzian, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board. The prearranged absence of Board Director Elaine Pfeifer was excused.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. and immediately recessed to executive session for the discussion of employee performance, per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g). The board returned to regular session at 6:00 p.m. and immediately recessed again, to allow time for a tour of Gause Elementary School.

1. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Blaine Peterson called the regular meeting back to order at 6:30 p.m. and Dawn Tarzian led the pledge of allegiance.

2. AGENDA REVISIONS

None.

3. COMMENTS – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ron Dinius shared that the Long Range Facilities Planning Committee (LRFPC) held its first meeting on November 14. This is a great committee, with staff and community members, some with expertise in architecture and construction. The next meeting will take place on December 12, and the committee will continue to meet regularly to look at the long-term facilities needs for the district. Yesterday, Ron attended a legislative forum at ESD 112. Eight legislative representatives were in attendance. Concerns were voiced by attendees regarding funding for schools and some of the bills impacting education that are currently in the legislature. Ron reported that ESD Superintendent Twyla Barnes commented on the Washougal-hosted October 23 WSSDA Regional Meeting, noting that it was well organized, well presented and very professional. Ron thanked Dawn Tarzian, Aaron Hansen and the many others who were involved in the hosting of this meeting.

Karen Rubino echoed Ron's comments, adding that anyone with input for the LRFPC can provide information to Karen or Ron. Karen gained a better understanding of Common Core and TPEP at the recent legislative forum. She thanked Gause staff members for the great tour of the school and commented on the phenomenal artwork.

Jocelyn Lindsay agreed that Gause has a lot to showcase. It is wonderful to be able to see what is happening in the schools. She thanked the Gause staff members.

Blaine Peterson highlighted district coverage in the Post-Record. He reminded the board and audience about the Festival of Trees event, which is a great fundraiser for our schools, taking place December 6-7 at Hathaway. Washougal High School (WHS) has a drama production currently running, and these are always great shows. Blaine participated in the Be The Change Club sponsored Challenge Day at WHS recently. This is an amazing opportunity for students and community members to see the differences (or lack thereof) among each other, and is a very powerful experience.

4. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Dawn Tarzian reported that the District participated in the Clark County Crisis Emergency Table Top event. Scott Johnson with the Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency (CRESA) coordinated the event. There were three teams each made up of District employees, East County Fire and Rescue, Washougal and Camas Police Departments and CRESA. A participating principal shared with Dawn that she originally had anxiety about the exercise, but this turned out to be a very valuable experience, where much was learned. The feedback received from this event will be used to further refine the district's safety plan and site plans. In the meantime, things to work into more detail in the plans have already been identified and are being incorporated. Teacher Tiffany McCormick will be participating in an upcoming SWAT training, which will be a live simulation as opposed to a table top exercise.

Dawn expressed appreciation to the Washougal Fraternal Order of Eagles, to Walmart, and to Wells Fargo for their recent, and very generous, donations to district schools. Thanks also to the WHS Interact Club students for assisting in the distribution of donated supplies.

Much information was shared at yesterday's legislative forum. The initiatives under way are good work, but they are coming at a volume that makes it difficult for staff. Many voices asked the legislature to not add any new initiatives until educators have had some time to work on current implementations. Representative Rivers is looking for opportunities to visit schools to gain a better understanding of the full cycles of TPEP and PLC work.

5. COMMENTS - CITIZENS

None.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Board members received and reviewed the following documents in advance of the meeting:

A. Meeting Minutes (November 5, 2013)

B. Accounts Payable

General Fund

Warrant numbers 202410 – 202495 totaling \$204,377.71 (Pay date: Nov. 22, 2013)

ASB Fund

Warrant numbers 19882 – 19895 totaling \$5,712.21 (Pay date: Nov. 22, 2013)

Capital Projects Fund

Warrant number 3854 totaling \$2,019.68 (Pay date: Nov. 22, 2013)

ACH

ACH numbers 131400683 – 131400701 totaling \$19,384.18 (Pay date: Nov. 22, 2013)

C. Payroll x-cycle (Oct./Nov. 2013)

Warrant numbers 202396 – 202409 totaling \$2,210.08 (Pay dates: Oct. 31 and Nov. 7, 2013)

D. Payroll pre-authorization (November 2013)

E. Personnel Report

Classified Appointment: Diane Shortt, Special Services Administrative Assistant Technician (DO).

Winter Sports Appointment: Rene Stotts, Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach (WHS).

F. Contracts

G. Travel

H. Field Trips

I. Donations

Karen Rubino moved, seconded by Ron Dinius, to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

7. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

A. Gause Elementary School Improvement Plan

Rex Larson, Gause principal, explained that this year's school improvement plan (SIP) presentation would follow a "Cause for Celebration" theme, pulling together talking points gathered from staff input. He shared 2017 assessment targets and progress being made toward these. Teacher Connie Vernon spoke about the tremendous math coach support received this year, which is greatly benefitting both students and staff. Math coach Cheryl MacIntyre thanked the board for its support of the coaching positions. It is a wonderful step, a huge transition year, and very exciting. Eric Engebretson spoke about the iPad program for all 5th graders this year. Changes as to how kids react and interact in the classroom can be seen with this implementation, and teachers are so appreciative to have this technology in the classroom. Rex spoke about non-academic endeavors in the school too, including "Whisker Wars" and the school's participation in the Stuff the Bus food drive. School social worker Julie Bristol explained the weekend backpack food program, started last year and greatly expanded this year. Gause receives tremendous community support for this program, which has helped to create a stronger "how can we help?" culture around the school. Teachers Marvina Bugajski and Wendy Morrill shared their excitement about the school's Artist in Residence program, and the great benefits it provides to students. Lessons are very age-appropriate, so students feel successful in the projects. It is very exciting to watch an entire classroom become completely engaged in a lesson when instructed by a professional artist. Parent volunteer Carly Hack thanked the staff and boosters for their support of this program. The goal is for each grade level to have a unique, enriching experience taught by an artist who is able to connect with students and make the project accessible for the age group. In response to board questions, staff members explained how differentiation of instruction is used for students who are working above grade level. Blaine Peterson asked the staff for input as to how the board can continue to provide support. Staff members spoke about recent professional development provided to HiCap cluster teachers, and how that level of training would be incredibly valuable to all teachers, to help meet the needs of students who are working not only above, but also below or at standards. The board thanked the Gause staff for the very informative presentation.

B. Budget Year Close

Business Services Manager Brian Wallace provided a review of the 2012-13 fiscal year end. He provided an overview of the district's five funds, and focused on the general fund, including the key factors that drive the district's budget – enrollment and staffing. Brian compared budgeted to actual revenues for the year, as well as budgeted and actual expenditures for all funds. The board thanked Brian for the information.

8. BOARD POLICY

A. Policies 6000, 6020, 6021, 6022, 6030, 6100, 6102, 6111, 6112, 6114, 6120, 6210, 6212 – second reading

Karen Rubino moved to approve the above policies as presented. Ron Dinius seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

9. PROPOSALS FOR ACTION

A. Investment Grade Audit, McKinstry

Joe Steinbrenner introduced Christina Skellenger and Joe Fuetsch from McKinstry, who provided information about the upcoming energy grant application cycle. Applications are due February 18, 2014. The district would like to focus on exterior lighting, which would save energy, increase light levels and decrease maintenance costs. Ron Dinius moved, seconded by Jocelyn Lindsay, to approve an audit proposal as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

B. 2014-15 District Calendar, First Day of School

Marian Young explained that the district is requesting board action for the start date for the 2014-15 school year, to allow for work on calendar development to begin. The board agreed by consensus to start school the Tuesday following Labor Day. Karen Rubino moved, seconded by Jocelyn Lindsay, to begin school on September 2, 2014 for the upcoming year. The motion carried unanimously.

C. 2015 – 2017 M&O and Technology Levy Ballot Language

Ron Dinius moved to approve the levy ballot language as presented. Karen Rubino seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

10. BOARD WORK SESSION

A. Board Calendar/ Revisions to Agenda Format

Dawn Tarzian directed the board to the notes from the most recent work session with WSSDA consultant Colleen Miller. Currently, the board holds an annual work session. Recent discussions have prompted the board to look at setting aside more time to engage, discuss and provide opportunity for board development. Ideas included holding work session time before or after a regular business meeting, or selecting a few regular meeting dates to be rescheduled as work sessions only. Karen Rubino suggested trying two work session meetings within the regular meeting schedule. Dawn shared a draft of the ongoing annual board calendar, which will be shared with the board electronically.

11. POLICY GOVERNANCE

A. Executive Responsibilities 15 – District Calendar

Human Resources Director Marian Young shared evidence in support of Executive Responsibilities (ER) 15 related to the development of the district calendar. She shared an action plan and timeline for the 2014-15 calendar, with a tentative adoption date of February 2014. Blaine Peterson collected monitoring report response forms from all board members present, noting the approval of ER 15.

12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The board would like to discuss its meeting format/structure and the possibility of work session time at a future meeting. Ron Dinius would like for the board to hear an update from the Long Range Facilities Planning Committee as their work progresses. He would also like time for the board to consider setting aside funds toward a future school opening.

13. BOARD EVALUATION

Blaine Peterson collected the board’s self-evaluation forms. The results are attached.

12. ADJOURN

Karen Rubino moved to adjourn at 8:37 p.m. Jocelyn Lindsay seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Dated this 10th day of December 2013

President

Secretary to the Board

BOARD MEETING EVALUATION SUMMARY

MEETING DATE: **November 19, 2013**

Instructions for 1: S = Satisfactory I = Needs Improvement U = Unsatisfactory

	<u>S</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>U</u>
1. I was prepared for the meeting.	3	1	
	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	
2. Our agenda was designed to meet our obligations and objectives (district governance, future planning, board goals)	4		
3. Meeting Elements:			
a. The Board President facilitated management of the meeting time and agenda	4		
b. Ample time was given to discuss agenda topics	4		
c. Each board member was given the opportunity to speak	4		
d. Directors, presenters and the public were treated in a dignified and respectful manner	4		
e. Adherence to policy leadership vs administrative detail	4		
4. The board demonstrated a sense of responsibility for excellence in governing the district.	4		

Comments (If you answered “no” to any of the above, please provide comments):