

WASHOUGAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 112-06
Board of Directors' Meeting
Tuesday, March 12, 2013
Executive Session 4:00, Work Session 4:45 at District Office
Regular Meeting 6:30 p.m. at Gause Elementary School

PRESENT: Blaine Peterson, Board Director; Elaine Pfeifer, Board Director; Karen Rubino, Board Director; Ron Dinius, Board Director; Terrie Hutchins, Board Director; and Dawn Tarzian, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board.

Blaine Peterson called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. The board recessed immediately to executive session to discuss issues related to negotiations, per RCW 42.30.140(4)(a). The board returned to regular session at 4:45 p.m. for a work session in order to hear a grievance.

Washougal Association of Educators (WAE) representatives were present. Jace Borba, Washington Education Association Riverside UniServe Representative; Susan Lewallan, WAE Grievance Chair; and Frank Zahn, WAE Co-President were introduced. They presented a grievance to the board related to overload pay for secondary teachers. Blaine thanked the representatives for their presentation and time. The board will provide a written response to the grievance.

The meeting was again recessed at 5:40 p.m. to allow for travel time to Gause Elementary School for the regular meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

2. AGENDA REVISIONS

Blaine stated that, since tonight's meeting has a very full agenda, he would like to have the option of rescheduling some agenda items for a future meeting. If the meeting is running late, the adjusted levy renewal timeline (agenda item 7.C.) and the review of Executive Responsibilities 17 (agenda item 10.A.) may be postponed.

3. COMMENTS – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Terrie Hutchins shared her appreciation for the recent patron newsletter article about the board's student representative, Alexa Eddy.

Karen Rubino attended the Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA) Legislative Conference this past week, at which budget issues were a priority topic. Ron Dinius also attended this conference, and Karen will defer to him for more details.

Ron Dinius spoke about several of the key topics discussed at the Legislative Conference, including fully-funded education, new opportunities for STEM education, programs allowing students to gain workplace experience, common core state standards, teacher and principal evaluations, and all-day kindergarten. Conference participants heard from Governor Jay Inslee and OSPI Superintendent Randy Dorn, both great speakers. At the last board meeting, the Washougal Board of Directors passed a resolution voicing its support for fully funding schools. This resolution, along with those from 40 other districts, was presented to the legislature during this session. Ron urged staff and community members to continue to communicate with their legislators about issues important to education. There will be a Town Hall Meeting at Liberty Middle School in Camas this Saturday at 10:00. On Thursday, March 14, a State of the County forum will be held at Prairie High School, and the WSSDA Regional meeting will take place on March 27 in Kelso.

Elaine Pfeifer thanked Ron for the amazing job he does as Legislative Representative for the Board. He takes this responsibility very seriously and spends a great deal of time keeping informed of legislative issues. Elaine added that the district is doing a really good job of connecting students with employers. She is glad there is a new focus on this state-wide, but noted that Washougal already has some good things going in this area of opportunities for students.

Blaine Peterson commented that many good things are happening in the district. The Young Men in Action program for 5th grade boys at Hathaway has given Blaine an increased appreciation for what educators do every day. He has been one of seven volunteers working with 24 boys.

4. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Dawn Tarzian introduced Karl Kanthak, Board Chair, and Peter Tarzian, Superintendent, from Mt. Pleasant School District. They will be speaking with the board later in the meeting about proposed support contracts.

Dawn then recognized Janet Yanzick, the district's Public School Employees (PSE) President, in honor of the state's Classified Staff Appreciation Week. She shared the district's recently adopted vision statement that is printed on the personalized notepads that each classified staff member received this week. She also read from the proclamation from the governor. Dawn expressed on behalf of the district her deep appreciation for all that these staff members do. Janet introduced Trish Happs, PSE Vice-President, and Sandra Goza, PSE Secretary, noting that she feels privileged to represent the members of Washougal's PSE. The district has great employees who are also active community members. The membership reaches out to help other districts as well, for example, Washougal staff members are volunteering to help with Battle Ground School District's levy work. At the local level, PSE provides a \$1000 scholarship to a district graduating senior every year. Blaine Peterson added that so much of what these staff members do is not highly visible, but it is tremendously appreciated. The board thanked Janet, Trish and Sandra.

Dawn provided the board with a brief update about the turf replacement plan. The turf color has not yet been decided, though the committee will meet again this coming Friday and hopes to have a decision by then.

The board asked at a previous meeting about where in the Executive Responsibilities (ER) series they could expect to see evidence related to the updating of staff members' job descriptions. Dawn will include this information under ER 6 (Staff Evaluation) beginning next year.

ABM Janitorial Services was selected to provide oversight of the district's custodial program. Tim Campbell has been assigned to Washougal. Joe Steinbrenner has been touring Tim around all of our schools and buildings, and introducing him to our custodians and principals. Tim will be working on a flexed schedule so that he will have overlapping hours with all custodial shifts. The contract with ABM is through August 31. The district will be assessing the effectiveness of this model over the coming months to be able to plan for services for the upcoming school year.

Dawn provided each board member with materials sent from Clark County, including a Report to County Citizens and a County Public Health report.

Tomorrow the first round of interviews for the Jemtegaard Middle School principal position will begin. Of the 41 applicants for the position, six have been selected for interviews.

5. COMMENTS - CITIZENS

None.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

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

A. Meeting Minutes (February 26, 2013)

B. Accounts Payable

General Fund

Warrant numbers 200486 – 200558 in the amount of \$190,490.59 (Pay date: March 15, 2013)

ASB Fund

Warrant numbers 19577 - 19596 in the amount of \$9,958.11 (Pay date: March 15, 2013)

Capital Projects Fund

Warrant number 3837 in the amount of \$325.29 (Pay date: March 15, 2013)

ACH

ACH numbers 121300270 – 121300300 in the amount of \$21,483.57 (Pay date: March 15, 2013)

C. Pre-authorization of Accounts Payable (March 2013 second run)

D. Pre-authorization of March 2013 Payroll

E. Personnel Report

F. Contracts

G. Executive Responsibilities 5 – Staff Compensation

H. Executive Responsibilities 16 – Student Conduct and Discipline

I. Travel

J. Field Trips

K. Donations

Ron Dinius asked for and received clarification about a contract. Karen Rubino moved, seconded by Terrie Hutchins, to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

7. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

A. Robotics Team presentation

Debby Prentice, mentor for the Robotics Team 2471, introduced the Robotics Team members present: Megan Bachmann, Romney Kellogg, Andrew Klement and Alex McDaniel. Debby provided some background information about the program and the team, which is comprised of students from Washougal, Camas and Hockinson School Districts. She highlighted some of their many recent accomplishments, overviewed their budget and spoke of their sponsors and student internships. The team recently competed against 58 other teams in Portland, finishing in second place, with their robot, “Odd Job”. They qualified to go to the world-wide competition in St. Louis. The team also qualified in the top 6 for the Safety Award, won the Quality in Engineering Award and also fared well in the prestigious Chairman’s Award competition. They shared their video entry for this competition, as well as another video, set to James Bond music, of their work in preparation for this year’s competition. Each student enthusiastically shared how they came to be a part of the team and what they have gained from the experience. They thanked the superintendent and board for this presentation opportunity. Dawn Tarzian thanked Debby for her expertise and volunteer time.

B. Gause Elementary School Improvement Plan presentation

Gause Principal Rex Larson asked the Gause staff present to introduce themselves. The fifth grade professional learning community (PLC) team (Malcolm Estes, Eric Engebretson, Erin Maier-Smith, and Marie Klemmer) presented their processes and strategies. Rex noted that all of the PLC teams operate similarly. The PLC team spoke about how they monitor student progress and implement intervention strategies for students who need them. Eric described the assessments used and how the PLC uses the data to inform and guide instruction. Marie spoke about the importance of the grade level action plans (GLAPs) and how staff uses them to plan instruction and curriculum. Erin talked

about the PLC process and schedule and the collaboration that comes out of these meetings. Teachers are able to implement flexible grouping between all of the 5th grade classrooms, which has been a tremendous help. She described how the math grouping is currently working and the benefits of the Math Academy for at-risk students. The grade level PLCs are working more closely than ever before with the specialist teachers as well. Khrista McBride, Special Services teacher at Gause, highlighted the changes made in the master schedule to give teachers common prep times. The referral process has also been changed this year, and Gause is piloting the entry of referral information into the student information system. Malcolm spoke about how teachers set their own professional goals. This year, there has been an opportunity to set team goals. This has allowed the teams to create some lessons together and to help coach each other in instructional strategies. The team feels that they are becoming better teachers as a result of working together and learning from each other's strengths. Rex thanked this PLC team for their incredible work. He then introduced Julie Bristol, the school's social worker, who spoke about the many programs offered in support of the "whole child". Julie shared information about the school's new weekend food program, as well as the "healthy choices" theme weeks, classroom social skills lessons, Student Success Team, home visits and community group involvement. Rex closed by saying that he is "humbled by his staff on a regular basis" and he again thanked them for all that they do for Gause kids. The Gause staff responded to board questions.

Blaine Peterson asked the staff members present for feedback from the board, specifically, what concerns and/or challenges the board should be aware of as they allocate resources and adopt policy.

Mark Bauer, the school's PE teacher, spoke about the importance of exercise for children, for physical health as well as related to academic performance. Gause students do not have as many exercise opportunities when the weather is not conducive to being outside. The field outside the school is not useable most of the year, and students can't run in either the paved or bark chipped areas. Mark feels that some behavioral issues during recess could be reduced if the facilities were useable during the wetter months of the year.

Krhista McBride noted that the class schedule is very, very full. There is not much "wobble room" in the building now that enrollment is up close to 600 students.

The board thanked Gause staff members for their informative presentation and for their presence at the meeting, noting that their efforts definitely show.

C. Adjusted Levy Renewal Timeline

This agenda item was postponed and will be brought back to a future meeting.

D. WHS/Gause Field Drainage Project Update

Joe Steinbrenner shared with the board the results of a recent civil engineering firm's investigation of the WHS and Gause fields, including the WHS baseball and softball fields and the Gause play area. He shared drawings of the fields' as-built drainage systems and explained the existing drainpipe around the periphery of the area. A soil amendment plan has been recommended. The district plans to prioritize the drainage work, with the first phase to be completed this summer.

E. Online Board Self-Evaluation Tool

Dawn Tarzian explained the online survey that the board has been asked to complete by April 10. The data obtained through the survey will be used during the board's next work session with WSSDA trainer Colleen Miller.

F. Board Brick for Turf Replacement Fundraising

The board agreed by consensus to make a \$500 donation toward the district's turf replacement project through the engraved brick fundraiser. Elaine Pfeifer will coordinate the donation.

8. WORK SESSION

A. 2013-14 Mt. Pleasant Business Services and Technician Support Contract Proposal

Mt. Pleasant School District Superintendent, Peter Tarzian, and Board President, Karl Kanthak, spoke of their district's interest in considering agreements with Washougal School District in the areas of business services and technology support. Board members discussed the advantages of the proposed agreements, as well as the possible impacts to staff members involved. Technology Director Lester Brown shared his reasons for supporting the technology proposal. His staff would be eager to begin working with Mt. Pleasant this school year, if possible. Mt. Pleasant concurred. The board agreed to vote on the approval of the Technician Support Contract for the remainder of this school year at the current meeting, and continue the discussion of the business services agreement at the next regular meeting. Karen Rubino moved to approve the Technician Support Contract agreement for the remainder of March through August 2013 as presented. Elaine Pfeifer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

9. PROPOSAL FOR ACTION

A. Lunch Price Equity

Ron Dinius moved, seconded by Elaine Pfeifer, to raise prices by 5 cents per meal for the 2013-14 school year, as discussed at the last regular meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

10. POLICY GOVERNANCE

A. Executive Responsibilities 17 – Technology

This agenda item was moved to the April 9, 2013 regular meeting agenda.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The board will carry forward the discussions of the levy renewal timeline and ER 17 to the next regular meeting, on April 9, since the March 26 regular meeting has been cancelled.

12. BOARD EVALUATION

Blaine Peterson collected the board's self-evaluation form from each board member present. The results are attached.

13. ADJOURN

Terrie Hutchins moved, seconded by Karen Rubino, to adjourn at 9:50 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Dated this 9th day of April 2013

President

Secretary to the Board

BOARD MEETING EVALUATION SUMMARY

MEETING DATE: March 12, 2013

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

	<u>S</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>U</u>
1. Board members were prepared for the meeting.	3	2	
2. Our agenda was well designed.	4	1	
3. Each board member was given an adequate opportunity to participate in discussion and decision-making.	3	2	
4. The board's treatment of all persons was courteous, dignified, and fair. There was a respectful atmosphere.	4	1	
5. We practiced good parliamentary procedure.	5		
6. The board demonstrated a sense of responsibility for excellence in governing the district.	5		
	<u>Yes</u>		<u>No</u>
7. The board adhered to its adopted governance style:	3		
a. It emphasized the future and the total community:	3		
b. It encouraged diversity in viewpoints:	3		
c. It exercised policy leadership more than overseeing administrative detail:	3		
d. It maintained a clear distinction between the roles of board and staff:	3		
e. It worked for group agreement and responsibility:	3		
f. Progress toward board goals:	3		
8. Your suggestions on where we could do better:			
9. Additional Comments:			