

**WASHOUGAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 112-06**  
**Board of Directors' Meeting**  
**Tuesday, May 7, 2013, 6:30 p.m.**  
**at Washougal High 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. Alexa Eddy, Student Representative to the Board, was also present.

**1. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**2. AGENDA REVISIONS**

None.

**3. COMMENTS – BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Terrie Hutchins recently signed up for Washougal High School (WHS) senior project panels, and encouraged others to do so.

Karen Rubino thanked the district's teachers and everyone who works so hard to make this system work. It is very appreciated.

Ron Dinius provided the board with a legislative update.

Elaine Pfeifer really enjoyed the recent WHS production *The Fantasticks*, and was amazed at the performers.

Alexa Eddy, student representative to the board, is excited for the audience to see the ASB video later in the meeting. She updated the board on the WHS Save Our Scraps (SOS) program, which has been exciting, as well as senior panels and spring sports.

Blaine reminded board members that filing for the fall election is coming up next week. Blaine noted that there was good coverage of the WHS track team in the Post-Record this week. The Washougal Schools Foundation (WSF) Stride fundraiser will take place on May 18. This is a wonderful and fun event that raises significant funds for school grants.

**4. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE**

Dawn Tarzian shared this year's teacher appreciation poster with board members and Washougal Association of Educators (WAE) leadership. She read from the quotes provided by students about their former teachers. Dawn shared her deep appreciation for the important contributions teachers make across the district, both in the classrooms and in the community. Dr. Frank Zahn, WAE Co-President, thanked the district, and spoke about the "wealth of spirit" that comes with the teaching occupation.

Dawn provided information about the district's Summer Program, to be held in conjunction with the Summer Lunch program. Greatly expanded opportunities for students will be offered this summer.

Cape Horn-Skye Elementary School will be recognized as a School of Distinction at the May 31, 9:00 a.m. reception at ESD 112. Board members are welcome to attend. If interested, please respond to Dawn. The Robotics Team volunteers and mentors will also be recognized.

A Partners for Schools event will be held on May 14 at 5:30 p.m. at Excelsior High School.

As a follow up from the board's work session last month, the board is being supplied with "more information please" cards to use whenever more detail or an explanation of acronyms is needed. Dozer Days is coming up May 18-19. The Nutter Foundation generously provided the district with a number of free tickets for students and parents.

Board members each addressed Teacher Appreciation week, giving their thanks for the district's teachers and all that they do. Terrie Hutchins gave a special "shout out" to special education teachers and the drama department.

## **5. COMMENTS - CITIZENS**

Gail Anderson has two students in the district. Her family has had "one fabulous experience after another here." She thanked Washougal teachers.

Pauline Rule is a biology teacher at WHS. She spoke about new STEM opportunities for students, including a very high-level water-quality testing project at Steigerwald National Wildlife Refuge.

Alexa Eddy thanked Washougal teachers for all that they do, noting that, in spite of all of the eye-rolling that may occur, students think their teachers' work is truly amazing.

## **6. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

### **A. Meeting Minutes (April 23, 2013)**

### **B. Accounts Payable**

#### General Fund

Warrant numbers 200935 in the amount of \$217.40 (Pay date: April 26, 2013)

### **C. Accounts Payable Pre-authorization of run originally scheduled for May 14, 2013 meeting**

### **D. Payroll (April 2013)**

Warrant numbers 200877 – 200934 in the amount of \$1,891,329.82 (Pay date: April 30, 2013)

### **E. Personnel Report**

### **F. Contracts**

### **G. Travel**

### **H. Field Trips**

### **I. Donations**

### **J. 2013-2014 Board Meeting Schedule**

Blaine Peterson noted the addition to the personnel report since the original board packets were distributed. Elaine Pfeifer moved to approve the consent agenda with the noted addition. Ron Dinius seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

## **7. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

### **A. School Improvement Plan presentation – Washougal High School**

WHS Principal Aaron Hansen thanked his teachers for their incredibly valuable work. He shared the school's learning target, and then a video created by the WHS ASB. He spoke about several areas of focus this year, including increasing student learning, increasing communication with all stakeholders (with an emphasis on electronic and other communications with students and parents), and working toward common and fair grading practices. Aaron shared the school's assessment results compared to their goals, and also shared assessment data by cohort class. Associate Principal Carol Boyden addressed the collection of evidence (COE) process for seniors who have not met standards in reading and/or writing through the state assessment. She also spoke about the new modifications and accommodations the school is making for students identified with special needs.

A new math series was adopted, which includes online curriculum and resources for special education. The math department staff participated in a book study this year to discuss strategies to raise student achievement, and a math lab is held during the school day to provide students with extra assistance. Aaron shared WHS assessment and academic grade goals for 2013. Christina Mackey, WHS counselor, shared the WHS School Profile document, and spoke about the exciting progress made in Advanced Placement (AP) testing. She shared SAT, PSAT and ACT score data. Aaron acknowledged two WHS teachers who will be retiring this year: Sheila Good and Linda Ignoffo. He expressed his appreciation for their long-time and daily dedication. The school will miss them and wishes them well.

Blaine Peterson noted that the board will continue to hold meetings at each school building again next year, in an effort to make it easier for parents and staff to communicate with the board. He overviewed the input parents provided from WHS last year. Aaron introduced Amanda Klackner and Gail Anderson, who are active parent volunteers through the WHS PAC.

Amanda shared that the school's change from "Panther Time" to 3<sup>rd</sup> period activities, with all students remaining on campus for this time, has been good. It was a wise move to disconnect this time from lunch.

Dawn Tarzian expressed her thanks for this presentation. The inclusion of the school's achievement data in the presentation is greatly appreciated. The accomplishments made through the COE process are incredible, and she understands how much staff time and effort goes into helping students succeed in this way. The School Profile is an example of excellent work, and she appreciates that all WHS students have the opportunity to take the PSAT. She thanked the WHS staff.

#### **B. Fines and Fees Report**

Dawn Tarzian introduced Doug Cox, Athletic Director at WHS, who spoke about the issue of athletic fines and the work being done to improve the inventory system and student accountability for uniforms and equipment. The district is working toward better communication with families to help take care of missing items in a more timely manner. Dawn added that the district will also look at textbook inventorying when books are returned in June to see if the new barcoding system has helped improve return rates.

#### **C. Linkage Input from Former Graduates**

Les Brown explained the process used to solicit input from former graduates. He provided a summary of the data collected from the former WHS and EHS students related to vocational/trade school, 2 and 4 year college attendance and completion, and military service. The survey also asked how well high school prepared students for "next steps" as well as questions related to school climate. The board discussed the data related to bullying, and staff contributed information about cyber-bullying as it related to the discussion. Dawn Tarzian expressed her thanks to Les for this great opportunity to receive feedback from so many former students, as compared to efforts in the past through other forms of outreach.

#### **D. Spring Break 2014**

Dawn Tarzian described the process that was used to adopt the 2013-2014 district calendar, and the participation of the labor groups in calendar development, per contractual agreements. At the time this calendar was created and subsequently approved by the board, it was assumed that neighboring districts would continue with the historical (first week in April) Spring Break schedule. There is frustration in the fact that the initial goal of adopting a calendar early was to allow families and staff planning time. Dawn outlined the pros and cons of changing the Spring Break dates, noting that WAE gathered input from its membership, with the majority of teachers in support of changing the calendar to align with neighboring districts. Washougal Public School Employee (PSE) input was that its membership was comfortable with either schedule.

Blaine Peterson stated that the calendar was approved so that people could make plans. If the break schedule is changed now, this would defeat the original purpose. Either decision will mean that not everyone will be happy. He recommends sticking with the original process and purpose, and not changing the dates, especially to support those who have already made plans and reservations after confirming that the calendar was final.

Elaine Pfeifer agreed. She is unsure why other districts have moved to a later Spring Break, but does not feel that Washougal should adjust the calendar at this time.

Ron Dinius expressed agreement with Blaine's and Elaine's statements.

Karen Rubino said that she is "up in the air" about the decision.

Terrie Hutchins voiced her opinion to "stick with what we have".

The board agreed by consensus to keep the 2013-2014 district calendar as it was originally approved. Dawn shared that the district's goal is to align the calendar with neighboring districts as closely as possible. She will work to best accommodate this kind of alignment in the future.

## **8. BOARD WORK SESSION**

### **A. April 23 Work Session Follow-up**

- **Executive Responsibilities Revisions**

Executive Responsibilities (ERs) 6, 9, 13, 14 and the Ends policy have been selected to be revised for next year. Dawn Tarzian asked that two board members volunteer to meet with the appropriate district administrator(s) to work on the revisions to content language in the ER and/or evidence to be collected in support of each of the noted ERs. Each board member agreed to collaborate on two of the documents.

- **Board Meeting Evaluation Tool**

This agenda item will be brought back to a future meeting, due to time constraints for the current meeting.

- **Directors' Meeting Feedback**

This agenda item will be brought back to a future meeting, due to time constraints for the current meeting.

## **9. BOARD POLICY**

### **A. 5000 Series, first reading**

Blaine Peterson suggested a formatting change to these large series of policies, in an effort to simplify the review. This suggestion will be implemented on the next series reading (3000s).

## **10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The board will bring back the agenda items related to workshop feedback not yet covered. There will be an upcoming executive session to discuss real estate. Other future agenda items include the snow route change impacts, final linkage presentation, iPad presentation on June 11, as well as levy discussions, the Ends report and student safety updates.

## **11. BOARD EVALUATION**

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

**12. ADJOURN**

Ron Dinius moved to adjourn at 9:26 p.m. Elaine Pfeifer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Dated this 28<sup>th</sup> day of May 2013**

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**President**

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**Secretary to the Board**

**BOARD MEETING EVALUATION SUMMARY**

MEETING DATE: May 7, 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.	4	1	
2. Our agenda was well designed.	3	2	
3. Each board member was given an adequate opportunity to participate in discussion and decision-making.	4		1*
4. The board's treatment of all persons was courteous, dignified, and fair. There was a respectful atmosphere.	5		
5. We practiced good parliamentary procedure.	4	1	
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:			
a. It emphasized the future and the total community:	5		
b. It encouraged diversity in viewpoints:	5		
c. It exercised policy leadership more than overseeing administrative detail:	4		
d. It maintained a clear distinction between the roles of board and staff:	4		
e. It worked for group agreement and responsibility:	4		
f. Progress toward board goals:	4		
8. Your suggestions on where we could do better:			
9. Additional Comments:			

**#3 - \* "not enough time"**