BOARD OF DIRECTORS' WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2011, 4:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Blaine Peterson, Board Director; Terrie Hutchins, Board Director; Ron Dinius, Board Director; Elaine Pfeifer, Karen Rubino, Board Director Candidate, and Dawn Tarzian, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board. Jim Gadberry, Board Director was not present. Business Director Rosann Lassman was also in attendance.

1. CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Blaine Peterson called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance.

2. AGENDA REVISIONS
None.

2. Board Work Session
a. Dawn reviewed with the Board of Directors a draft of a 2011 – 2012 Board and Superintendent Working Agreement, referencing the Board Policies that provide the guidance for many of the elements of the agreement. Dawn asked that the Board consider adopting the working agreement as a guide to the work of the board and the board’s work with the new Superintendent. The Board discussed the importance of Board Development and of their attendance at the WASDA Legislative Assembly Conference and at the 2011 Annual Conference. They also discussed an interest in scheduling WSSDA to provide a local training and to include boards from neighboring districts. Dawn will be exploring this opportunity with Cassi’s support. The board also discussed Board Policy 1634 – Board/Staff Communications and an interest in changing the language around staff communications with the Board. Dawn will be bringing back a revised policy at a regular Board meeting.

b. Following a discussion about the materials prepared by staff to support Directors during Board meetings, Dawn recommended that Cassi Marshall and Dawn be provided with board meeting time to discuss with the Board changes in the printing and organization of meeting materials that might cut down on the use of paper and the preparation time needed by staff. The Board also discussed being open to Dawn’s request that she consider new configurations to the Board room set up that might allow meeting participants and attendees to move more easily in the room and her goal to display student work in the room.

c. The Superintendent’s 2011 – 2012 Professional Goals were presented along with a summary provided by Dawn of the guidance given to the process through Dawn’s employment contract and Board Policy.

d. The Board discussed what is working well for them regarding the structure and content of Board meetings and what they would like to see changed. The addition of a Superintendent’s Report standing agenda item was discussed. The board appreciates that Superintendent uses the input received at the end of each Board meeting to build future agendas. Dawn will be meeting with Blaine every other Thursday from 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. to plan agendas and to assure that the Board is getting the information and opportunities for discussion during Board meeting that they need.

e. Dawn shared the Board policy guidance regarding the development of a District Strategic Plan. Dawn will bring to a future board meeting a draft plan for involving district staff, parents, and community members in a Strategic Planning process that would lead to the Board’s adoption of a new 5 – 6 year plan.
The Board discussed the 2012 – 2013 budget planning process. Dawn recommended that the board design a process that includes staff and community engagement. Dawn and Blaine will set time on a future Board meeting agenda for the discussion to continue.

g. Dawn shared proposed edits she had made to Executive Limitation 4, Staff Treatment. The history of Policy Governance was discussed and it was recommended that the district spend this year working on reviewing the ELs, cleaning up the language and content of each. EL-7, Budget Planning; EL-15, District Calendar, and Ends, Education the Whole Child will be addressed at future meetings.

h. Dawn shared up-dates regarding transfer issues with the new AYP results for District Schools; an Educational Acronym document that she thought would be helpful to members; information about the City of Washougal’s Strategic Planning Process with an encouragement that they attend an input session; and the second draft of a “2011 – 2012 Key Work” document that captures the critical work that the HR, Special Programs, Curriculum, and Business Manager have in their departments this year.

i. Rosann provided the Board members with a copy of the 2011 – 2012 Budget Document. She provided information about a change from the June 2011 document, explaining that $100,000 of Title IIA dollars were being reallocated in the budget to meet the requirements of the Federal guidelines. Dawn shared that she and Doug Bright will be meeting with the WAE members on Monday, August 22 to discuss contact negotiations. The Board will be meeting in Executive Session on Tuesday, August 23 following the regular meeting for the purposes of discussion negotiations.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Dated this 23rd day of August 2011

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   President                Secretary to the Board