

**Washougal School District 112-6
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 22, 2017**

**Regular Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
Washougal School District Office**

Generated by Kori Kelly on Tuesday, August 22, 2017

PRESENT: Ron Dinius, Board Director; Elaine Pfeifer, Board Director; Teresa Lees, Board Director; Jaron Barney, Board Director; and Mike Stromme, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board.
The pre-arranged absences of Board Director Cory Chase and Assistant Superintendent Patsy Boles were excused.

1. Call to Order, Regular Meeting-Pledge of Allegiance

Ron Dinius called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance.

2. Recess to Public Budget Hearing

The board recessed to a public hearing at 6:33p.m. Ron Dinius explained the parameters of the hearing, and Mike Stromme gave brief overview of the 2017-2018 Budget.

A. Public Comment

Brett Cox commented on the amount of the fund balance. It is a historic thing with the district to carry such a large amount, and it is worrisome when a government agency has so much in reserve.

B. Return to Regular Meeting

The regular meeting resumed at 6:45 p.m.

3. Opening Items

A. Agenda Revisions

None.

B. Comments-Board of Directors and Administrators

Teresa Lees shared that everybody is excited for the school year to start, and she enjoyed seeing the community come together for the eclipse. Jaron Barney echoed Teresa's remarks. Ron Dinius recently visited the new Jemtegaard and Columbia River Gorge Elementary, and is excited for the staff to get inside. He thinks we will have a great school year.

C. Superintendent's Update

Superintendent Mike Stromme shared that the TCO (Temporary Certificate of Occupancy) should be issued for the new building tomorrow, and staff will be moving in Thursday. Former Superintendent Dawn Tarzian visited the district, and Mike was able to take her on a tour of the sites. They spent some time at Excelsior and talked about new program. There is still work to be done (site work and inside clean up), but Mike is excited to have it coming together since breaking ground 13 months ago, a year ahead of schedule.

D. Comments-Citizens

Jennifer Campen, a parent in the community, spoke regarding teacher contract negotiations. Many of the teachers are friends and helped raise her kids. She wants to see small class sizes, and no split level classrooms.

Rebecca Woodings, a teacher and Washougal resident spoke regarding teacher contract negotiations and the desire for no split level classrooms. She is greatly concerned that negotiations are at a stand still. There should be no split level classrooms in elementary, as teachers cannot teach two levels with fidelity. There are not enough hours in the day to meet all the needs of two different curriculums in each subject area. Students deserve more, teachers are professionals, and we should treat them as such.

Heidi Kleser, 3rd grade teacher CRG, spoke regarding split level classrooms. Heidi echoes what Rebecca Woodings said. In her experience with split level classroom last year, the teacher had to attend two PLC meetings each week, and was unable to teach math to both subgroups. She is irate that teachers are not treated as professionals. No more split levels at elementary, they don't work.

Eric Engebretson, teacher at Gause, drives 45 minutes from Battle Ground to teach here, which he loves. The students are most important to him.

After talking to parents who voted for the bond, they are disappointed in not enough classrooms, and too much in reserve not being spent. He would like to see the same speed settling the negotiations as the buildings were done.

Hillary Marshall, teacher librarian at WHS, spoke on contract negotiations. She is proud there will be more certificated librarians in the district. This is will her 23rd year of teaching, but is still disappointed with her salary. She is actively seeking higher paying employment. She is proud of the technology direction of the district K-12, and is also proud of having the leadership role of being on the panel for hiring certified teacher librarians.

Teachers are the best asset for the district, but let's properly compensate them.

Pam Ausman, parent and teacher, spoke on contract negotiations. Pam read a letter from a former teacher who wrote about low pay, and having her classroom eliminated two years in a row were driving factors in her leaving. This teacher feels respected and valued in her new district. Pam knows the faces of folks who have left the district due to low pay.

Brett Cox, JMS teacher and 20 year district veteran spoke on contract negotiations. He has no intention of ever leaving the district, that being said, there are plenty of others leaving, mostly due to the pay differential. He has been on the negotiating team the last three contracts. There needs to be a contract prior to Sept 7, or he doesn't know what will happen.

James Bennett, parent and teacher came to speak as a parent. Tripay is 10% here, but 18-20% elsewhere, he is not sure why we would do that.

Better paid employees are better employees, which is better for our kids. Paying less here is just embarrassing. He is not asking for more than other districts get. As to split classrooms, he would not have his child in a split class. It is not good for students, much less teachers.

Rob Lutz, President of Evergreen WAE, spoke about contract negotiations. He gave his support, and offered a resolution of support from the Evergreen WAE to Washougal WAE, offering them the chance to come work there.

Frank Zahn, WAE President, read from a letter from Jamie Anderson, former 4th grade teacher at GES. Examples of being valued and supported elsewhere: 30 hours of new employee training, 30 clock hours, all pay at the end of that week, and being provided with a mentor. Frank will provide copies of the letter to the board.

4. Consent Agenda

Board members received and reviewed these documents in advance of the meeting.

A. Minutes (August 8, 2017)

B. Accounts Payable

Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the board.

As of this date the board, by a unanimous vote, does approve for payment those vouchers included in the below list and further described as follows:

General Fund

Manual Check #7 (BMO), totaling \$28,207.73 (Pay date: 8-10-17)
Warrant Numbers 211770 through 211813, totaling \$59,701.70 (Pay date: 8-25-17)
Manual Check #7 (BMO), totaling \$7,411.53 (Pay date: 9-1-17)
Manual Check #7 (BMO), totaling \$1,832.00 (Pay date: 9-1-17)

ASB Fund

Manual Check #7 (BMO), totaling \$2,565.06 (Pay date: 8-10-17)

Capital Projects

Manual Check #7 (BMO), totaling \$1,468.80 (Pay date: 8-10-17)
Warrant Numbers 4296 through 4301, totaling \$2,510,643.68 (Pay date: 8-25-17)

C. Payroll (Pre-Authorization August 2017)

D. Budget Status Report June & July 2017

E. Personnel

Appointments:

- Brown, Serena, Playground Asst, JMS, effective 9/7/17
- Halverson, Jami, SPACE Facilitator, CHS, effective 9/7/17
- Reilly, Kevin, Assistant Football, WHS, effective 8/16/17
- Buck, Jesse, Assistant Football, WHS, effective 8/16/17
- Tyger, John, Assistant Girls Soccer, WHS, effective 8/21/17
- Casteel, Patty, Playground Asst, CRGE, effective 9/7/17
- Strickler, Victora, Playground Asst, CRGE, effective 9/7/17
- Anderson, Vicki, Night Custodian, CRGE, effective 9/7/17

Resignations:

- Resignation, Camp (Johnson), Jenna, Teacher, GES, effective 06/23/17
- Resignation, Dyra, Diane, Assistant Girls Soccer, WHS, effective 8/8/17

F. Contracts

G. ESD Contracts for 2017-2018

H. Field Trips

I. Mt. Pleasant Technology Agreement

J. Minimum Basic Education

K. Approval of Consent Agenda

Jaron Barney moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Elaine Pfeifer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

5. Proposals for Action

A. Recommendation: Approval of Resolution 2016-17-12: 2017-2018 Budget

Superintendent Mike Stromme read from the recommendation to approve Resolution 2016-17-12, and referenced the F-195 document available for review at the District Office. Jaron Barney moved to approve Resolution 2016-17-12: 2017-2018 Budget as presented. Elaine Pfeifer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Future Agenda Items

None.

7. Board Evaluation

Ron Dinius collected the board's self-evaluation forms.

8. Adjourn

Elaine Pfeifer moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m. Jaron Barney seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Dated this 12th day of September, 2017

President

Secretary to the Board