

WASHOUGAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 112-06

Board of Directors' Meeting Tuesday, October 27, 2009, 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Blaine Peterson, Board Director; Elaine Pfeifer, Board Director; Orlan Gessford, Board Director; Ron Dinius, Board Director; Tom Huffman, Board Director; Teresa Baldwin, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board.

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

Teresa Baldwin noted that the title of agenda item 6.C. was changed to “Board Policy Manual Renewal Plan”.

3. COMMENTS – BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ADMINISTRATORS

Ron Dinius – Ron will attend the Washington State School Directors’ Association (WSSDA) regional meeting with Teresa Baldwin in Ridgefield tomorrow night. He recently met with Washougal High School (WHS) principal Gerry Stavney to evaluate some of the current problems with the high school’s gym floor.

Orlan Gessford – Orlan was asked by a patron about absentee rates with the increase in H1N1 outbreaks. Teresa responded that there was a spike in absences at Canyon Creek Middle School earlier in the month, and another one at Hathaway Elementary School earlier in the week. The school district and the county health department are monitoring school attendance closely. Schools are reporting to the district office any time absence rates are over 10% of the student population, and a letter is going home to the parents of that school. Teresa showed the board a copy of the letter recently sent to district parents.

Elaine Pfeifer – Elaine expressed her appreciation for the input from parent volunteers at the October 20 Linkage meeting with Booster and Parent Advisory group leaders. She recently spoke with a student who shared his appreciation for the football program, noting that he did not feel that the athletic fees have had a negative impact on student participation.

Blaine Peterson – Blaine also felt that the linkage meeting was very valuable, and will discuss some of the parent input during the work session portion of the meeting. The girls’ soccer teams are doing well. He attended the middle school football banquet with his 8th grade son last week, and was especially pleased with the efforts of the coaches in promoting a unified Washougal middle school team. He commended Coach Dizmang for all of his hard work and positive messages to the student athletes. He announced the “Stuff the Bus” event, scheduled for December 4th this year. Blaine urged everyone present to attend one of the “Dracula” performances this weekend and next. WHS’s own Kelly Gregersen has written the script, adapted from the Bram Stoker novel.

Rebecca Miner – Rebecca is working to learn more about the new state assessments. She attended a webinar today and will also go to the Washington Educational Research Association (WERA) conference in December to obtain the most current information. District Assessment Coordinator Carol Boyden will be participating in the state webinar as well.

Teresa Baldwin – Teresa attended the post high school information meeting at WHS earlier in the evening. WHS staff member Marsha Spencer organized the very well attended event. Teresa handed out a draft of the upcoming patron newsletter. She commented that the district’s flu response will be highlighted in all upcoming communications and will be kept up to date on the district website. Teresa asked board members to volunteer to attend the Washougal Association of Educators (WAE) communication meetings scheduled for 2009-10. Teresa, Blaine Peterson and one additional board member will be at each meeting. The following schedule was agreed upon:

November 17, 2009, Washougal High School – Tom Huffman
February 16, 2010, Jemtegaard Middle School – Ron Dinius
April 20, 2010, Gause Elementary School – Orlan Gessford

Teresa asked Michael Piekarski, the district's Food Services director, to explain the upcoming "Fine Dining" event to be held at Gause Elementary School on November 6, 2009. Fifth graders involved will watch a "Mind your Manners" video and receive etiquette lessons prior to receiving a formal 4-course lunch, served on china in a formal dining room to be created in the school's library. The students will also have time for questions and answers with the chef. Teresa closed by announcing that the district recently received a thank you letter from the state for the outstanding meal service provided throughout the summer free lunch program.

4. COMMENTS – CITIZENS

Gail Anderson – Gail announced that the WHS golf team placed 4th in Districts, with two Washougal students, Connor O'Neill and Beau Scott, placing individually and qualifying for state competition. Gail took the opportunity to publicly thank her students' teachers for maintaining such great communication with parents. Canyon Creek Middle School teachers Leanna Vaughan, Pete Forgey and Tim Pfeifer and WHS staff members Brian Eggleston, Doug Cox, Jason Blaesing, Brian Amundson, Jay Bennett and Deborah Buchanan are to be commended for outstanding communication with the parents of their students, especially using electronic means.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Meeting Minutes (October 13, 2009)**
- B. Linkage Meeting Notes (October 20, 2009)**
- C. Accounts Payable**

General Fund

Warrant numbers 177072 – 177078 in the amount of \$5,327.89 (Pay date: October 28, 2009)
Warrant numbers 177079 – 177197 in the amount of \$138,968.42 (Pay date: October 28, 2009)

ASB Fund

Warrant numbers 17881 – 17895 in the amount of \$8,206.72 (Pay date: October 28, 2009)

Capital Projects Fund

Warrant number 3673 in the amount of \$666.88 (Pay date: October 28, 2009)

- D. Payroll (October 2009)**

Warrant numbers 177198 – 177292 in the amount of \$1,821,914.73 (Pay date: October 30, 2009)

- E. Personnel Report**

- F. Contracts**

- G. Policy Governance Executive Limitation 3, Treatment of Parents, Students, Public**

- H. Travel**

- I. Field Trips**

- J. Donations**

Teresa Baldwin noted the revision to the personnel report since the original board meeting materials were prepared. Additions to the personnel report include the hiring of Aaron Hansen as the WHS principal for the 2010-2011 academic year. Tom Huffman moved to approve the consent agenda as presented with the noted revision. Elaine Pfeifer seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

6. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

A. Middle and High School Fall Sports

Gordon Washburn and Sandi Christensen presented information regarding fall athletics participation, athletic fees collected and rates of participation for student athletes qualifying for free and reduced lunches. Updated information will be provided to the board after winter sports and then again after spring sports begin. There has not been a drop seen in fall sports participation with the addition of athletic fees compared to the 2008-09 numbers at either the middle or high school levels. Schools

are also tracking the donations to the athletic fees fund, which helps to cover the fees for students receiving free and reduced lunches.

B. Bus Discipline Report 2008-09

Teresa Baldwin presented bus discipline data for each school for the 2008-09 year, as well as for 2009-2010 to date. She will work with principals to ensure that the data is reported consistently for all buildings. Rebecca Miner will address this issue at a future principals' meeting, and the district will continue to monitor the data.

C. Board Policy Manual Renewal Plan

Teresa Baldwin presented a systematic plan for renewing and updating board policies, beginning March 2010 and concluding in August 2010.

7. PROPOSALS FOR ACTION

A. Washington Interscholastic Athletics Association Swim Team Agreement

Teresa Baldwin presented the Washington Interscholastic Athletics Association (WIAA) request for a WHS student to participate on the Camas High School swim team. Elaine Pfeifer moved to approve the request. Orlan Gessford seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

8. POLICY GOVERNANCE

A. Executive Limitation 5, Staff Compensation

Teresa Baldwin presented information in support of Executive Limitation (EL) 5 regarding staff compensation. Blaine Peterson collected the monitoring report response forms from all board members, noting that the approval of EL 5 will be on the consent agenda at the next regular meeting.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Blaine Peterson would like the board to discuss electronic parent/teacher communications and possible ways for technology to be used more consistently throughout the district. Teresa Baldwin will bring to the board at a future meeting an informational presentation regarding the changes in the state assessment system. She will have more information for the board after she and Rebecca attend the WERA conference, and hopes to present to the board in January or February of 2010. Elaine Pfeifer would like to revisit the topic of academic standards for student athletes at a future meeting, possibly toward the end of the school year.

10. BOARD WORK SESSION

A. Debrief Linkage Meeting, October 20, 2009, Boosters/Parent Advisories

Blaine Peterson reported that the parents present at the October 20 linkage meeting provided the board with great information. One topic to come up was the lack of communication between coaches and parents, especially at the middle school level. Parents would like to receive information directly from the coaches, rather than relying on middle school students to relay, especially for important issues such as schedule changes. Other parents spoke to Blaine about the variation in the quality of teacher communication and availability of class information online via teacher websites, as well as the differences in how quickly teachers update the online grade book system. Elaine Pfeifer mentioned the parent comments regarding math instruction. Parents would like to see more alignment between the middle and high school curriculums, as well as more consistency between teachers and schools throughout the district in both process and expectations. Rebecca Miner responded that the district is aware that more work is needed in this area, and has planned two full days this year for middle school math teachers (and some WHS math teachers) to meet. Orlan Gessford would like to see middle school students held more accountable, so that they can be successful at the high school level. Ron Dinius provided a general comment that parent input regarding the principals at WSD schools was extremely positive. Tom Huffman concluded that the linkage meeting provided excellent input.

B. Levy Election 2010 Planning

Teresa Baldwin presented the community survey data obtained in a recent phone survey of 250 random Washougal residents. The survey suggests strong support for the replacement maintenance and operations and technology levies. Teresa shared the proposed levy funds allocations to salaries, utilities, insurance, extracurricular programs, student support programs, student services and community education. She also presented a schedule of levy informational meetings for staff, parents and community members.

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

Orlan Gessford moved to adjourn to Executive Session for approximately 20 minutes at 7:47 p.m. Tom Huffman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

11. BOARD EVALUATION AND ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. RCW 42.30.110 (A) (2,3) Buy/Sell Property

BOARD EVALUATION AND ADJOURNMENT

The board returned from Executive Session for adjournment only. Orlan Gessford moved, seconded by Elaine Pfeifer to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Dated this 10th day of November 2009

President

Secretary to the Board