

**Washougal School District 112-6
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 10, 2020**

Work Session, 5:00 p.m.; Regular Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Online Zoom Meeting

Webinar ID: 892 1620 4532

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PRESENT: Cory Chase, Board Director; Angela Hancock, Board Director; Donna Sinclair, Board Director; Jim Cooper, Board Director; Chuck Carpenter, Board Director; Renae Burson, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning; Aaron Hansen, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Student Services; and Mary Templeton, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board.

1. Work Session, 5:00 p.m.

A. Columbia River Gorge Elementary School Improvement Plan

The work session began at 5:02 p.m. Principal Tracey MacLachlan and Dean of Students Erin Darling presented the Columbia River Gorge Elementary (CRGE) School Improvement Plan for 2020-21.

2. Opening Items - Regular Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

A. Call to Order, Regular Meeting

Cory Chase called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

B. Agenda Revisions

None.

C. Comments - Board of Directors

Angela Hancock welcomed back kindergarteners, shared that Stuff the Bus is going on, and thanked staff, parents and kids for all they do. Our COVID numbers are up, and she is appreciative of everyone's efforts. Angela thanked Tracey and Erin for their work and the great school improvement plan.

Donna Sinclair shared some of the work she is doing as the Legislative Representative and on the Government to Government committee. Donna is meeting every two weeks with other legislative representatives and will send out an update. Donna expressed her care and concern for students and shared the board's commitment to both academics and mental health despite being in the middle of such dangerous times. She said they are listening and we're all in it together.

Jim Cooper said he is happy that kindergarten is back, and it is good to see the increase in citizen participation. Jim shared his concern for the mortality rate, and the need to keep our eye on the facts and not misinformation. He said he is persuaded by the pleas from students and parents for enrichment and engagement.

Chuck Carpenter shared that he was able to spend an hour with JMS administrators, and he was impressed by the introspection and hard work. Chuck shared he is looking forward to the WSSDA Annual Conference next week.

Cory Chase shared that the WSSDA conference will be really good. Cory said he knows some in the community think the district is moving too fast with a return to in person instruction and some think too slow, but we have to focus on safety and the long term with testing, vaccines, and therapeutics. Mental health is always a concern, but the district must take a measured approach with small steps to bring some students back.

D. Superintendent's Update

Superintendent Mary Templeton said that we know masking, hygiene, and distancing reduce the risk of students on campus, and that younger students are less likely to transmit the virus. The State Department of Health, OSPI, Clark County Public Health, and others are leading a thoughtful, incremental approach to moving more groups to in person learning. Small groups of kindergarteners came back this week, and it was great to see both staff and students so excited and engaged. Small groups of high school athletes and clubs are back on campus under recommendations from WIAA, Department of Health, and OSPI. WHS Assistant Principal Gary McGarvie is leading a spirit team. Mary is sponsoring a Tea Time with Templeton webinar on November 19th, and will include special guests Aaron Hansen and Renae Burson to answer questions about instruction, culture and climate, and safety. Mary made a public plea for everyone to be responsible with masking and distancing, which will allow us to get children back in school. Mary shared that Veterans Day is tomorrow, and she will be eternally grateful for their service and sacrifice. November is Native American Heritage Month, and Mary read from the Governor's Proclamation.

Assistant Superintendent Renae Burson thanked veterans for their service. Renae shared she was able to see kindergarten students in classrooms, and was able to assist at Hathaway Elementary.

Assistant Superintendent Aaron Hansen gave his thanks to veterans for everything, and said it was sad to not be able to have in person events to honor them. Aaron was also in buildings to see kindergarteners, and it was great to see all the safety measures including masking and distancing in place. Everyone was positive, and the energy was high. Aaron gave his thanks to staff for keeping everyone safe. 50 staff members are taking part in equity teams, and there is a zoom training on Thursday.

E. Citizen Comments - General

Brad Maas joined the zoom meeting and spoke about his concerns around mental health, suicide and substance abuse. He shared that four times more people are reaching out for help.

Parent Dawn Hardley submitted a letter via email (read aloud by Kori Kelly) sharing that adult leadership is causing permanent mental, emotional and physical damage to kids. She shared that her son is struggling and that the education system and government have failed our children.

Parent Tara Poulsen submitted a letter via email (read aloud by Kori Kelly) sharing that she has three students in the district who are struggling academically and emotionally. She asked if an A/B schedule is still an option.

Parent Emily Watts submitted a letter via email (read aloud by Kori Kelly) asking several questions about the return to in person school. Some of the questions were: What metrics are being used to assess those emotionally struggling? What percentage of staff have said they are willing to return? What is being done to find solutions for activities, clubs, and study groups?

Parent Shelby Multanen submitted a letter via email (read aloud by Kori Kelly) sharing her students' challenges with distance learning. They are among the 19% of JMS students who report they are not receiving adequate opportunities for engagement and are being underserved.

Student Jace Poulsen submitted a letter via email (read aloud by Kori Kelly) asking to see the district's plan, sharing their difficulties in online band class, and asking why families can't determine whether they want to risk being in person.

Student Taylor Poulsen submitted a letter via email (read aloud by Kori Kelly) sharing how hard online school is, how it feels like they haven't learned as much as in person, and the feeling that assignments are being "dumbed down" to meet the standards of failing students.

Teacher and WAE President Eric Engebretson joined the zoom meeting and spoke about the union's position about delaying the reopening of schools. Eric cited data and statistics about the rise in cases from Clark County Public Health. He stated that while the union is not in favor of closing indefinitely and teachers do not enjoy teaching remotely, they are concerned with the health and safety of students, staff, and the entire Washougal community.

Student Tristan Farrell submitted a letter via email (read aloud by Kori Kelly) sharing that he feels like he is missing out on his senior year of high school, and is having trouble learning over zoom.

3. Consent Agenda

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

A. Minutes (October 27, 2020)

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

Warrant Numbers 248483-245484, totaling \$343.18 (Pay date: 10-26-20)
Warrant Numbers 245485-45497, totaling \$49,352.85 (Pay date: 10-29-20)
ACH Numbers 202100026-202100026, totaling \$1,141.9 (Pay date: 10-30-20)
ACH Numbers 202100021-202100023, totaling \$7,154.99 (Pay date: 10-30-20)
Warrant Numbers 245520-245566, totaling \$264,320.48 (Pay date: 11-11-20)
Voids/Cancellations, totaling \$2,936.42
Warrant Numbers 245511-245519, totaling \$648,175.64 (Pay date: 11-13-20)
ACH Numbers 202100027-202100029, totaling \$41,441.67 (Pay date: 11-13-20)

ASB Fund

Warrant Numbers 24416-24421, totaling \$9,137.00 (Pay date: 11-6-20)

C. Payroll (October 2020)

General Fund (\$3,172,673.65).

Warrant Number 1000689-1000690 totaling \$1,111.64 (Pay date: October 7, 2020)

Warrant Numbers 1000691 - 1000696 totaling \$2,716.98 (Pay date: October 30, 2020)

Warrant Numbers 245498 - 245510, totaling \$587,311.94 (Pay date: October 30, 2020)

ACH Numbers 202100024 - 202100025, totaling \$18,46 (Pay date: October 30, 2020)

Non-Warrants, totaling \$2,563,070.67 (Pay date: October 30, 2020)

D. Personnel

Appointments:

Jacob Ross, Temporary Para - SLC, GES, 11/3/20

Jennifer Campen, Temporary Secretary, CCMS, 11/4/20

Samantha Johnson, SPACE Facilitator, HES, 11/2/20

Resignations:

Alice Joubert, Teacher, CRGE/JMS/WLA, 11/6/2020

Brianna Bain, Teacher, CRGE, 11/2/20

Leaves of Absence:

Holly Vonderohe, Library Assistant I, HES, 11/2/20-12/31/20

Alan Bruce Chilcote, Para, WHS, 11/6/20-11/16/20

Kelly Ritter, Teacher, WHS, 11/5/2020

Amber Blackwell, Bus Driver, BB, 10/22/20-10/30/20

E. Contracts

F. ASB Constitutions

G. Compliance Officers 2020-21

H. Approval of Consent Agenda

Cory Chase moved to approve the consent agenda as presented, and Angela Hancock seconded. The board voted by roll-call vote as follows: Chase, aye; Hancock, aye; Sinclair, aye; Cooper, aye; Carpenter, aye. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Policy Governance

A. Executive Responsibility 17 - Technology

Director of Communications and Technology Les Brown presented Executive Responsibility 17 - Technology. Highlights included: how COVID has impacted technology, the enormous jump in the number of IT tickets in April, and then even more in September, teaching and learning outcomes, the essential components of the 1:1, help with connectivity for families, ParentSquare, and the technology purchasing plan.

5. Policy Revision, first reading

Mary shared that the changes to these policies stem from HB 1660 in the last legislative session, and is an equity response to the barriers to participation. Mary stated they will be back for a second reading at the next board meeting.

A. Policy 3510 - Associated Student Bodies

B. Policy 3530 - Fundraising Activities Involving Students

6. Future Agenda Items

There will be an update on parent surveys next time, including addressing mental health. Mary said she will also be reaching out for a list of the board's legislative priorities.

7. Adjourn

Donna Sinclair moved to adjourn at 7:52 p.m., and Chuck Carpenter seconded. The board voted by roll-call vote as follows: Chase, aye; Hancock, aye; Sinclair, aye; Cooper, aye; Carpenter, aye. The motion carried unanimously.

Dated this 24th day of November, 2020

President

Secretary to the Board