

WASHOUGAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 112-06
Board of Directors' Meeting
Tuesday, June 11, 2013, 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Blaine Peterson, Board Director; Elaine Pfeifer, Board Director; Karen Rubino, Board Director; Ron Dinius, Board Director; and Dawn Tarzian, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board. The pre-arranged absence of Board Director Terrie Hutchins was excused.

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. He welcomed the audience.

2. AGENDA REVISIONS

Blaine Peterson asked to pull the approval of the Highly Capable Student Program iGrant (agenda item 6.I.) from the consent agenda.

3. COMMENTS – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Karen Rubino spoke about the “Totally Awesome 80s” ASL program – it was truly totally awesome! She thanked the students and staff for their amazing work on this production.

Ron Dinius attended the high school Senior Panel presentations. He commented that presentations continue to improve, and congratulated the students and staff for the great work in preparing for panels. Ron gave a brief legislative update, noting that the state budget has not yet been approved.

Blaine Peterson shared news from the Post-Record, highlighting articles about middle school Outdoor School, student Sammy Mederos’s cancer research fundraiser, and district spring sports. Eric Johnson, Washougal’s Teacher of the Year, did a stupendous job speaking at the recent Chamber of Commerce banquet. Eric is obviously very passionate about his teaching – Washougal is fortunate to have teachers with this level of skill and commitment working with our students.

4. SUPERINTENDENT’S UPDATE

Dawn welcomed the audience, especially the students and parents present. She directed board members to a copy of the district’s Annual Report to the Community. Dawn is very proud of this publication and of the accomplishments of the district’s staff and students documented here.

The request to approve a donation was included in the board’s consent agenda materials. Washougal High School (WHS) teacher, Jay Bennett, registered for the “Donors Choose” online fundraiser. In his proposal, Jay articulated his plans for integrating Chrome Books into his classroom instruction with the goal of moving to a paperless system. Donations for his project totaled \$3888, which will provide 30 Chrome Books for his classroom next year.

A new student club has been formed at WHS. The Gay-Straight Alliance was started to build respectful acceptance between students and groups of students who are not in the same cliques or have the same backgrounds or attributes. The purpose of the club is to work to create a culture of acceptance at WHS for all students. One of the staff member advisors to this group reports that although he feels that there is still growth to be made in the school culture, changes have occurred in recent years that have created a very positive evolution in student-to-student attitudes and openness.

Dawn has recently become a board member for the Camas-Washougal Community Chest, which strives to keep local donations in the community. The Camas and Washougal School Districts recently submitted a grant request for \$3000 to bring Dr. Mazza of the University of Washington to our community to present information related to preventing adolescent suicide. With the grant, opportunities will be created for staff and parents in both districts to learn more about how to support

youth in dealing with issues that can lead children to contemplate or attempt suicide. Dawn deeply appreciates the Community Chest's support of this event.

Dawn closed with a summary of her concerns about school funding in light of the state legislature's failure to pass an operating budget.

5. COMMENTS - CITIZENS

None.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

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

A. Meeting Minutes (May 28, 2013)

B. Accounts Payable

General Fund

Warrant numbers 201200 – 201201 in the amount of \$16,382.35 (Pay date: May 31, 2013)

Warrant number 201202 (re-issued) in the amount of \$296.67 (Pay date: May 31, 2013)

Warrant numbers 201204 – 201295 in the amount of \$241,712.73 (Pay date: June 14, 2013)

ASB Fund

Warrant number 19697 (re-issued) in the amount of \$120.28 (Pay date: May 31, 2013)

Warrant numbers 19698 – 19722 in the amount of \$12,209.05 (Pay date: June 14, 2013)

ACH

ACH numbers 121300428 – 121300459 in the amount of \$17,347.55 (Pay date: June 14, 2013)

C. Payroll (May 2013)

Warrant numbers 201146 – 201199, 201203 in the amount of \$1,871,542.55 (Pay date: May 31, 2013)

D. Personnel Report

E. Contracts

F. Travel

G. Field Trips

H. Donations

I. Highly Capable Student Program iGrant

J. Resolution 2012-13-12: Sole-Source Vendor Authorization

K. Executive Responsibilities 8 – Financial Administration

L. Executive Responsibilities 9 - Facilities

Blaine Peterson noted the addition to the personnel report since the original board packets were distributed. He reminded board members that the HiCap grant approval was removed from the consent agenda, and noted his appreciation to district staff for the work done to prepare athletic summer camp/tournament field trip request paperwork. Elaine Pfeifer moved, seconded by Karen Rubino, to approve the consent agenda as presented, with the above noted revisions. The motion carried unanimously.

7. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

A. iPad Pilot Review

Les Brown provided background information about the iPad pilot program, which was administered to one 5th grade classroom at each of the district's three elementary schools. He highlighted three main points: iPads increase student engagement, shifting the focus from teaching to learning and building 21st Century skills in our students; iPads can support learners at all ability levels and provide support for students with disabilities; the iPad pilot in the district's 5th grade showed increased student learning as measured by EasyCBM, increased attendance and reduced mobility.

Pilot teachers Chelsea Meats, Erin Hayes and Erin Maier were present, along with students from each of their classrooms. Students shared examples of their work and projects with each board member. Chelsea Meats shared how excited she was to discover how much more her class was able to collaborate and expand upon classroom conversations due to the iPads. The devices allowed for much more sharing of information than was ever possible in the traditional computer lab, and her class was able to complete research projects much more quickly. Special Education teacher Stephanie Closson shared how her students with reading disabilities are able to use the “text-to-speech” feature, and “dragon speak” allows students to tell their own stories. Les shared attendance data for the pilot groups vs. non-pilot. David Tudor overviewed the differences in EasyCMB assessment data for the two groups. He spoke about the changes in curriculum materials toward Open Educational Resources (OER), which will move districts toward device purchases instead of traditional textbook adoptions, as in the past. Les closed by saying that overall, the pilot was very successful. It had a positive impact and created excitement for teachers and students. The district would like to expand the project, and will be purchasing enough iPads for all 5th and 6th graders for next year, in a move toward a “one-to-one” (one device per student) environment. This \$240,000 expenditure will be paid for from the current Technology levy funds (\$140,000) and the curriculum reserve (\$100,000). The board thanked the students, teachers, Les and David for this information.

B. Highly Capable Student Program update

David Tudor introduced Kathy Sloop, the district’s Highly Capable Student Program (HiCap) coordinator. He explained that several changes are being implemented in the state guidelines around this program. This update is being provided as preparation for the board to approve the HiCap iGrant as soon as it is received from the state. Kathy explained the transitions that will take place during the 2013-14 school year, including a new funding formula and new K-12 requirements.

C. Policy 4260 – Use of School Facilities

Dawn Tarzian presented information about facility rental rates for the district’s theater. Consistent fees have been charged, but they have not been in alignment with the fees approved by the board in July 2010. The district will work with building administrators and bring a recommendation back to a future board meeting. The recommendation will include rental rate comparisons, analysis of operating costs, and a plan for facility upkeep and maintenance costs, and funds spent to date.

8. BOARD WORK SESSION

A. 2013-2014 Budget

Rosann Lassman and Dawn Tarzian shared an update of the budgeting process for the upcoming school year. The district’s executive and leadership teams worked to prioritize budget items, both one-time and ongoing expenses, which were shared with the board. The budget cannot be finalized until the state allocation information is received.

B. 2014 Levy Discussion – Maintenance and Operations, Technology

Dawn Tarzian shared data related to the McCleary obligations for estimated state basic education funding. She noted that in the absence of “full-funding”, the critical importance of the support of local taxpayers is clear. Current district levies represent 21% of the district’s budget at just over \$5,000,000 annually. Without a replacement levy, the district would lose an additional \$821,000 in local effort assistance (LEA) funding. The current Maintenance and Operations (M&O) and Technology levies expire in 2014. Dawn highlighted the district’s programs that are supported with levy funds, all greatly valued in the community. Blaine Peterson stated that the board needs to make sure it does what is best for kids and works to continue to supplement state funding. The board will need to wait for legislative funding decisions before deciding on levy amounts. Ron Dinius agreed, adding that both levies are essential. Elaine Pfeifer shared her support for moving forward with the levy discussions, noting that Washougal’s rich learning environment is supported by these essential

levy dollars. Karen Rubino agrees with the decision to renew both levies. Dawn Tarzian closed by noting that the district's Technology Committee has provided input related to levy amounts. She recommended moving this discussion to the next regular meeting to allow time for this information to be heard. The board agreed by consensus to run both the M&O and Tech levies, with action on the levy amounts to be taken in the fall of 2013.

C. Board Meeting Evaluation Tool

Board members discussed ideas for a more valuable self-evaluation tool. The board will try a new format at the next regular meeting.

9. POLICY GOVERNANCE

A. Executive Responsibilities 13 – Instructional Programs

B. Ends Report

David Tudor provided evidence in support of both Executive Responsibilities (ER) 13 regarding instructional programs and the district's Ends report. He noted the addition of two instructional math coach positions at the elementary level for next year and the change in the structure of the Career and Technical Education (CTE) program, expanding to the middle schools and Excelsior High School and working to include greater community partnerships. David directed the board's attention to new language in the Ends document to address the recently adopted vision and mission statements and goals. He highlighted the three overarching district initiatives: professional growth and evaluation (PGE) and teacher/principal evaluation project (TPEP); Common Core state standards implementation; and professional learning communities (PLCs). All of these initiatives are focused on individual student achievement through collaborative teacher practices and will be addressed in next year's school improvement plan presentations. Blaine Peterson collected monitoring report response forms, noting that both reports will be on the next consent agenda.

10. BOARD POLICY

A. 3000 Series, first reading

The 3000 Series will be brought back to the next regular meeting for a second reading.

B. Policy 5282 – Civility, second reading

Elaine Pfeifer moved to approve Policy 5282 as presented. Ron Dinius seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The board will hear Tech Levy and budgeting information at the next regular meeting.

12. BOARD EVALUATION

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

13. ADJOURN

Elaine Pfeifer moved, seconded by Karen Rubino, to adjourn at 9:18 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Dated this 25th day of June 2013

President

Secretary to the Board

BOARD MEETING EVALUATION SUMMARY

MEETING DATE: June 11, 2013

Instructions: S = Satisfactory I = Needs Improvement U = Unsatisfactory

	S	I	U
1. Board members were prepared for the meeting.	3	1	
2. Our agenda was well designed.	2.5	1.5	
3. Each board member was given an adequate opportunity to participate in discussion and decision-making.	3	1	
4. The board's treatment of all persons was courteous, dignified, and fair. There was a respectful atmosphere.	4		
5. We practiced good parliamentary procedure.	4		
6. The board demonstrated a sense of responsibility for excellence in governing the district.	4		
	<u>Yes</u>		<u>No</u>
7. The board adhered to its adopted governance style:			
a. It emphasized the future and the total community:	4		
b. It encouraged diversity in viewpoints:	4		
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:	3		
8. Your suggestions on where we could do better: <i>"better timeline"</i> <i>"Revisit the proposed (new) board meeting evaluations"</i>			
9. Additional Comments:			