

WASHOUGAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 112-06
Board of Directors' Meeting
Tuesday, October 26, 2010, 6:30 p.m.

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

2. AGENDA REVISIONS

None.

3. COMMENTS – BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ADMINISTRATORS

Elaine Pfeifer – A webinar will be held this Thursday highlighting national educational standards. Elaine passed information regarding this presentation to the other board members.

Blaine Peterson – All of the Washougal High School (WHS) athletic teams are doing well this fall. Blaine attended student-led conferences with his two students at WHS today. The format for the conferences was slightly different than in past years, with the students speaking more about future planning and careers. Blaine felt that the conferences were going very well.

Rebecca Miner – Professional development for “Thinkfinity” drew 25 teachers on October 14. Rebecca enjoyed the WHS v. Hockinson volleyball game last week, as well as the Cape Horn-Skye and Canyon Creek Middle School Harvest Festival on Saturday. A public forum was held regarding Common Core Standards at Mountain View High School last week. A webinar further overviewing the standards will be held on Thursday, October 28

Teresa Baldwin – Staff meetings are being held at all schools, and the message is joining together and creating a positive, collective voice around the good things going on in classrooms and schools for students, while at the same time acknowledging that we are all about improving education for all students. In the area of improvement, each school is focusing on developing a School Improvement Plan. In addition, administrators and teachers have set professional goals this year that focus on improvement through the evaluation process. Teresa announced the names of WHS students with outstanding academic achievements. Alexander Maxa is a semi-finalist in the 2011 National Merit Scholarship Program. Patrick McCarthy has been named a Commended Student in the same program. Patrick is also a graduate of the 2010 Washington Aerospace Scholars Summer Residency program. Natalie Hoyte, Cynthia Mace and Haley Strohschein have been named Advanced Placement (AP) Scholars. Darcy Akers, Sarah Hess, Patrick McCarthy and Shane Phillips have earned recognition as AP Scholars with Honor, and Christopher Norton earned the title of AP Scholar with Distinction.

4. COMMENTS – CITIZENS

Amanda Klackner – Amanda attended the October 16 Board Work Session and commented on the discussion held regarding the funding of the stadium turf. She agrees with Ron Dinius that the district should not use funds currently set aside for a new school to pay for new turf. She is supportive of the idea of fundraising for the turf replacement, noting that it is “easier to fundraise for football than for textbooks and teachers.”

Mark Zack – At the last meeting, the g-max test results for the stadium turf were shared. Mark is concerned that the board and district administration are jumping ahead with the idea of replacing the turf rather than looking at possible solutions to repair the areas of concern. He thinks the board is “jumping the gun.” Mark did not agree with the idea of running a levy to cover the cost of the field.

He asked why the district doesn't have a budgeting process in place to cover large capital needs such as fields and roofs. He would like to see the board be more pro-active rather than reactive to these issues. Mark would like for the board to add a public comment period to the end of the regular meeting agendas. Regarding the energy efficiency work being done, he asked why it was not begun sooner. Other districts have made some of these changes 2 or 3 years prior. Mark would also like to see board member email addresses included on printed public communications. Blaine Peterson responded that the district has been working on energy efficiency measures for some time. Teresa Baldwin noted that the district went through a wait period for the no-cost energy audits offered by Bonneville Power Administration, and the results of that audit paved the way for the reimbursement programs now available to the District.

Rhea Bohlin – Rhea said she had reflected on her way to the meeting tonight how thankful she is that the school board is able to assemble and conduct a public meeting. She appreciates the transparency that the district operates under, and the visibility, accessibility and responsiveness of the board and administration.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- A. Meeting Minutes (October 12, 2010)**
- B. Meeting Minutes (October 16, 2010 Work Session)**
- C. Accounts Payable (October 2010)**

General Fund

Warrant numbers 180900 – 181017 in the amount of \$208,778.21 (Pay date: October 27, 2010)

ASB Fund

Warrant numbers 18365 – 18391 in the amount of \$20,494.16 (Pay date: October 27, 2010)

- D. Payroll Report (October 2010)**

Warrant numbers 180837 – 180899 in the amount of \$1,818,630.31 (Pay date: October 29, 2010)

- E. Personnel Report**
- F. Policy Governance, Executive Limitation 3, *Treatment of Parents, Students, Public***
- G. Contracts**
- H. Travel**
- I. Field Trips**
- J. Donations**

Tom Huffman moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Elaine Pfeifer asked for clarification regarding a contract listed for Michael Grinder for approval. Teresa Baldwin explained that Michael Grinder was a highly regarded professional development consultant that both she and Rebecca Miner have used in prior districts for the purpose of improving classroom learning environments. Teresa also noted that the District had contracted with Mr. Grinder for 5 days of service, and that 2-days of inservice would be offered to all staff K-12, with the remainder of the days scheduled at Hathaway Elementary to augment the Tier III plan. Following the explanation of the contract in question, Elaine Pfeifer seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

6. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

A. Fishback Stadium G-max Test Results

Doug Bright introduced Jennifer Himmelsbach, from BioMechanica, the consultant who administered the g-max test on the Fishback stadium turf. Jennifer presented information explaining the process of the test, and the range of scores used to determine field safety. Jennifer shared some pros and cons to turf repair versus replacement. She suggested that the board ask the coaches and players about the level of injuries sustained by athletes on the field over time as it has aged. She commented that the field is actually in very good condition considering its age. The board thanked Jennifer for her time and valuable information. Doug added that he will continue working with the maintenance crew to keep the field as well maintained as possible. The grounds crew will distribute more rubber in the areas where the g-max test results were high. He also reported that he received

further information from Terry Cavendar regarding the timeline for replacement, and that there may be payment plans available for turf installation, should the board move in that direction. Blaine Peterson suggested taking Jennifer's recommendation and talk with the district trainer and coaches about the rates of injury on the turf. Teresa will invite Lisa Bennett as well as the soccer and football coaches to meet with the board on November 9, if possible. She asked that the board email her any further questions regarding the turf field.

B. Special Services Program Report

Rebecca Miner introduced Allan Fleck, the district's Director of Special Services. Allan presented information regarding the distribution of classified and certified staff positions per program and site, explaining that since varying student needs dictate the staffing requirements, the student to staff ratios can differ greatly. Allan also shared a 3 year history of Special Services expenditures as well as a history of Title and LAP funding and expenditures. He showed staffing requirements and number of students served in the transitional bilingual program. The board thanked Allan for his presentation.

C. Board Policy Manual 3100 Series – first reading

Elaine Pfeifer asked for clarification about the number of absences allowed under Policy 3122. Teresa Baldwin explained the rationale behind how the policy is phrased. The 3100 Series of the policy manual will be brought back to the next regular meeting for a second reading, then held for approval with the entire 3000 Series in January.

7. POLICY GOVERNANCE

A. Executive Limitation 5, *Staff Compensation*

Teresa Baldwin presented evidence in support of Executive Limitation (EL) 5 regarding staff compensation. The board agreed by consensus to edit the wording of the last limitation, and Rebecca Miner made those revisions using line-out type and brown font to note the changes. Blaine Peterson collected the monitoring report response forms from all board members present, noting that the approval of EL-5 will be on the consent agenda at the next regular meeting.

8. BOARD WORK SESSION

A. NEWS Coalition

The board voiced unanimous support of the work of the NEWS Coalition. Elaine Pfeifer proposed attaching a small monetary contribution to the resolution. Tom Huffman moved to support the resolution, with language indicating a one-time \$750 contribution. Ron Dinius seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. The final resolution will be brought to the next meeting for official action.

B. Fishback Stadium Turf Replacement

Teresa Baldwin clarified that she did not recommend levy funding to cover the cost of replacing the turf field, but did present it to the board as one option. Blaine Peterson expressed support for the idea of fundraising to offset the cost, and would like more information about possible payment plans. Doug Bright will further research the issue and will also try to speak with other districts about the "repair versus replace" options.

C. Federal Forest Fund Impact

Teresa shared a map showing an area of territory at the far east side of the district, which if transferred to Mount Pleasant School District would allow for a contiguous boundary between Mount Pleasant and Skamania School Districts. She explained the advantage of the contiguous boundary between Skamania and Mt. Pleasant School Districts, specifically that if Mt. Pleasant loses Timber Tax revenue without another replacement funding source, the Regional Committee will make a consolidation decision. The Regional Committee operates under a "contiguous boundary" rule, meaning that consolidation is always made between districts with contiguous boundaries. Teresa explained that it would be in the best interest of both Washougal District and Mt. Pleasant District if the Regional Committee had a choice of consolidating, if needed, Mt. Pleasant with

Skamania District. Under the current configuration of Mt. Pleasant District, the Regional Committee would have no other choice but to consolidate Mt. Pleasant with Washougal District. In summary, a transfer of a small portion of territory, as shown on the map, would give the Regional Committee two options for consolidation, if Mt. Pleasant is unable to continue operation. She went on to explain that there are 35 tax parcels included in the area shown on the map, with 18 students who live in this area currently attending Washougal School District (WSD) schools. Teresa will attend a November 3, 2010 joint meeting of Skamania County districts, and will report to the board following that meeting.

D. Debrief WSSDA Regional Meeting

Ron Dinius summarized the discussions at the October 13, 2010 Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA) regional meeting held in Hockinson. The new WSSDA executive director, Jonelle Adams, was introduced at the meeting. WSSDA dues rates, career and college ready information and graduation requirements for the class of 2016 were discussed. A survey was given out regarding the State Board's proposed high school graduation requirements. Rebecca Miner and Aaron Hansen will respond to that survey. The legislative session begins January 10, 2011. Ron reminded the board and audience that the state legislators need to receive more pressure about issues involving school funds, and that constituents contacting their legislators should also work to provide solutions, not just problems, when voicing concerns. Ron suggested meeting with legislators when they are not in session, and continuing to invite them to district schools to physically show the impacts of cuts in educational funding. Rhea Bohlin suggested that the district make readily available legislators' contact information. Jennifer McDaniel suggested that the district also be in communication with the Camas-Washougal Chamber of Commerce governmental affairs commission.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Rebecca Miner will provide an update regarding the State Board of Education proposed graduation requirements at the next regular meeting. Ron Dinius asked about an update regarding communications with Skamania County. Teresa Baldwin and Doug Bright met with county officials today to discuss the irrigation at the new fields near Cape Horn-Skye Elementary. Teresa gave a brief update about the partnership agreements.

10. BOARD EVALUATION

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

11. BOARD ADJOURNMENT OR ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Tom Huffman moved to recess to executive session for approximately 30 minutes, with no action upon return, at 8:44 p.m. Elaine Pfeifer seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

A. RCW 42.30.140 (D) (b) Negotiations Planning

B. RCW 42.30.110 (A) (7) Performance Review of Employee

RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR ADJOURNMENT OR ACTION

The board returned from executive session for adjournment only. Tom Huffman moved, seconded by Elaine Pfeifer, to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Dated this 9th day of November 2010

President

Secretary to the Board

Board Self Evaluation Results											
October 26, 2010											
					board member:	1	2	3	4	5	Average
1.	The board followed its agenda and did not allow itself to get sidetracked.					4	4	4	3		3.8
2.	The agenda was well planned to focus on the real work of the board.					5	5	4	4		4.5
3.	The meeting started on time and proceeded in a timely manner.					4	4	4	3		3.8
4.	The meeting proceeded without interruptions or distractions.					4	4	4	2		3.5
5.	The board's deliberations and decision-making processes were public.					5	5	4	5		4.8
6.	Participation was balanced; all participated; no one dominated.					4	4	4	3		3.8
7.	Members listened attentively, avoiding side conversations.					5	4	4	4		4.3
8.	Work was conducted in an atmosphere of trust and openness.					5	4	4	3		4.0
9.	Meeting participants treated each other with respect and courtesy.					4	4	4	4		4.0
Point scoring system:											
1	Failed										
2	Unacceptable										
3	Acceptable										
4	Commendable										
5	Met Best Expectations										