

WASHOUGAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 112-06
Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 20, 2015
Work Session 5:30 p.m.; Regular Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Cape Horn-Skye Elementary School

PRESENT: Ron Dinius, Board Director; Teresa Lees, Board Director; Elaine Pfeifer, Board Director; Karen Rubino, Board Director; Bruce Westfall, Board Director; and Mike Stromme, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board.

1. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ron Dinius called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and Elaine Pfeifer led the pledge of allegiance.

2. WORK SESSION

A. Cape Horn-Skye Elementary School Improvement Plan (SIP) Presentation

Mike Stromme introduced Cape Horn-Skye Elementary School (Cape) principal Mary Lou Woody. Cape students gave a musical performance of “Over the River and Through the Woods to Cape Horn-Skye We Go”. Mary Lou introduced Anna Breithaupt, the school’s new music teacher. The Cape staff present then introduced themselves to the board. Penny Andrews spoke about the school’s math goals and assessment data, Marie Klemmer informed the board about the English Language Arts goals and test scores, Heather Kassel talked about the school’s use of technology to enhance learning, Alice Yang shared a student-created iMovie, Kam Lawrence talked about how the school works together to create a culture of respect, and Cape Booster Club leader Leann Wilkins shared the many ways that the Boosters work with staff, parents and the community to support Cape students. Cindy Coons presented Mary Lou with a gift from the staff and shared quotes of appreciation. Ron Dinius thanked the school for the presentation, noting that he looks forward to visiting Cape every year, since it is such a welcoming community.

3. AGENDA REVISIONS

None.

4. COMMENTS—BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ADMINISTRATORS

Elaine Pfeifer thanked all involved for the great SIP presentation. She also noted the wonderful lighting improvements in the parking lot. Karen Rubino echoed appreciation for the presentation.

5. SUPERINTENDENT’S UPDATE

Mike Stromme provided an update about the district’s new Family Resource Coordinator work. Nancy Boon has organized a Community Resource Fair to be held on October 27, 1:00 – 6:30 p.m. at Hathaway Elementary School. He shared an impressive list of local organizations that will be providing information about services available in the community. Free childcare will be provided, as well as free dinner from 5:00 – 6:30. The Camas-Washougal Rotary Club provided dictionaries to all district third graders at recent assemblies. Mike informed the board that a work session has been scheduled for 5:30 p.m. prior to the board’s November 3 regular meeting that will focus on schematic designs for the new transportation facility and will provide updates on the security, HVAC and roofing upgrades.

6. COMMENTS—CITIZENS

Ron Dinius shared information about the process for citizen comments.

Rhonda Reeser, Canyon Creek Middle School (CCMS) teacher, spoke to the board about budget priorities related to teacher salaries. She also shared a letter from an anonymous third-year teacher speaking to the inability to support a family on a salary at this level on the salary schedule.

Tim Pfeifer, CCMS teacher, provided a veteran teacher perspective, including historical data comparing teachers' salary increases to actual cost of living increases. Tim is currently borrowing a tremendous amount to pay for college tuition for his two daughters. He asked the board to consider this information as it communicates with district administration about the negotiations process.

Hillary Marshall, librarian at Washougal High School (WHS), oversees all libraries in the district. Her main issue for the board's consideration is teacher compensation. She spoke of more lucrative positions in related fields, but would prefer to stay in teaching, since her heart is in this work with young people.

Jennifer Bohn Snapp, Jemtegaard Middle School (JMS) band and choir teacher, shared how much her program has grown and improved during her tenure at JMS, yet she is living check-to-check. She asks that the district step up and compensate teachers for what they do.

Eric Engebretson, Gause Elementary School (Gause) teacher, voiced his appreciation for the board's stewardship of district funds over the years. The district has an opportunity for change. He challenged the board to direct the negotiating team to step up and pay teachers a just and fair salary to ensure that new teachers can be attracted to continue the fantastic things happening here.

John Miller, Emotional Behavioral Disability (EBD) teacher at WHS, spoke about the need for consistent, caring teachers to work with students who have experienced trauma. The district needs more competitive teacher salaries to attract good people and lower the turnover rates of Special Education teachers.

Jeanie Moran, district parent, said that she was speaking to make sure that the board hears that parents are concerned about teacher salaries. She is concerned that teachers have been asked to take on more and more each year. She asked the board to do whatever they can to keep these great people in the district.

Cherise Marshall, JMS teacher, loves teaching in the district. Her main concern is that the district is not attracting enough science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) professionals to teaching, since they can make more money in other fields. She noted the district's financial reserves are sufficient to use a small piece of that pie to attract more people to this profession.

Frank Zahn, Gause teacher, has received another letter submitted anonymously, from a young teacher struggling to make it financially. He is glad that teachers are sharing their stories. He expressed frustration that movement in negotiations is very slow. He asked the board to consider what they are hearing from teachers.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

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

A. Meeting Minutes (October 6, 2015)

B. Accounts Payable

General Fund

Warrant Number 207448, totaling \$180.60 (Pay date: October 23, 2015)

Warrant Numbers 207449 – 207528, totaling \$161,172.73 (Pay date: October 23, 2015)

ASB Fund

Warrant Numbers 20661 – 20671, totaling \$8,170.37 (Pay date: October 23, 2015)

Capital Projects Fund

Warrant Numbers 3931 – 3937, totaling \$69,774.23 (Pay date: October 23, 2015)

ACH

ACH Numbers 151600061 – 151600080, totaling \$51,521.54 (Pay date: October 23, 2015)

C. Payroll (Pre-Authorization October 2015)

D. Personnel Report

Classified Appointments:

- Andrea Jones – Para-educator (GES)

Classified Leave of Absence:

- Connie Allen – Night Custodian (CCMS), October 6 – 26, 2015.
- Kerry Yockey – Transportation Driver (Transp), October 14 – 23, 2015.

Extracurricular Resignation:

- Erick Johnson – Baseball Coach (WHS), as of October 9, 2015.

E. Contracts

F. MetLife Vision Insurance Approval

G. Field Trips

H. Donations

Karen Rubino moved, seconded by Teresa Lees, to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

8. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

A. Construction Update

Rick Yeo and Adam Cormack shared that LSW and BBL, the two architectural firms working on the bond projects, are doing a great job, and are at the point in the projects where budgets, scopes and estimates are being reconciled. Rick and Adam enjoy working with Joe Steinbrenner, and appreciate his practical, real-world perspective and his constant advocacy for district students. Adam highlighted progress on each bond project. The board thanked the presenters.

9. PROPOSAL FOR ACTION

A. System Commissioning Consultants, Inc. Contract

Mike Stromme recommended the approval of the System Commissioning Consultants agreement. Bruce Wesfall moved to approve, seconded by Elaine Pfeifer, and the motion carried unanimously.

10. POLICY REVISIONS

A. Board Policies 2022, 3122, 3220, 3246, 3421, 3422, 6114, 6220, 6512 (second reading)

Elaine Pfeifer moved to approve the policies listed above as presented. Karen Rubino seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Board Policy 2302 (first reading)

Mike Stromme explained the district's desire to reinstate Policy 2302. Bruce Westfall moved to approve this policy as presented after the first reading. Elaine Pfeifer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO THE BOAD PLANNING CALENDAR

No additional items were mentioned specifically.

12. BOARD EVALUATION

Ron Dinius collected the board's self-evaluation forms. The results are attached.

13. ADJOURN

Elaine Pfeifer moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 p.m. Karen Rubino seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Dated this 3rd day of November, 2015

President

Secretary to the Board

BOARD MEETING EVALUATION SUMMARY

MEETING DATE: October 20, 2015

Instructions for 1: S = Satisfactory I = Needs Improvement U = Unsatisfactory

S I U

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. I was prepared for the meeting. | 4 |
| | <u>YES</u> <u>NO</u> |
| 2. Our agenda was designed to meet our obligations and objectives (district governance, future planning, board goals) | 5 |
| 3. Meeting Elements: | |
| a. The Board President facilitated management of the meeting time and agenda | 5 |
| b. Ample time was given to discuss agenda topics | 5 |
| c. Each board member was given the opportunity to speak | 5 |
| d. Directors, presenters and the public were treated in a dignified and respectful manner | 5 |
| e. Adherence to policy leadership vs administrative detail | 5 |
| 4. The board demonstrated a sense of responsibility for excellence in governing the district. | 5 |

Comments (If you answered “no” to any of the above, please provide comments):