

WASHOUGAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 112-06
Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 13, 2014
Executive Session 5:45 p.m.; Regular Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Washougal School District Office

PRESENT: Ron Dinius, Board Director; Blaine Peterson, Board Director; Elaine Pfeifer, Board Director; Karen Rubino, Board Director; and Dawn Tarzian, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board.

1. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Blaine Peterson called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. The board immediately recessed to Executive Session per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g). Blaine Peterson called the regular meeting back to order at 6:31 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance.

2. AGENDA REVISIONS (none)

3. COMMENTS—BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ADMINISTRATORS

Karen Rubino started off by expressing her sympathy for the family and friends of Susan Champion, longtime teacher at Hathaway Elementary, who passed away last week. Karen went on to say she is looking forward to talking about the legislative session later in the meeting.

Ron Dinius recognized the Long-Range Facilities Planning Committee for their focus and amount of work they have done. He was amazed by the sense of community and community involvement, and is very anxious to get the results.

Elaine Pfeifer shared a flier for the Women in Trades Career Fair, and asked that it be shared with Marsha Spencer at WHS. Elaine also shared that she heard a story on the radio about crime in Gresham schools and how they are struggling to connect with agencies for help. She is glad we have Unite here in Washougal to help us.

Blaine Peterson shared that the memorial for Susan Champion is listed in the paper for Saturday at 11:00 a.m. There are some great articles featuring spring sports. WHS will present *Phantom of the Opera* the next two weekends, and Blaine encouraged everyone to attend.

4. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Superintendent Dawn Tarzian began by recognizing that last week was Teacher Appreciation Week. Dawn pointed out that Rhonda Reeser was in attendance to receive the recognition. Dawn read part of the letter she sent to all teachers in the district. Dawn stated that these are wonderful but difficult times in education, and everyone works so hard to resolve the challenges that come up, yet still have time to educate. Elaine Pfeifer noted how caring teachers are, how they provide individualized instruction, with such high quality. Blaine Peterson shared how amazed he is at how well teachers come through for our kids, even with everything else that is going on. He so appreciates the teachers, and is proud to be associated with them. Ron Dinius said the school improvement plans show how much time teachers put in, and the amount of collaboration involved. Karen Rubino shared that it is a hard job, teaching is a unique profession, and her respect for it is great. Karen went on to share how positive the relationship between teachers, administrators, students and parents are. She thanked all for their time and effort. Rhonda Reeser gave her thanks on behalf of WAE, and thinks we have a collective strong foundation. She mentioned that at the 100-year celebration at WHS she was struck by how individuals come and go, but the community is always there to help kids. Supt. Tarzian went on to mention the Stride will be held on Saturday at 8 a.m., and is on track to break last year's attendance record. Unite! is being recognized at the WASA awards for their impact on the community. Summer school is scheduled for July 7th—August 14th

this year. Summer meals are being provided through contributions from several church groups, as well as Sodexo. The WHS drama students performed a play on bullying and harassment for students at JMS.

5. COMMENTS—CITIZENS

Rhea Bohlin shared that teacher appreciation is so important, as sometimes it feels like a thankless job. It was so great that contracts went out the week of teacher appreciation! Rhea shared that she is a fifth generation teacher, and it is a calling.

Margaret McCarthy said thank you for teaching her kids, she is so appreciative.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

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

A. Meeting Minutes (April 29, 2014)

B. Accounts Payable

General Fund

Warrant Numbers 203630—203706, totaling \$145,713.19 (Pay date: May 16, 2014)

ASB Fund

Warrant Numbers 20107—20122, totaling \$8,675.23 (Pay date: May 16, 2014)

ACH

ACH Numbers 131400978—131401003, totaling \$19,268.22 (Pay date: May 16, 2014)

C. Personnel Report

Certified Resignation: Brian Walsh, Science Teacher (JMS).

Classified Resignation: Pamela Lehn, Cook/Server II (GES/JMS); Lisa Townsend, Server I (JMS); Cheryl Vanzitteren, Bus Driver (Trans.); Donna Rush, Server II (CH-S/CCMS).

D. Contracts

E. Travel

F. Field Trips

G. Donations

Blaine Peterson noted the personnel revision in blue folders, and the additional field trip requests in the Friday packet. Karen Rubino moved to approve the consent agenda with the noted additions. Elaine Pfeifer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

7. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

A. Unite! Community Coalition Presentation

Margaret McCarthy and Rhea Bohlin from Unite! Community Coalition thanked the board for being such a great partner. They presented their new campaign for correcting misperceptions by using positive community norms. Their approach is evidence based and data driven, and comes out of the Health Youth Survey data. Their goals with this campaign were to address how we change norms, and identifying the positive facts in the community. Margaret and Rhea presented several posters that included the slogan “Who do you want to be?” and a statistic like 9 out of 10 parents talk to their kids about the dangers of alcohol. The Be the Change Club at WHS is helping to provide feedback on the posters before they are finalized. They are also in the process of making postcards with the slogan “We are Washougal”. They are looking for community partners on the postcard project. They will probably start with 5,000 postcards, and hope to distribute four times a year. Blaine Peterson thanked Unite! for their support of Challenge Days. Margaret ended by thanking the high school counselors for their leadership and time in making Challenge Days happen.

B. Bandwidth Utilization Update

Technology Director Les Brown shared a chart showing the huge increase in usage over the past couple of years. Usage doubled in 2012-13 and again in 2013-14. He expects it to double again by next spring. Les stated the increase in use is mostly due to tablet devices, and other districts are experiencing the same amount of growth. Ron Dinius asked if the main infrastructure is affected, or is it upgradable. Les said it is upgradable, and our service provider is able to give us more bandwidth as needed.

C. 2014-15 School Breakfast/Lunch Rates

Business Manager Brian Wallace presented the proposed five-cent rate increase for next year, and explained it is necessary because federal dollars through the free and reduced lunch program cannot subsidize the local dollars. Choices are to raise prices, or subsidize with general fund dollars. Karen Rubino asked if there are any general fund dollars being spent now. Brian replied yes, revenue does not meet costs and participation is down overall. Elaine Pfeifer asked if the general fund dollars are already built into next year's budget, and Brian replied yes. Blaine Peterson asked if anything is being done about how the food looks, as the whole wheat requirements make the food look less than appealing. Food Services Supervisor Mark Jasper replied that with the federal nutrition requirements being so strict, it is difficult to create recipes that are popular with students, but they are working on it.

8. PROPOSALS FOR ACTION

A. 2014-15 Board Meeting Calendar/Decision Regarding Meeting Locations

Blaine Peterson stated his desire to keep the second meeting of each month at a school location. Elaine Pfeifer moved to approve the 2014-15 board meeting calendar as presented, to continue to hold meetings at school sites, and to continue to have a school tour before the meeting. Blaine Peterson seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

9. WORK SESSION

A. Local Legislative Priorities and Action Plan

Ron Dinius and Karen Rubino shared their top five legislative priorities with the rest of the board. Full funding of basic education, professional development, sustainable revenue, no unfunded mandates, and MSOC funding were those they chose. Elaine Pfeifer added changing bond approval requirements and Special Education funding as items important to her. After some discussion, the board settled on the following items to list as their priorities: Full funding of basic education, no unfunded mandates, and Special Education funding. Dawn Tarzian shared that WSSDA lobbying has been much more effective than in the past, and the legislature has been more responsive. The board has been asked to present at the next WSSDA conference, to give the perspective of a small district.

10. POLICY REVISIONS

A. 1000 Series, first reading

Karen Rubino shared she thought the series was interesting overall, as it covers board issues, but some of them were very dry. Dawn Tarzian stated that we are on track to have all policies reviewed by the end of June. Dawn also shared that the board member search is on, and she has spoken to a couple of people. Margaret McCarthy suggested promoting the search at the Stride this weekend.

11. POLICY GOVERNANCE

A. Executive Responsibilities 8—Financial Administration

Business Manager Brian Wallace presented ER 8. He shared that when he took the job the district was in a good place, and the procedures in place work. Financially, we are running very well, and efficiently. We are staffed close to other districts, and are not overstaffed. He thanked the board for their good direction. Blaine Peterson stated that the board at one time received a list of what is

being paid late and why. Brian said he is happy to provide that data at a future meeting, but there is little or nothing to report at this time. Elaine Pfeifer asked if there is a figure on outstanding debts owed to the district. Brian said there are not many, but he will follow up with Fiscal Assistant Julie Kilgore and will let the board know. Blaine Peterson collected monitoring report response forms from all board members present, noting the approval of ER 8.

12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Ron Dinius asked if Brian could give a report of the history of food service price increases, and how various price increases would look. Elaine Pfeifer asked if the board should vote to continue with no remuneration, and see what other districts do. Brian said he will get the WAC for the board to review. Brian will also provide an accounts payable report.

13. BOARD EVALUATION

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

14. ADJOURN

Blaine Peterson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m. Elaine Pfeifer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Dated this 27th day of May, 2014

President

Secretary to the Board

BOARD MEETING EVALUATION SUMMARY

MEETING DATE: May 13, 2014

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) | 4 |
| 3. Meeting Elements: | |
| a. The Board President facilitated management of the meeting time and agenda | 4 |
| b. Ample time was given to discuss agenda topics | 4 |
| c. Each board member was given the opportunity to speak | 4 |
| d. Directors, presenters and the public were treated in a dignified and respectful manner | 4 |
| e. Adherence to policy leadership vs administrative detail | 4 |
| 4. The board demonstrated a sense of responsibility for excellence in governing the district. | 4 |

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