

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

April 25, 2011

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Board Chair Bobby DuBois called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Present: Bobby DuBois, Jennifer James-Wilson, Beth Young, Holley Carlson and Anne Burkart. Also present were Superintendent Gene Laes, staff, community members and a member of the press.

The board discussed "What's Good in the District?"

Ms. Carlson:

- Spring concerts are coming up, including the high musical "Bat Boy."
- Steve Finch is working hard on transitioning the OPEPO program to Grant Street.

Ms. James-Wilson:

- Appreciated last week's work/study session, and was pleased to see a good working relationship amongst the administrators.
- Enjoyed visiting Blue Heron and observing the local group Nanda working with 4th grade students.
- Stated that Nanda was brought in to Blue Heron as part of a State Art Commission grant, which is a wonderful resource to enrich the arts in our schools.

Ms. Burkart:

- Recently spoke to two Grant Street parents and a very excited child about the continuation of the garden program at Grant Street. She gave kudos to all in the community who helped make that happen.

Ms. Young:

- Commented that 18 graduates of Port Townsend High School made the Dean's List at their universities, which shows that Port Townsend students are performing well in college.
- Expressed appreciation to the community members who are working on the Wellness Committee, stating that they bring lots of passion and hard work to the committee.

Gene Laes:

- Even with the current challenging times he is impressed to see staff and students hard at work in all the buildings. This reminds him there are more positives in our schools than negatives.

Mr. DuBois:

- Agrees with all of the comments above. He also expressed appreciation for the administrator's presentation last week.

The board reviewed the agenda. A motion to approve was made by Ms. Burkart and seconded by Ms. Young. Motion carried 5-0.

There was no correspondence.

Public Comments:

- Michael Buettner expressed support for the Salmon in the Classroom program in 1st grade, but noted the funding for the program will be cut. He enquired whether the district would support the program next year?
- Liz Quayle invited the board members to participate in Senior Presentations on May 24th and 25th.

The board reviewed the minutes of the March 28, 2011 board meeting. Motion to approve made by Ms. Young and seconded by Ms. James-Wilson. Motion carried 5-0.

The board reviewed the minutes of the April 18, 2011 board meeting. Motion to approve made by Ms. Burkart and seconded by Ms. Carlson. Motion carried 5-0.

The board reviewed the consent agenda. Ms. Carlson stated that Accounts Payable were in order. A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Ms. Burkart and seconded by Ms. Young. Motion carried 5-0. Ms. Young was appreciative of the donations. Ms. James-Wilson acknowledged Cleone Telling's letter, saying it was very touching. Mr. DuBois acknowledged both David Herrington and Rosanne Butler in the room, stating he was grateful for their work but sorry they are moving on.

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Included in the Consent agenda were: 1) Accounts Payable for April 25, 2011; 2) Payroll – March 2011; 3) Request for extension of the 2010-11 SY .1 FTE leave for Gina McMath, Port Townsend High School teacher, with an additional .1 FTE leave, resulting in a .8 FTE teaching assignment for the 2011-12 school year; 4) Request Family Medical Leave for Jason Lynch, Blue Heron teacher, to be taken intermittently commencing around the week of May 16, 2011, and then taking one to two days a week of Family Medical Leave at the beginning of the 2011-12 school year, depending on need; 5) Accept the retirement/resignation of Cleone Telling, Grant Street Elementary teacher, effective the end of the 2010-11 school year; 6) Accept the resignation of David Herrington, Manager of Facilities Services, effective June 30, 2011; 7) Request for reduction in hours for Rosanne Butler, Confidential Secretary to the Superintendent, from eight hours/day to four hours/day effective May 2, 2011 through August 31, 2011; 8) Accept the resignation of Rosanne Butler, Confidential Secretary to the Superintendent, effective September 1, 2011; 9) Accept the resignation of Paul Wrench, Bus Driver, effective April 15, 2011; 10) Recommend Mary Colton as .5 FTE, four hours/day, Confidential Secretary to the Superintendent, effective May 2, 2011 through August 31, 2011. As of September 1, 2011, the position transfers to 1.0 FTE, eight hours/day; 11) Recommend Pat Kelly for the position of High School Assistant Baseball coach for the 2010-11 SY; 12) Request to surplus from Blue Heron Middle School one Emac computer (tag# 8800) with keyboard and mouse, that is unrepairable and of no value to the district; 13) Request to surplus 472 fiction and non-fiction books from the Port Townsend High School Library that are worn out, out-of-date and/or not used by students or faculty; 14) Accept the donation from Les Schwab Tire Center of food and decorations for the Blue Heron Middle School's 8th grade dinner dance valued at \$250.00; 15) Accept the donation from David Tonkin of a Celestron 8 telescope and accessories valued at \$1,500.00, to the Mar Vista Alternative High School; 16) Accept the donation from Mary Turner of \$800.00 to support the art program at Blue Heron Middle School by framing student's work to decorate the school building; 17) Accept the donation from Michele Jewett of an assortment of new flags of various nations, valued at \$300.00, to Blue Heron Middle School; 18) Accept the donation from Teresa Hoffman of Port Townsend Athletic Club of "Fit for Life" T-shirts, valued at \$500.00 for use by Blue Heron Middle School Physical Education Classes.

Mr. Laes spoke about the district's involvement with the upkeep of Memorial Field. Based on a verbal agreement for this school year, district staff mowed Memorial Field in return for the district using the field for sports without charge. Mr. Laes then introduced Matt Tyler from Jefferson County Parks and Recreation (Parks & Rec) who presented a proposed written agreement between the school district and Parks & Rec to share responsibilities for the ongoing upkeep of Memorial Field. In this proposed agreement the district would receive a monetary stipend, and the district would return to paying for the use of Memorial Field. Discussion followed. Mr. DuBois commented that the agreement contractually obligates the district to maintain Memorial Field at a higher standard than we can afford to maintain our own fields. Concern was also expressed that the agreement requires the district to inspect, maintain and repair Memorial Field's irrigation system. It was suggested that additional discussion take place between the district and Parks & Rec regarding the maintenance of the irrigation system.

High School Principal Carrie Ehrhardt presented the corrections made to 3500P: Athletics and Activities. Ms. Ehrhardt said that the language was changed to clarify that student athletes are required to pass all classes taken. Also references to the pages of the WIAA Handbook were updated.

Ms. Ehrhardt presented the following textbook for adoption: Geography, Holt McDougal, 2012. She stated that Washington State History has been moved to the middle school level, which frees a semester for 9th grade Geography. The Instructional Materials Committee (IMC) met on March 30th and reviewed five geography texts. The committee selected the Holt McDougal text, as it matches the Washington state standards. It also offers students a hard copy of the textbook as well as an online copy.

Ms. Ehrhardt then presented "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," by Ken Kesey for adoption as an additional novel in the AP English curriculum. The novel was also reviewed by the IMC and is recommended on the AP reading list.

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Ms. Young made a motion to approve Geography, Holt McDougal, 2012 and “One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest,” by Ken Kesey. Ms. James-Wilson seconded the motion, which carried 5-0.

Mr. Laes presented Resolution 11-01: RIF Certificated Staff for the 2011-12 school year for approval. Discussion followed. Ms. Burkart expressed her reluctance, yet made a motion to approve Resolution 11-01: RIF Certificated Staff for the 2011-12 school year. Ms. Young reluctantly seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Laes presented the enrollment for April 2011, and the Calendar of Events.

Ms. Khile presented the March Budget Status report. Discussion followed.

Ms. James-Wilson inquired about the status of the conversation with Jefferson Transit on collaboration. Mr. Laes reported that he spoke with the interim manager of Jefferson Transit, who has determined that the district cannot piggyback onto their fuel contract, as it is a statewide contract that currently can only include transit. Mr. Laes will speak with the head of the transit co-op, with the hope of including school districts in their next fuel contract.

The board discussed WSSDA’s request for legislative priorities, which are due to WSSDA no later than May 27th. The board will consider this again at the May 9th work/study session.

Board Announcements:

- Ms. Carlson commented that Teacher Appreciation Week is May 2-6, 2011, and announced that there is a Fundraiser for the Jefferson County Recreation Center on Thursday, April 28th at the Upstage.
- Ms. Burkart reminded the board about the “Dine Out For Kids,” fundraiser on Wednesday, April 27th. Participating restaurants will donate a portion of their revenue to the YMCA Building Futures program.
- Ms. Young requested an update on where the district is in the re-districting process. Mr. Laes stated that he plans to discuss this at the ESD Superintendent’s meeting on Friday, April 29th, and will report back to the board on May 9th.
- Mr. DuBois encouraged community members to come out for senior nights for all of the high school spring sports.

There were no suggestions for next or future agendas, regular meetings and/or study sessions.

There was no Executive Session.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene R. Laes, Superintendent

ATTEST: _____
Bobby DuBois, Board Chair