

## REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

February 28, 2011

Page 1

Board Chair Bobby DuBois called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Present: Bobby DuBois, Beth Young, Holley Carlson, Anne Burkart and Jennifer James-Wilson. Also present were Superintendent Gene Laes, staff and community members.

Ms. Young led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The board reviewed the revised agenda. The revision was to make a correction to the minutes of the February 14, 2011, board meeting. A motion to approve the revised agenda was made by Ms. Burkart. Motion carried 5-0.

The following correspondence was received:

- An email from Jessica Winsheimer regarding the 2012 Farm-to-School Competitive Grant.
- An email from Heather Dudley Nollette regarding website updates.

Public Comments were heard from:

Joy Wenzel:

- The Jefferson County Farm-to-School Coalition and the Port Townsend Co-op have been successful in raising funds to support the Grant Street garden from March 1, 2011 until November of 2011.

Brian Metke:

- Spoke in support of the district finalizing its strategic plan.

Tom Thiersch:

- Acknowledged the success of the high school's FBLA students, who placed well in regional's and are going on to state.
- Questioned some "odd charges" in the Accounts Payable.

Leif Hansen:

- Introduced himself as a parent of an OPEPO student, and talked about creating "Walk Your Child to School Day" on May 4, 2011.
- Offered his services in team/trust building, should the board be interested.

The following meeting minutes were brought for approval:

- January 24, 2011. A motion to approve was made by Ms. James-Wilson, and seconded by Ms. Young. Motion carried 5-0.
- February 14, 2011. These minutes were corrected to reflect that Anne Burkart was in attendance, and to strike a duplication in Beth Young's name in the list of attendees. Motion to approve as corrected made by Ms. James-Wilson and seconded by Ms. Carlson. Motion carried 5-0.

The board reviewed the consent agenda. Ms. Carlson stated that Accounts Payable were in order. Ms. Young requested that thank you letters be sent for the donations listed. A motion to approve was made by Ms. Burkart. Motion carried 5-0. Included in the consent agenda were: 1) Accounts Payable for February 28, 2011; 2) Payroll – January 2011; 3) Payroll – February 2011; Recommend Grant Haynes for the 5 hour/day Special Education Paraeducator position at Port Townsend High School, effective for the remainder of the 2010-11 school year; 4) Recommend Gerald (Kip) Kania for the 6 hour/day Special Education Paraeducator position at Port Townsend High School, effective for the remainder of the 2010-11 school year; 5) Accept the resignation of Amy Arthur, Blue Heron Middle School Volleyball Co-Coach, effective the end of the 2010-11 school year; 6) Accept the resignation of Jim Guthrie, Blue Heron Middle School Volleyball Co-Coach, effective the end of the 2010-11 school year; 7) Recommend Matthew Krysinski as Blue Heron Assistant Wrestling Coach for the 2010-11 school year; 8) Approve the request to surplus one overhead projector, tag #5474 and one Mitsubishi television, tag #5364, from Port Townsend High School, which are broken and of no value to the district; 9) Accept the donation of \$224.54 in printing services from Dan Huntingford of SOS Printing for the district's levy information flier; 10) Accept the donation of tripods, cameras, lenses, frame

## REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

February 28, 2011

Page 2

materials, printing and mounting supplies (itemized on attached list), with a value of \$1,282.50, from Nancy Shipley of Port Townsend.

The board discussed the next steps needed to complete the strategic planning process. Mr. Laes reported that Dr. John Erickson withdrew from consideration as the facilitator for this process. Because of this, Mr. Laes cancelled the plans for a special board meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> and the retreat dates that were reserved for March 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. After discussion all board members concurred that finalizing the strategic plan is important, and the outcome the board expects is to synthesize the raw data and create a finished plan. It was suggested that a special meeting be held on Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m., at which time the board can discuss their needs with Dr. Gene Medina. The meeting is tentative until the district office determines if Dr. Medina is available on that date.

The board discussed re-scheduling the next board retreat. It was suggested that the retreat be held on Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to noon, if Dr. Medina is available.

Kathryne Kent introduced Joan Gitelman, a Special Education teacher at Grant Street, who gave a presentation on the programs and services offered to children with special needs at Grant Street. Ms. Gitelman also introduced Donna VanAckeren, one of the Speech Language Pathologists that work at Grant Street. Discussion followed.

Carrie Ehrhardt stated that both the High School's Mock Trial and Knowledge Bowl teams won their districts and will be going on to state competition. Ms. Ehrhardt and Dr. Finch presented on Math professional development and curriculum in the district. Dr. Finch introduced Bill Niekamp and Darlene (Liz) Quayle, who are on the district's K-12 vertical math team. Discussion followed.

The board called for a five-minute recess at 7:53 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:05 p.m.

Mark Decker reported that the Blue Heron 5<sup>th</sup> graders who took part in Destination Imagination activities place 1<sup>st</sup> in the region, and will be going to state. Individuals on the Blue Heron team also won the Renaissance and daVinci awards.

Mr. Decker then spoke about ongoing professional development at his building, as well as district-wide. He also spoke about the importance of balancing professional development leave with the instructional needs of the student(s).

Mr. Laes stated that accountability is ultimately the responsibility of the superintendent. He stated that the current economic times are the worst he's ever seen. He reported on the cuts that the legislature has made to the current year budget for all districts in the state. Now that the numbers have been made public, he and Ms. Khile are in the process of calculating where adjustments need to be made. He stated that the purchase of computers for the school board has been tabled, and basic education budgets have been frozen.

Mr. Laes stated that budget development should be driven by the strategic plan. Mr. Laes has scheduled a Budget/Finance Committee meeting for Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m. Additional discussion followed.

Mr. Laes noted that the state is withholding June apportionment until July 1<sup>st</sup> this year. This will create difficulties for the district, and administration is requesting that the two bargaining associations work with the administration regarding June 30<sup>th</sup> payroll. He also stated that part of this year's safety net funding is being withheld until August.

Mr. Laes presented the February enrollment. The board discussed the snow day last week, and how to make up the day.

**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**

**February 28, 2011**

**Page 3**

Mr. Laes reported that he Amy and David looked at the mosaic at Mountain View, and noted that a section on the east wall is already down. It appears that the mosaic was not properly grouted, and it does have missing pieces and sharp edges. Mr. Laes recommended removing the mosaic, after taking pictures for historical value. The board directed the superintendent to have the mosaic removed.

Mr. Laes presented the calendar of events.

Ms. Khile presented budget status reports for December 2010 and January 2011. Discussion followed.

Board Announcements:

- There is a WSSDA Regional Meeting on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at Seiku, WA.
- Beth Young recommended that the board send a member to attend the upcoming Superintendent Evaluation Workshop. It will be held March 22<sup>nd</sup> in Mt. Vernon, and April 21<sup>st</sup> in Burien.
- Ms. Young announced that the University of Washington published their Dean's List, and 22 of the students on the list were from Port Townsend (the highest number in the North Olympic Peninsula).

The board discussed suggestions for the next work/study session:

- Strategic Planning
- Report on curriculum
- Budget
- Asset Preservation Program update
- Board evaluation tool

The board recessed to Executive Session for 30 minutes, to discuss qualifications of an applicant for public employment and collective bargaining.

The board returned from Executive Session at 10:05 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 10:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gene R. Laes, Superintendent

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bobby DuBois, Board Chair