

## **REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**

**November 9, 2009**

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### **TAPE 1, SIDE A**

Board Chair Beth Young called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm. Present: Beth Young, Bobby DuBois, Anne Burkart, Rita E Beebe and Superintendent Tom Opstad. Also present: staff and community members.

During the work/study session the board had a conversation with Elementary Principal Steve Finch.

There was no Executive Session, and at 7:00 p.m. the meeting was recessed for a break.

The meeting reconvened at 7:30 p.m. Also present was student board member Kerri Evalt.

Beth Young spoke about Veterans' Day and Election Day and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

There was no correspondence.

The board reviewed the minutes of October 26, 2009 regular school board meeting. Anne Burkart commented that the minutes should be corrected to show that she was in attendance at the meeting. Motion to approve minutes as corrected was made by Bobby DuBois and seconded by Anne Burkart. Motion carried 4-0.

The board reviewed the agenda and the consent agenda. Ms. Beebe requested that item 1 under Board Announcements "Report on East Jefferson Educational Partnership meeting" be moved to Reports of the Superintendent. A motion to move item 1 under Board Announcements to Reports of the Superintendent was made by Anne Burkart and seconded by Rita E. Beebe. Motion carried 4-0. There were no changes to the consent agenda. A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Rita E. Beebe and seconded by Anne Burkart. Motion carried 4-0.

Included in the Consent Agenda were: 1) Accounts Payable as of November 9, 2009; 2) Payroll – October 2009; 3) Recommend Leanne Felts for the temporary 10.5 hour per week Paraeducator position at the ICE Program and Blue Heron Middle School, beginning November 10, 2009 for the remainder of the 2009-10 school year; 4) Recommend Gary DeGregorio for the position of the Blue Heron Middle School 8th Grade Boys' Varsity Basketball team for the 2009-10 school year; 5) Recommend Steve Kraght for the position of High School Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach for the 2009-10 school year; 6) Approve Jeanette Parker and Rosanne Butler to attend the WASWUG conference, March 14-16, 2010, in Bellevue, WA; 7) Approve Lorraine Kirsch, 3-4 chaperones and 24 students to attend the State-Wide Math Contest, April 16-17, 2010 in Blaine, WA; 8) Accept the donation of \$36.00 from Kate Garfield to be used to purchase PE uniforms for students at Blue Heron who need them; 9) Accept the donation from Quimper Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of \$715.25, to be divided equally and placed in the "Love of a Child" accounts at Port Townsend High School, Blue Heron Middle School and Grant Street Elementary School; 10) Accept the donation of \$1,000.00 from the Wal-Mart Foundation to be used in the "Kindergarten Readiness to Learn" program at Grant Street School.

### **Public Comments:**

Elise Haakenen thanked the board for supporting the Farm to Cafeteria Conference, and stated it was well attended.

The following individuals spoke in favor of a middle school football program at Blue Heron: Kaiden Parcher; Brett Johnson; Dick Stickney; Terry Khile; Randy Manthe; David Widmer; Butch Marx; J Piper; and Curt Goodrich.

Mark Decker stated that as Blue Heron principal he supports activities for students. He encouraged interested individuals to meet with him regarding middle school football.

Tom Thiersch stated that Public Comment comes after the board approves the minutes of the previous meeting, and that he was misquoted. Regarding the IMC meeting of October 21, he asked if the meeting had taken place. He reiterated that the \$20,000 spent to purchase computers was not spent judiciously, and that the money could be used elsewhere.

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Mr. Opstad reported on the process and timeline for his earlier decision to eliminate middle school football. He noted that there is support from both the community and the school to re-establish football at Blue Heron.

### Board Member Comments:

Rita E. Beebe:

- Stated that the garden project at Grant Street is going well. She hopes it continues, as the kids are excited about it.
- Asked for clarification about whether committees that were not created by the board are required to post notice of their meetings to the public.
- Asked for clarification about whether the computers recently purchased for \$20,000 were part of the ARRA money received by special education. Mr. McIntire stated that they were not, and that they were purchased out of technology funds.
- Stated that she knows that middle school football has both school and community support, but suggested the administration look at the number of middle schools that we would play against that have football teams. She also cautioned that the district anticipates additional cuts in state education funding for the 2010-11 school year.

Anne Burkart:

- Stated her understanding is that public notice should be given for committee meetings constituted by the superintendent.
- Recalled the middle school football discussion that came up when she was a new board member. At that time the 7<sup>th</sup> graders stated a preference for staying on the Youth football league. She would like to have assurance that a new Blue Heron football team would include both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

Bobby DuBois:

- Agreed that the district needs to look at adding PCs as well as Mac computers in order to get the best value from district funds.
- Commented that it is good to have community support for middle school football. When the issue was discussed last year, no one attended the meeting. He encouraged the interested parties to make sure they have the numbers to field a team, and to meet with Mr. Decker.

### TAPE 2, SIDE A

Beth Young:

- Liked having a discussion about adding something, rather than taking something away.
- Said that Policy 3502: Requests for Additions and Modifications to Athletic Programs states that the administration makes this decision, and will have 30 days to respond once the formal request is made.
- Likes the idea of having after school study sessions for the students.
- Appreciates all of the community members who came to support this proposal.

### Reports of the Superintendent:

Barbara Sterritt and Karen Chrisman reported on the Port Townsend Education Foundation. The foundation was formed in 2007, and through community donations has been able to give \$35,000 in grants to Port Townsend teachers. The foundation had a successful Pancake Breakfast fundraiser last month, and will have its annual art auction fundraiser February 20, 2010. Discussion followed.

Mr. Opstad reported that the Instructional Materials Committee (IMC) meeting on October 21 was cancelled. He is waiting for sample math textbooks to arrive from Holt Publishing. When they arrive he will reschedule the IMC meeting.

Mr. Opstad reviewed the process for requesting an addition to athletic programs, as outlined in Policy and Procedure 3502. Discussion followed about the board's role in making decisions about athletic programs, and Beth Young stated that the board does not direct this process, and the community group will need to follow the process defined in Policy 3502. She also stated that it is important to notify Chimacum Middle

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School as soon as possible about the decision, as our students have played on their team the past couple of years. Mr. Opstad will verify that the group understands the procedure to follow. There was further discussion about whether such requests should be placed on the board agenda. It was also stated that the schedule for any cooperative or combined sports programs be clearly available at both schools.

Superintendent Opstad reported on the Green Schools Green Building speaker series that concluded on November 7<sup>th</sup>. He commended Julie Jablonski for her efforts in putting the speaker series together. Ms. Jablonski stated that the speakers were excellent and that she learned something at each presentation. She felt it was unfortunate that the series was not well attended. The largest turnout was approximately 20 people.

Mr. Opstad presented Resolution 09-19: Green Schools for board consideration. After discussion and the request to correct two typos, Bobby DuBois made a motion to approve Resolution 09-19 as corrected. Anne Burkart seconded the motion, which carried 4-0.

Mr. Opstad and Ms. Beebe spoke about the East Jefferson Educational Partnership meeting held at the Lincoln Building on November 5, 2009. There was representation from all four districts in East Jefferson County. After discussion, Brinnon, Chimacum and Quilcene districts clarified that they are not interested in consolidating with Port Townsend. No constituents in their respective districts have brought it up. Although the districts are not interested in consolidation, they are very interested in finding ways to collaborate to bring efficiencies to district administration and provide as many learning options to students as possible. The high school principals who were invited to the meeting had a productive discussion about offering in service training for teachers collaboratively. Both Brinnon and Quilcene representatives expressed a desire to meet more frequently. Rita E. Beebe volunteered her services as a scribe for the group. The next meeting is Tuesday, January 26, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. at the Brinnon School. It was suggested that collaboration be added to our strategic plan, to make this more transparent to the community. Discussion followed.

The board reviewed and discussed the School Board Standards that were created by WSSDA. Rita E. Beebe said she would like the board to use these standards at the next board evaluation. Discussion followed, and it was suggested that the new board members be invited to observe the process.

The board discussed the upcoming WSSDA conference, including the WSSDA Delegate Assembly.

Mr. Opstad presented the Calendar of Events.

### **TAPE 2, SIDEB:**

#### **Policy Review:**

The following policy were presented for second review:

- Policy 6212: Charge Cards. It was recommended that the wording be included about the card given to a "Visit History" chaperone for the duration of the trip. This policy will be brought back for third review at the next meeting.

The following policies were presented for third review:

- Policy 1225: School Director Legislative Program. This policy will be brought back for approval at the next meeting.
- Policy 4260/4260P: Use of Facilities. The change recommended at the last meeting has been made. It was recommended that the last paragraph after Group C be moved to the end of paragraph two. This policy will be brought back for fourth review at the next meeting.

The following policy was brought for approval:

- Policy 3422/3422P: Student Sports – Concussion and Head Injuries. There was a typo noted on the third paragraph. "I return" should read "is returned." A motion to approve Policy 3422/3422P as corrected was made by Anne Burkart and seconded by Rita E. Beebe. Motion carried 4-0.

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**Board Member Announcements:**

- Board members discussed the ballot for the State Board of Education. Candidates will be giving speeches at the WSSDA Annual Meeting.
- Board members discussed the WSSDA Annual Conference and discussed the health clinic presentation that will be done Saturday November 21 regarding the school-based health clinics located at Port Townsend and Chimacum School Districts. They also discussed the election for WSSDA President.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 9:45 p.m.

All letters, resolutions, and pertinent information referred to within may be found in the Supplemental File as if fully set forth within.

Respectfully submitted,

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Thomas A. Opstad, Superintendent

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Beth Young, Chairman