

**REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**

**September 13, 2010**

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**CORRECTED**

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

Ms. James-Wilson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Superintendent Laes introduced the two new ASB student board members, Chris Shively and Matt Juran.

The following correspondence was received:

- An email from Tom Thiersch regarding the willful destruction of public records.
- An email from Kim Nunes requesting a link to the district's strategic plan be placed on the website.

Public Comments:

- Julie Jablonski
  - Where will the district find funding to meet the Asset Preservation system requirements for Blue Heron?
  - What is the board actively doing to plan for and address safety issues known since the 2006 facility condition survey?
  - Where are the monthly financial reports presented to the board per Policy 6030?
- Tom Thiersch
  - Correspondence addressed to the board must appear on the agenda if it meets the deadline. It appears that the district is practicing censorship, as his correspondence is not included. He stated that he was upset, as he followed the rules. Stated that the board is ignoring their own policies and procedures.

Mr. DuBois took exception to Mr. Thiersch's comment that there is a willingness on the part of the board to violate policy and procedures. He noted that all board members did receive Mr. Thiersch's correspondence.

The board reviewed the minutes of the August 21, 2010, school board retreat. Ms. Carlson noted that the minutes state "Mr. DuBois recommended that the district purchase copies of 'The Essential School Board Member' for each board member." Ms. Carlson clarified that she and Ms. James-Wilson have already received the book. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Burkart and seconded by Ms. Carlson. Motion carried 5-0.

The board reviewed the minutes of the August 23 2010, regular board meeting. A motion to approve was made by Ms. James-Wilson and seconded by Ms. Carlson. Motion carried 5-0.

The board reviewed the consent agenda. Ms. James-Wilson 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.

Included in the consent agenda were: 1) Accounts Payable as of September 13, 2010; 2) Payroll – August, 2010; 3) Recommend Melissa Knodel for the 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher position at Grant Street Elementary for the 2010-11 SY; 4) Recommend Elizabeth Anderson for the position of High School Junior Varsity Volleyball Coach for the 2010-11 SY; 5) Recommend Hillary Humphrey for the position of High School C Team Volleyball Coach for the 2010-11 SY; 6) Accept the resignation of Gary DeGregorio as 8<sup>th</sup> grade Boys' Basketball Coach, effective immediately; 7) Approve the request to surplus from PTHS: one Epson scanner, tag #08093, one NEC Accu Synch 70 computer monitor, tag # 08093, one Alden hard drive tower, tag #08094 that are not operable and of no value to the district; 8) Approve the request to surplus from PTHS: one Sun InfraRed Engine Performance Tester/Engine Analyzer, serial #665A002653 and one Arco Arc Welder, Stick 160, tag #00649 that no longer work and are of no value to the district; 9) Approve

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the request to surplus one Powermatic Shaper with 3-phase motor, tag #00642, with an estimated value of \$200.00, which is not longer used by the PTHS shop program; 10) Approve the request to surplus 34 boxes of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade math textbooks and teacher resource books from Blue Heron that have been replaced; 11) Approve the request from Blue Heron to surplus 1 iMac, tag #08034 from Room 207 and 6 iMacs, tag #s 07897, 07898, 07896, 07895, 07893 and 07894, which are no longer working and of no value to the district; 12) Approve the request from Blue Heron to surplus one rocket launcher, tag #07347 which is no longer used in the curriculum and has a value of \$25.00; 13) Accept the donation from Clallam County Literary Council of 176 novels with a total value of \$1,129.76, for use at Blue Heron and Port Townsend High School; 14) Accept the donation from Amber Jeppesen of one King trumpet and associated supplies, with a combined value of \$840.00, for use in the Blue Heron music program; 15) Accept the donation of \$230.00 from the Cape George Colony Club to be used by the Grant Street "To Love a Child" fund; 16) Accept the donation of three cases of organic gala apples, valued at \$135.00, from the PT Food Co-op, for use by the school board to welcome back staff on the first day of school.

There was no Unfinished Business.

A proposal for a combined Middle School Football Program between Port Townsend School District and Chimacum School District was brought for approval. After discussion a motion was made by Ms. Young to approve the combined Middle School Football Program between Port Townsend School District and Chimacum School District. Motion carried 5-0.

Superintendent Laes discussed a proposal to change the format of school board meetings from two business meetings a month with a work/study session following each, to having the first meeting of the month be a work/study session and the second meeting of the month is a business meeting. The advantages would include allowing the board more time to thoroughly study issues and more informal opportunities for community input. Discussion followed. Mr. Laes will research how this change would affect policy and bring the issue back to the next meeting.

Mr. Laes gave an update on the following:

- He reported that Governor Gregoire has directed an immediate across-the-board budget cut of 5-7%, effective immediately.
- Mr. Laes will order computers for board members, and they should be here before Christmas.
- He identified the district committees, and their next meeting dates:
  - Wellness Committee will meet Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 3:00 p.m.
  - Levy Committee will meet Wednesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 p.m.
  - Tech Committee met on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Will meet again on Thursday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 3:00 p.m.
  - Budget Committee – meeting is not yet scheduled.

Mr. Laes stated that the District Committee memberships, meeting dates and minutes will be placed on the district website.

Ms. James-Wilson asked for follow-up on televising future board meetings. Mr. Laes stated that he checked with WSSDA, and they stated that there would be no problem, as long as the audience was notified at the beginning of the meeting and the camera was pointed at the board. Chris Shively volunteered to discuss this with high school video production teacher Mark Welch.

Mr. Laes presented the Calendar of Events. Other events of interest include:

- The Special Education Parents Advocacy Committee (SEPAC) invited board members to their meeting on September 21<sup>st</sup>. They have also invited several candidates for political office to attend.
- As part of the writers in the schools program, five student authors from Blue Heron had works published in the anthology "You Will Not Come Back Unchanged." A celebration is scheduled for Wednesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Seattle Art Museum, with student authors reading their work.
- "Taste of Washington Day," sponsored by the Washington Department of Agriculture, is scheduled for Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>.

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Steve Finch reported the following:

- Grant Street will focus on the core principles this year.
- Dr. Finch held an opening day assembly where he discussed the district's motto, "Discover the Power of Learning," and the key words for powerful learners at Grant Street (Kind, Responsible and Safe).
- Described the playground improvements done with \$4,000 donated by the PTA, and new playground rules.

Darlene Quayle commented that ICE has had a good start, with 70 people attending the ICE Open House.

Ms. James-Wilson asked about the breakfast pilot program. Dr. Finch described the grant he received from the Jefferson Community Foundation to help with analyzing data. The pilot is scheduled to begin in early October.

Mark Decker presented the board with copies of the Blue Heron Employee Handbook, and gave a report on the start of school.

Carrie Ehrhardt reported on start of school at the High School, as well as new math interventions planned for this year. Ms. Ehrhardt presented board members with a copy of the publication "Discovering PTHS," which will be mailed to community members at the end of September to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the high school.

Ms. James-Wilson was curious if data has been collected on whether parents have gone to college. Discussion followed on data gathering.

Ms. Burkart announced that she will attend the Legislative Assembly September 24-25, 2010 in Vancouver WA. The board discussed legislative priorities based on the 5-7% across-the-board budget cuts announced by Governor Gregoire, as well as the burden of documentation on teachers.

Ms. Carlson thanked the administrators for their energy and enthusiasm. She also thanked Superintendent Laes for apples for the first day of school.

Ms. Carlson reported that she attended the first Board of Health Steering Committee meeting last week.

Ms. James-Wilson will not attend the September 27<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

Mr. DuBois and Ms. Young plan to attend the WSSDA Regional Meeting in Quilcene on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

There was no Executive Session.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Gene R. Laes, Superintendent

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