

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

March 26, 2007

Page 1

TAPE 1 SIDE A

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Port Townsend School District was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Board Chair John Eissinger at the Lincoln Building, 450 Fir Street, Port Townsend, WA. Present were Board members John Eissinger, Beth Young, Loren Monroe and Rita E. Beebe. Also present were Superintendent Tom Opstad and Business Manager Steve McIntire. Tracy Reinhart was absent. The group discussed the budget for the 2007-2008 school year. The Board recessed and went into Executive Session where they discussed personnel matters. The regular meeting convened at 7:30 p.m. Also present were staff, community members and a member of the press.

The Board shared "What's Good in the District." Rita E. Beebe said that the Basketball weekend went well, with high participation. Beth Young stated that she was pleased to see one of our high school students published in the "Tide Pools" literary magazine from Peninsula College. John Eissinger said that he enjoys seeing the baseball team practicing, it is a sure sign of spring. Tom Opstad is excited about moving forward with the long-range plan. Steve McIntire also commented about enjoying spring baseball.

The Board reviewed the minutes of the March 12, 2007, regular board meeting and the March 20, 2007, Joint Work/Study Session with the Port Townsend City Council. Beth Young made a motion to approve the minutes. Rita E. Beebe seconded the motion, which carried 4-0.

The Board reviewed the Revised Agenda and the Consent Agenda. There were no changes. Rita E. Beebe made a motion to approve the agenda and consent agenda. Loren Monroe seconded the motion, which carried 4-0.

Included in the Consent Agenda were: 1) Request for leave of absence for Anita Fraser, .80 FTE Communication Disorders Specialist for the 2007-08 school year; 2) Request for leave of absence for Judith Bows, 1.0 FTE Mt. View Elementary teacher for the 2007-08 school year; 3) Recommendation of Jennifer Nielsen and Steve Arbuckle for the supplemental positions of Theater Productions Advisor and Assistant Advisor for the 2006-07 Spring drama production; 4) Approve Gail Danner, Tedd Davis, 125 8th graders and 25 chaperones to attend the 8th grade class field trip June 12-15, 2007, to Mt. St. Helen's Volcanic Monument, WA; 5) Approve Julian Ray to attend Apple OSX server training, March 26-30, 2007, in Portland, OR; 6) Approve the request to surplus school bus #12258 (1987 Bluebird Rear Engine), with 271,000 miles, which is off the depreciation schedule and in need of repairs beyond the value of maintaining the bus in the district's fleet; 7) Approve the request to surplus an approximately 30 year old three-section (30'x30') wrestling mat that is of no value to the district, as it has been deemed unsafe for use and can no longer be reconditioned due to its age; 8) Accept the donation of \$1,000.00 from Vern Garrison, for use towards improvements to the 7th grade science classroom at Blue Heron Middle School; 9) Accept the donation of \$320.00 from Dr. Bradley Bringgold to the High School ASB Athletic Reserve account for support of the Port Townsend High School athletic programs; 10) Accept donations from the following individuals/businesses for use towards expenses to send both Port Townsend High School Mock Trial teams to state competition: Knauss & Seaman, PLCC - \$100.00 ; Ernest and Kelli Conrads - \$50.00; David Alvarez - \$30.00; Williams Law Office - \$100.00; Lawrence Graves - \$50.00; Homer Smith Insurance - \$50.00; Edensaw Woods - \$50.00; James Doros - \$100.00; David and Anne Krabill - \$100.00; Richard Shaneyfelt - \$25.00; Henry and Allen, Attorneys - \$50.00; Macadoo's BBQ - \$100.00; Port Townsend Publishing Co., Inc. - \$100.00.

During Public Comments the following individuals expressed disappointment with the Board's decision in regard to the appeal by several families of their students' suspensions due to violations of the Athletic Code: Gina McMathier; Lisa Deen; Jim Guthrie (who also read a letter aloud from three high school coaches); John Van Ackeren; Jane Bradbury; Tanya Rublaitus; and Phyllis Marckworth.

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

March 26, 2007

Page 2

During Board Member comments Beth Young stated as a parent of three teenagers she is very concerned about underage drinking. She clarified that the Board is totally in support of the High School Administration, and the Board is concerned that the current policy places too much of an investigative burden on the High School Administrators. Ms. Young stated that she wants to be certain that the message about the negative impact of underage drinking not be lost in future discussion or revision of the policy. John Eissinger stated that the letter the Board sent to the affected parents clearly stated the Board's full support of the High School Administration, and that the Board has tasked Superintendent Opstad to review the relevant policies and handbooks.

Rita E. Beebe was excused from the remainder of the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Extracurricular Activities Update: Superintendent Opstad reported that both Port Townsend High School teams competed in the Mock Trial state championships. This is the first time that both teams have qualified for state competition. The teams placed 10th and 12th in the state, and it was a great experience for the students.

Community Relations Update: Superintendent Opstad reported that he will meet with City Manager David Timmons to review the questions brought up in the Board's work/study session with the City Council, and will bring the answers back to the Board. He will then plan a series of public meetings so the Board can discuss the district's long-range plans for facilities with the community.

Fiscal Planning Update: Superintendent Opstad stated that he and the Administrators are planning the 2007-2008 school year budget based on a forecast of 1396 FTE. The group is reviewing staffing for next year, based on projections for Basic Ed and I-728. Steve McIntire presented the February Budget Status Report.

Facilities and Grounds Update: Superintendent Opstad stated that he is getting estimates for the cost of removing the poplar trees on the high school campus. He anticipates the trees will be removed this summer.

Superintendent Opstad presented the Calendar of Events. Discussion followed

TAPE 1 SIDE B

The following policies were brought for second review:

- Policy 5005/5005P: Employment: Disclosures, Certification Requirements, Assurances and Approval
- Policy 5251: Conflicts of Interest
- Policy 5252/5252P: Staff Participation in Political Activities
- Policy 5260/5260P: Personnel Records
- Policy 5270/5270P: Resolution of Staff Complaints
- Policy 5271/5271P: Reporting Improper Governmental Action

Superintendent Opstad stated that with the exception of 5005/5005P, the only changes to the policies were updating legal references. New recommended language was inserted in Policy 5005, and the procedure is new to the district, and recommended by WSSDA. Mr. Opstad stated that the WSSDA Policy News is cataloged in the District Office, and there may be policies brought out of order in future if WSSDA recommends substantive changes to a policy. Because procedures are written by and revised by school administration, discussion followed about not using the wording "Adopted" on procedures.

Beth Young had a question about procedure 5270P. She stated that the WSSDA recommended procedure is very different than our current procedure, and that there may be language in the procedure that is already covered in staff contracts. Mr. Opstad said that he would take a look at the procedure.

The policies reviewed this evening will be brought for approval at a future meeting.

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

March 26, 2007

Page 3

John Eissing requested that Rita E. Beebe's Legislative Update be postponed until the April 9th meeting.

Mr. Eissing clarified his announcement at the last Board meeting in regard to PDC filing requirements.

Beth Young stated that she plans to be out of town during Spring Break.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas A. Opstad, Superintendent

ATTEST: _____
John Eissing, Board Chairman