

Board Chair Jennifer James-Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Present: Anne Burkart, Pam Daly and Jennifer James-Wilson. Excused: Holley Carlson and Bill LeMaster. Also present were Superintendent Gene Laes, ASB Representative Christine Unrue, staff and community members.

Anne Burkart led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Burkart moved to adopt the agenda, Ms. Daly seconded and the motion carried 3-0.

The following correspondence was received:

- Email from Tanya Rublaitus regarding CTE (Career and Technical Education) current enrollment.

Public Comments:

- Lenora Johnson presented the board with a handout concerning the appeal to WIAA (Washington Interscholastic Activities Association) regarding the High School Girls Basketball Team. Ms. Johnson reported that WIAA has still not addressed this situation and asked that the school board hold WIAA accountable for its actions. Ms. Johnson said the parent group supporting this appeal asks that team members be awarded scholarships to the NBC All-Star and Elite Camp to be held this summer because they were denied post-season play. Superintendent Laes reported that Mike Colbrese, representative from WIAA, will be at the May 14, 2012 board meeting to answer questions regarding this appeal.
- Mark Grant, TEAM PT, spoke in support of the appeal to WIAA concerning the girls' basketball team.
- Nicole Coates spoke in support of the Highly Capable Program and hopes this program will continue to encourage highly-capable students.

Reports:

Visit History:

Gina McMather, High School World History teacher, reported on the Visit History Tour 2012, which occurred during April, 2012. She shared pictures with the board, and explained the group visited Prague and Berlin. The group visited many historical sites, including museums, the Berlin Wall site, a concentration camp and attended a Mozart opera in Berlin. Students Alexander Krauch and Peri Muellner reported on their experiences during the trip and expressed gratitude for the opportunity to visit Europe. Ms. McMather said this year Chimacum School District participated as a district with a small group, who traveled with the Port Townsend group. Ms. McMather presented plans for the 2012-13 Visit History Trip, which will include visits to Paris, France and Barcelona, Spain. Ms. Burkart asked the minimum number of participants needed to qualify for a reduced rate. Ms. McMather said 15 participants qualify to travel alone, without combining with another group, but 25-30 people is ideal. Six student participants require one adult chaperone. Jennifer James-Wilson asked how much out-of-pocket cost there is for each participant. Ms. McMather said most of the cost needs to come from the participant, although the group does have some fundraisers.

Highly Capable Program:

Kathryne Kent, Learning Support Services Director, reported that the amount for the Highly Capable grant has not been announced by OSPI (Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction), so approval of the Highly Capable Program in the district for next year will have to be postponed until May. She anticipates roughly the same amount as last year will be awarded, which was approximately \$12,000.00. This grant money is spent on a separate math class for highly-capable students. Ms. Kent said plans for the Highly Capable Program in 2012-13 include:

- A separate math class for identified highly capable students in Grades 4-8 with individualized content and pace, with hopefully a certificated teacher. This year the students used the online Aventa program.
- A continued vibrant and supported parent advisory committee.
- Time in the school day for students to participate in the Highly Capable program.
- Continued administration of the COGAT test to 3rd graders to identify highly capable students.

Ms. Kent said she hopes the district will encourage differentiated instruction to meet the needs of all students, with in-service training and follow-through for the teachers. Deb Bakin, parent and member of the advisory committee, said she hopes district administration will continue to support the Highly-Capable Program in light of all the changes in administration that will be happening next school year. Ms. Burkart asked how students are identified as highly-capable.

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Ms. Kent said prospective highly-capable students must be in the top 2% of assessment for their age group, have a recommendation from their teacher and expressed interest from the family. Ms. Daly asked if opportunities were available for students identified as highly capable in other subjects. Ms. Kent said presently the program only uses the grant funds for math, mostly because it is difficult to provide differentiated instruction in that class. Ms. James-Wilson asked how many students are identified for participation next year. Ms. Kent said approximately 15-20 students will participate in the program next school year.

Student Fees:

Mr. Laes explained the changes in student fees for 2012-13, including a small change in the cost of the High School yearbook, Blue Heron ASB cards and the addition of sports fees for Blue Heron since sports will be offered there next year. Mr. Laes explained that the fees for activities at the high school vary, dependent on the cost of materials for each class. Ms. Daly asked if there is help for low income families. Mr. Laes said some scholarship money is available for families who can't pay the fees. Ms. James-Wilson said some scholarship money was made available from remaining Save Our Sports funds. She said a private organization, InvestEd, also helps with scholarship money, and might be worth investigating. ASB Representative Christine Unrue asked why the athletic fees were so high. Ms. James-Wilson said she understood athletic fees are used to offset costs of referees, uniforms, coaches, etc. Discussion followed.

Meal Prices:

Mr. Laes explained that the Food Service Program is governed by federal guidelines. Since some of the meal prices at Port Townsend were below federal guidelines, those prices needed to be increased to comply. Ms. Daly asked if any of the new federal guidelines will impact the new Nutrition Policy recently passed. Mr. Laes said that most of the standards in the new Policy 6700, Nutrition and Fitness, were stricter than the federal standards, so there should be no impact.

Board Member Announcements:

Ms. Daly said she volunteered this past week at Grant Street Elementary with the composting program. Ms. James-Wilson said she thought the garden project at Grant Street was scheduled for April and May.

Ms. Burkart gave a legislative update, reporting that in the budget recently passed by the State legislature, no cuts were made to K-12 or post-secondary education. She also said the federal government will review the No Child Left Behind law in the near future.

Ms. James-Wilson reminded the board that a special board meeting has been scheduled for Monday, May 7, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the High School library for budget workshop. She also mentioned that the Jefferson County Health Department is hosting a workshop concerning the ACE (Adverse Childhood Experience) Study on Thursday, April 26, 2012 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Ms. Daly mentioned there is a WSSDA(Washington State School Directors' Association) workshop scheduled in May and June and encouraged participation.

Mr. Laes said Principal Ehrhardt has been actively involved in assisting homeless students, and she reported over \$20,000.00 was raised at a recent auction sponsored by the Rotary Club to go towards a shelter for homeless students. Kathrynne Kent said the Holcomb House owned by OlyCap will be used as that shelter during the evenings.

Executive Session:

The public meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m. to executive session to discuss contract negotiations for 15 minutes. At 7:35 p.m. the executive session was extended for another 15 minutes. The executive session was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. The public meeting was reconvened at 7:50 and adjourned by consensus at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Gene R. Laes, Superintendent

ATTEST: _____
Jennifer James-Wilson, Board Chair