

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

November 29, 2010

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[This meeting was originally scheduled for November 23, 2010, but was postponed due to bad weather.]

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

Mr. DuBois led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The board reviewed the revised agenda. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Ms. Carlson. Motion carried 3-0.

There were no student presentations.

The following correspondence was received:

- An email from Candice Cosler regarding the Grant Street Garden Newsletter.
- An email from Tom Thiersch regarding the High School Student Handbook – Parking.
- An email from Tom Thiersch regarding a cell phone search lawsuit.

Public Comments:

- Candice Cosler requested that the district include funding for the school garden project and the Farm to Cafeteria program in the upcoming levy.
- Tom Thiersch stated that the agenda format information on the district's website stated that correspondence will be included on the agenda of the next board meeting, however, with the new work/study format does not allow for correspondence. He requested that the board do what is stated on the website.
- Julie Jablonski spoke about an upcoming benefit concert for Blue Heron Middle School on December 10th.

The board reviewed the minutes of the October 25, 2010, regular board meeting as corrected. A motion to approve was made by Ms. James-Wilson and seconded by Ms. Carlson. After a brief discussion the motion carried 3-0.

The board reviewed the minutes of the November 8, 2010, work/study meeting as corrected. A motion to approve was made by Ms. James-Wilson and seconded by Ms. Carlson. After a brief discussion the motion carried 3-0.

The board reviewed the revised consent agenda. Ms. James-Wilson stated that the Accounts Payable were in order. A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Ms. James-Wilson and seconded by Ms. Carlson. Motion carried 3-0.

Included in the consent agenda were: 1) Accounts Payable as of November 8, 2010; 2) Accounts Payable as of November 22, 2010; 3) Accounts Payable as of November 29, 2010; 4) Payroll – October 2010; 5) Recommend Elizabeth Pratt for the .4 FTE 2nd Grade/Kindergarten Teacher position, Leave Replacement, for the remainder of the 2010-11 school year; 6) Request leave of absence for Rebecca Foreman, Food Services, from January 1, 2011 through January 31, 2010; 7) Recommend Susan Vokurka, LPN/Paraeducator, 7.5 hours/day, effective November 11, 2010; 8) Recommend Debbie Peterson, Port Townsend High School Paraeducator, 6 hours/day, effective November 11, 2010; 9) Recommend Amy Recker, Grant Street Elementary Paraeducator, 6 hours/day, effective November 11, 2010; 10) Recommend Samantha Massie, Grant Street Elementary Paraeducator, 6 hours/day, effective November 11, 2010; 11) Recommend Lydia Smith, Blue Heron Paraeducator, 6 hours/day, effective November 11, 2010; 12) Recommend Crystal Meyers, Blue Heron Paraeducator, 6 hours/day, effective November 11, 2010; 13) Recommend Ruth Kirk-Williams, Blue Heron Secretary, 5.25 hours/day for the remainder of the 2010-11 school year; 14) Accept resignation from Christopher Gilchrest, 7th grade Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach,

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Blue Heron, effective immediately; 15) Recommend Christopher Gilchrest for the position of 8th grade Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach, Blue Heron, for the 2010-11 SY; 16) Recommend Todd Clawson for the position of Blue Heron Head Wrestling Coach for the 2010-11 SY; 17) Accept resignation from Roger Risley, Blue Heron JV Basketball Coach, effective immediately; 18) Recommend Roger Risley for the position of Blue Heron 7th grade Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach for the 2010-11 SY; 19) Recommend Flavio Parreira for the position of Blue Heron JV Basketball Coach for the 2010-11 SY; 20) Recommend Todd Clawson and Stephen Grimm as Port Townsend High School Assistant Wrestling Co-Coaches for the 2010-11 SY; 21) Request to surplus from Grant Street: 312 reference and non-fiction titles; 233 computer programs that no longer run on current systems; and 206 easy readers and picture books that are worn-out, out-of-date, or no longer used by students and faculty; 22) Accept the donation from First Church of Christ of a subscription to Christian Science Monitor, valued at \$66.75, for use at Blue Heron; 23) Accept the anonymous donation of two Lego® Mindstorms Homeschool Kits, valued at \$380.00 each, for use at Blue Heron; 24) Accept the donation from Susan Corcoran of a 10-gallon aquarium and fish tank accessories, valued at \$150.00, for use at Blue Heron; 25) Accept the donation from Cape George Colony Club of \$130.00 to be deposited into the "Love of a Child" fund at Grant Street School; 26) Accept the donation of \$1,011.00 from PT Artscape to fund the Blue Heron 4th grade field trip to the Seattle Art Museum to view the Picasso Exhibit on December 9, 2010.

The core principle for the month of November is "Learner-focused education for each student." The board heard reports from the following individuals:

Judy McCutchen reported on the Reach Highly Capable Program in the district. Although highly capable funding to the district is minimal, Ms. McCutchen reported on the activities for students taking place this year, including an afterschool robotic program, small group work for one period a week, and the academic competition "Destination Imagination." Ms. McCutchen reported that she will retire at the end of this school year and suggested that the district develop a study team to plan for ongoing use of highly capable funds. Ms. James-Wilson stated she admired and appreciated Ms. McCutchen's work on behalf of highly capable students over her tenure in the district. Discussion followed.

Carrie Ehrhardt introduced high school teachers with national board certification: Lisa Deen, Mara Brownell and Lois Sherwood. Tom Gambill also has the credential, but was unable to attend the meeting. Ms. Ehrhardt announced that Jennifer Stankus recently received national board certification in counseling. The high school teachers then presented on differentiating instruction for students at the high school.

Mark Decker reported on learner-focused education activities at Blue Heron. Discussion followed.

Steve Finch reported on how the Grant Street staff collaborate on reading instruction, and targeted support and assessment in reading.

Mr. Laes reported that he and three board members attended the WSSDA Annual Conference in Spokane on November 17-19, 2010. He stated that he was impressed with the quality of the breakout sessions, and recommended discussing the conference at the January work/study meeting.

Mr. Laes presented the November enrollment and the Calendar of Events. Two changes were noted on the calendar.

The board considered the request to establish a student-powered financial center at Port Townsend High School in collaboration with Quimper Federal Community Credit Union. This proposal was discussed at length at the November 8th work/study meeting. After a brief discussion, a motion to approve was made by Ms. James-Wilson and seconded by Ms. Carlson. Motion carried 3-0.

The board discussed their options in regard to a Superintendent Search. This topic was also discussed at length at the November 8th work/study meeting. Ms. James-Wilson made a motion to extend Mr. Laes'

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contract for an additional year. The motion was seconded by Ms. Carlson, and carried 3-0. Mr. Laes accepted, stating that he was honored by the board's confidence in him. Mr. DuBois clarified that Mr. Laes' job title would now be Superintendent, rather than Interim Superintendent.

The board considered Resolution 10-19: Educational Programs Levy. The levy proposal was discussed at length at the November 8th work/study meeting. Mr. Laes noted the changes made from the original proposal, which were to increase the cost of living allowance (COLA) from 3% to 4%, and to add \$46,000 to be used for future facility planning. Discussion followed. Ms. James-Wilson requested that the Resolution be changed to include the word "replacement" in the ballot title. After further discussion, Mr. DuBois made a motion to approve Resolution 10-19: Educational Programs Levy with the following corrections:

Resolution paragraph, line 4: change "...a tax levy to be made..." to "a replacement tax levy to be made..."

Section 1, item (a): delete "educational programs" and replace with "maintenance."

Section 1, item (b): delete "educational programs" and replace with "maintenance." End the sentence there, and insert, " The district's proposed four-year General Fund tax levy description will be titled as an Educational Programs and Operation tax levy, to better reflect the actual use of the funds. Continue the rest of the paragraph as written.

Section 1, item (c): change to read "...the same purpose as the district's expiring four-year General Fund maintenance and operations tax levy."

Change the date of adoption from November 23, 2010 to November 29, 2010.

Ms. Carlson seconded the motion, which carried 3-0.

The following policy was brought for first review:

- Policy 5253/5253P: Maintaining Professional Staff/Student Boundaries. Mr. Laes noted that by adopting this policy before the end of the year, the district could realize a cost savings of \$7,000 on its annual risk management premium. Discussion followed. Mr. Laes noted that provisions stated in board policy 1310 allows for the board to expedite approval of a policy. This policy will be bought back for approval at the next meeting.

Ms. James-Wilson announced that the next Quality Community Schools meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 2, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at her home.

Ms. Carlson noted that she will be unavailable to attend the December 13th meeting.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene R. Laes, Superintendent

ATTEST: _____
Bobby DuBois, Board Chair