

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

April 9, 2007

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The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Port Townsend School District was called to order at 6:30 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 Facilities Manager Patrick Amato. The group discussed facilities services. Tracy Reinhart arrived at 6:45 p.m.

The Board recessed the regular meeting and convened a Public Hearing on the use of I-728 money for the 2007-2008 school year. Also present were staff and members of the community. Superintendent Opstad presented a summary of the way I-728 money was spent in the 2005-2006 school year, how the funds are being used this year and his recommendations for use of the funds in the 2007-2008 school year. Mr. Opstad also reviewed the allowable uses for I-728 funds, and annual reporting requirements. He stated that the district plans to use the I-728 funds to provide extended learning opportunities for students (these funds presently support all-day kindergarten), reduce class size in grades K-4, provide selected reductions in class size in grades 5-12, and provide additional professional development to educators. Discussion followed.

The following individuals made comments in support of reducing class size in grades 5-12: Jennifer James Wilson, MJ Rak, Kate Garfield and Phyllis Marckworth. Mike Ryan asked questions about how I-728 funds can be used to improve facilities, and commented that with declining enrollment class sizes may fix themselves over time. Tracy Reinhart commented that I-728 funding is at the discretion of the state legislature, and stated a concern that if the state's budget gets tight, I-728 funding may be cut. She stated the need for the community and the district need to constantly remind the legislature that there is a need for I-728 funding. John Eissinger thanked the participants for their comments and closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the regular Board meeting.

Superintendent Opstad spoke about Earth Day and National Arbor Day and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sarah Hoover from the Washington Schools Risk Management Pool presented an award recognizing the Human Resources Department for receiving a perfect score on the 2006 Human Resources Risk Assessment Survey. Ms. Hoover stated the district will receive a 3% discount on this year's premium because of this accomplishment, and commended Kathy Nelson for doing a terrific job.

There was no Correspondence.

The Board reviewed the minutes of the March 26, 2007, regular board meeting. Loren Monroe 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. Beth Young seconded the motion, which carried 5-0.

Included in the Consent Agenda were: 1) Accounts Payable as of April 9, 2007; 2) Payroll - March 2007; 3) Accept the retirement/resignation of Priscilla Cooper, Math teacher at Blue Heron Middle School, effective the end of the 2006-07 school year; 4) Accept the resignation of Cheryl Goerger, Mt. View Elementary teacher, effective the end of the 2006-07 school year; 5) Accept the resignation of Stephanie Hanson, Psychologist, effective the end of the 2006-07 school year; 6) Approve Deborah Rich, Jaimee Hartley, Kirsten Behrenfeld, Anita Fraser, Donna Van Ackeren, Michele Bartl and Sally Talbert to attend the Infant and Early Childhood Conference, May 2-4, 2007, in Bellevue, WA; 7) Approve the request to surplus two food carts from the Food Service Department that no longer operate and of no value to the

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district; 8) Approve the request to surplus one Channel Master satellite dish, serial number T601060015, which is unused, outdated and of no value to the district; 9) Accept the donation from Teri Adams of one Nikon N2000 35mm camera, one Sigma 35-70 mm macro zoom lens, one Nikon Micro 50mm lens, one Nikon flash and one Bogen 3001 Tripod with Bogen 3126 head, with a combined value of 590.00, for use in Port Townsend High School photography classes; 10) Accept the donation from Port Townsend Rotary Club of \$1,000.00 to be used towards the expenses to send members of the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) to the state Business Leadership Conference in Spokane, WA.

During Public Comments Jennifer James Wilson commended the School Board for their decision to rescind punishment of student athletes and their recommendation to review the procedure for the Student Athletics and Activities Code. She also stated that she would like to see the high school protect its enrollment by offering solid college prep classes.

There were no Board Member Comments.

Extracurricular Activities Update: Teachers Gina McMather and Phyllis Marckworth, students Sarah and Megan Reinhart, Tyler Buckham, Hannah Moore, Elizabeth McKinnon and Cecily Rennie reported on the "Visit History" trip to France. Ms. McMather said the student were able to experience a lot of variety in history, scenery and customs on this trip. Student comments included:

- A favorite part of the trip was the cave paintings, which were amazing.
- Everyone enjoyed the 60-70° weather in Nice, as well as the views of the Mediterranean.
- The driver they had for four days was awesome. Enjoyed trying to converse in French with him.
- It was scary the first couple of days when trying to order food in French restaurants.
- It was cool to see the things they've studied in history classes.
- The group enjoyed the Louvre. They saw the Mona Lisa, but were also in awe of the pictures on the ceilings of the museum.

Phyllis Marckworth stated that everywhere the group went they were complimented about the students' behavior. The courier was pleased that the group was consistently on time, and she was able to include a couple of unscheduled side trips because there was extra time in the schedule. Ms. Marckworth also complimented Delta Airlines staff that went above and beyond their assigned duties to help the group deal with a medical emergency, which occurred on the flight home. Parent Gail Moore commended Gina McMather for her amazing job organizing the trip. The "Visit History" trip for 2008 will be to Italy, Slovenia and Austria.

Superintendent Opstad gave a preliminary report of sports participation at the high school this year. The full report will be presented at the April 23, 2007, Board meeting. Discussion followed.

Community Relations Update: Superintendent Opstad reported that he met with City Manager David Timmons and reviewed the comments and questions, which came from the Board's work/study session with the City Council. 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.

Mr. Opstad shared a journal article about the new Interlake High School built by BLRB Architects. He stated that the article calls Interlake High School an "academic powerhouse." When Mr. Opstad compared our high school's 10th grade WASL scores to those of Interlake's 10th graders, Port Townsend High School's scores exceeded those of Interlake High School.

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Fiscal Planning Update: Superintendent Opstad stated that April 22, 2007, marked the end of the legislative session, and the legislature hasn't decided how to fund kindergarten as yet. Discussion followed.

Superintendent Opstad commented that the enrollment report would be on the April 23, 2007, Board agenda. Preliminary figures show that the district is up by 1.9 FTE.

Superintendent Opstad presented the Calendar of Events. Discussion followed.

The following procedures were brought for information only:

- 2410P: Student Graduation Requirements was brought in draft form. The procedure still needs some "tweaking" to match the new requirements set by the legislature. Many of the changes made this session with effect the high school. Discussion followed. Mr. Opstad plans to bring the final procedure to the May 7, 2007, Board meeting.
- 4310P: Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies. The changes were made because of changes in the WAC and RCWs. Discussion followed. It was recommended that the procedure clarify that law enforcement officers should enter the building, to the main office and check in with the principal. There was a discussion about what the meaning of what "...a reasonable time" means as it relates to attempts to contact a parent before a student is questioned by law enforcement. Other recommendations included having the law enforcement officer leave a receipt for personal items (e.g. a backpack) that they confiscate, and to clarify what occasions would warrant a Public Health official removing a student from school.

The following policies were brought for first review:

- Policy 3421/3421P: Child Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation Prevention. This is being brought out of sequence because of changes in the WAC and RCWs. Ms. Beebe asked whether it would be advisable to have yearly staff testing between the every three-year testing mandated by law. A suggestion was made to review Appendix A for the correct wording of the type of abuse being reported so that it matches the policy.
- Policy 5280/5280P: Termination of Employment. No changes recommended.
- Policy 5281/5281P: Disciplinary Action and Discharge. No changes recommended.
- Policy 5310: Compensation. This is a WSSDA policy that has never been adopted by the Board, as the language is covered in union contracts. Mr. Opstad recommended it not be adopted.
- Policy 5315/5315P: Garnishment and Personal Credit Problems
- Policy 5404: Family Leave. No changes recommended.
- Policy 5406/5406P: Leave Sharing. No changes recommended.

These policies will be brought for second review at the next meeting.

Rita E. Beebe clarified that Policy 3500: Athletics and Activities is fine as it stands, and that Superintendent Opstad plans to form a committee to review the procedure. Mr. Opstad stated that he would bring the draft procedure to the Board for review.

Mr. Opstad stated that he would write a thank you letter to Delta Airlines for their help on the "Visit History" trips return from France.

Rita E. Beebe gave a Legislative Update.

John Eissinger announced that Mr. Opstad has scheduled two community meetings to discuss plans for future school district facilities. The meetings will be held May 3rd and June 28th, both at Blue Heron Middle School Commons, starting at 7:00 p.m. Board members are encouraged to attend.

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Tracy Reinhart requested a debriefing session be held to discuss the information gleaned from the joint work/study session held with the Port Townsend City Council. After discussion this work/study session was scheduled for Monday, April 16, 2007, at 6:00 p.m. in the Lincoln Building Board room.

Beth Young announced that she plans to attend the WSSDA Regional Meeting on Saturday, April 21st in Joyce, WA.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas A. Opstad, Superintendent

ATTEST: _____
John Eissinger, Board Chairman