

September 10, 2012

Work/Study Meeting

Page 1 of 2

Board Chair Jennifer James-Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Present: Jennifer James-Wilson, Bill LeMaster, Pam Daly and Anne Burkart. Also present was Superintendent Engle, staff and community members. Holley Carlson will join the meeting later.

Bill LeMaster led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Approval of Agenda

Anne Burkart moved to approve the agenda. Pam Daly seconded and the motion carried 4-0.

Holley Carlson joined the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

The following correspondence was reviewed:

- Email from Tom Thiersch regarding the Lincoln Building
- Email from Barbara Morey regarding high school sports teams' name

Public Comments: None

#### Reports

##### Resource Conservation Management – Brian Goldstein

Mr. Goldstein presented charts showing the district's energy consumptions through several years, and what was done through the conservation program to reduce costs. Superintendent Engle asked Mr. Goldstein if he had met with the Facilities Department at the district. Mr. Goldstein said he had met with the facilities crew and plans to work with them to continue to reduce energy costs and to make optimal use of the funds from the Capital Projects levy. Ms. James-Wilson explained that the Utility Budget chart included in the packet came from the Business Manager during budget preparation for 2012-13. Discussion followed. Mr. Goldstein said he would review his figures and the costs from the Utility Budget chart, make a comparison and forward to the board. Mr. LeMaster asked if the procedural changes needed to reduce energy costs were being accepted and implemented by staff. Mr. Goldstein said he believes those changes are being carried out. Mr. LeMaster asked if any students had assisted with the program. Mr. Goldstein said he did have a couple of students helping him last year, and this year several high school students want to help with recycling as part of the Climate Action Program. Ms. Daly asked how trash disposal costs could be reduced. Mr. Goldstein said composting and recycling would help with that reduction, but those activities do incur some additional staff costs. He said other districts have recruited students and parents as volunteers to help with those programs to cut down on staff costs. Ms. Carlson asked who was monitoring implementation of changes in the buildings. Mr. Goldstein said he attends staff meetings in each of the buildings, collaborating with staff to implement those changes in the most effective way. Dr. Engle explained an energy conservation incentive program he used at a previous district. Ms. James-Wilson asked what happens in October, 2013 when this program ends. Mr. Goldstein said possibly he could make his services available to entities that wish to continue the program. Superintendent Engle asked Mr. Goldstein to return on November 13, 2012 to the work/study board meeting to answer additional questions. Mr. Goldstein agreed.

#### Superintendent

##### High school credit for Algebra I taken at Middle School

Superintendent Engle explained this would apply retroactively to students who have complied with all requirements set forth in the letter included in the board packet, and that many other districts have this procedure. Jennifer Manning, middle school math teacher, said many of her students have asked about receiving high school credit since they use the same textbook as the course taught at the high school, and take the same End of Course exams. Ms. Daly asked if the 70% grade detailed in the letter is for the whole year. Ms. Manning said yes, in order to transfer the grade to high school, the student would need a 70% or higher grade throughout the year, in each grading period.

#### Principals

##### Assessment Report for Blue Heron and Grant Street Schools

Principal Sepler, Grant Street, and Principal Lashinsky, Blue Heron, presented charts explaining assessment scores of students in middle school and elementary school, including cohort data. Ms. Sepler explained the different assessment tests given at Grant Street and how the third grade team is exploring ways to improve curriculum and test scores.

Principal Lashinsky explained Washington State's waiver from the requirement of the No Child Left Behind law requiring all students to meet the standard of the state assessment test by 2014, and how the plan will work to redistribute funds to those target groups of students who are not performing well. She also explained how this affects Title I schools.

September 10, 2012

Work/Study Meeting

Page 2 of 2

Dr. Lashinsky explained that schools in the state are ranked in two ways, first by total student population and then by specific target groups, for example, free and reduced students or special education students. Blue Heron was designated as an Emerging Focus School, in the second category, specifically for its special education students. Blue Heron's special education population is about 19.6% of total students; with the state average per school at about 11-12%. One of the requirements for Emerging Focus Schools was to notify parents of all Blue Heron students explaining that determination and what steps will be taken for improving. All schools designated as Emerging must submit an improvement plan to the state by November, 2012. Ms. Daly asked if students with severe disabilities take a different test. Dr. Lashinsky said that some of those students take the WAAS (Washington Alternative Assessment System) Portfolio test, but a very small number of special education students at Blue Heron use that method of testing.

Ms. Sepler explained some strategies planned for intervention and improvement, including continued use of the Eagle Reading Room at Grant Street, which is small group support in addition to regular classroom instruction and the math assistance program staffed with AAUW (American Association of University Women) volunteers. Emphasis will be placed on improving reading instruction, and ways to help families foster early childhood learning. The district is also exploring implementing a web-based system that allows schools to create, administer and assess tests, called Data Director. Discussion followed.

#### Superintendent

Superintendent Engle reported on the following items:

- District plans to send a letter to WIAA (Washington Interscholastic Activities Association) asking them for a formal response to the post season play issue with the girls' basketball team last year.
- Brad Taylor, Director of Support Services, is working with a group to assess the district's facility needs, and explore more opportunities to apply for energy savings grants. When this assessment is complete, Mr. Taylor will share the findings with Mr. Goldstein and the board.
- The district has applied for a RIG (Regional Implementation Grant) which can be used for support in implementing the TPEP (Teacher/Principal Evaluation Program).
- He is listening to community input and evaluating what can be done with the Lincoln Building, considering its historical significance.
- Lease negotiations with the City for the Mountain View property will begin soon.

#### Business Manager

Sara Bonneville presented some information about beginning enrollment numbers for school year 2012-13 and enrollment trends for the past few years.

#### Policy Review

##### 1005 – Key Functions of the Board

It was decided to change the first sentence to read: "Acting on behalf of the people of *our* community. ." The second paragraph was modified to read: "The board, *in concert with the community*. ." Ms. James-Wilson suggested that Policies 1810 and 1820 be changed to include the "High Expectations for Student Learning" paragraph.

Policy 1005 will be on the agenda for the September 24, 2012 meeting for approval with those corrections.

#### Board Member Announcements

- Ms. Burkart reported that she and Ms. Daly will be attending the WSSDA (Washington State School Directors' Association) Legislative Conference on September 21-22, 2012. She will send the rest of the board a summary of proposed legislative changes; she would like comments and suggestions returned to her.
- Dr. Engle said he will be out of the district Friday, September 14, 2012.
- Upcoming schedule of fall sports was reviewed.
- Ms. James-Wilson said will be out of town the week of September 17-21.

#### Adjournment

Ms. Burkart moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. LeMaster seconded and the motion carried 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Engle, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer James-Wilson, Board Chair