

Board Chair Jennifer James-Wilson called the virtual meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. PRESENT BY ZOOM: Jennifer James-Wilson, Nathanael O'Hara, Doug Ross, Jeff Taylor and Connie Welch. Also present were Superintendent Sandy Gessner-Crabtree, staff, and community members.

Board Thought

Director O'Hara expressed concern for students struggling with isolation and mental health issues. He thanked all district staff for their efforts in opening school and reaching out to students and families. He stressed the importance of providing extracurricular activities as soon as health guidance allows.

Agenda

Director Welch moved to approve the agenda as presented. Director Ross seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Recognition

Retiree

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree recognized the retirement of Salish Coast Elementary Teacher Bonnie Stenehjem. Former Grant Street Elementary Principal Mary Sepler spoke about Ms. Stenehjem's career, emphasizing her practice of equity and inclusiveness for all students and families. Ms. Stenehjem selected the book *The Starkeeper* to be donated to the Salish Coast library in her honor and expressed appreciation for the closure and recognition of her retirement.

Hero Award

Port Townsend High School Principal Carrie Ehrhardt presented a Hero Award to District Librarian Joy Wentzel in recognition of creating and implementing a system of distributing technology devices to high school students prior to the start of the school year.

Public Comments – None

Board Correspondence – None

Reports

ASB Representative

PTHS ASB Representative Cedar Elliott reported on the following:

- ASB meeting every Wednesday
- Discussing school spirit and fundraisers
- Met with Quilcene ASB and hope to meet with Chimacum ASB to design friendly competitions between schools
- Working to navigate ASB during difficult times

District Fine Arts Program

Fine Arts Coordinator Daniel Ferland the Fine Arts Program Report compiled by Fine Arts Coordinator Daniel Ferland. The report included highlights of activities from each district fine arts instructor. Mr. Ferland said the instructors plan to incorporate social emotional learning into their programs. Discussion followed.

Community Partners and Outreach

Director of Community Outreach Sarah Rubenstein presented successes and challenges in creating community partnerships as well as suggestions for future partnership development. Ms. Rubenstein explained that she will meet with partners throughout the year even though some projects may not take place due to COVID-19 restrictions. Discussion followed.

Port Townsend High School Annual Report and School Improvement Plan (SIP)

PTHS Principal Carrie Ehrhardt and the Building Leadership Team of Tom Gambill, Brandi Hageman, Ben Dow, Rene Olson, Jennifer Kruse, David Kelley, and Patrick Gaffney presented the school improvement plan and department goals for 2020-21. Discussion followed.

Chair James-Wilson recessed the meeting at 7:16 p.m. for a 5-minute break. The meeting resumed at 7:21 p.m.

Superintendent Search Update

Chair James-Wilson reminded the Board of the October 6 Special Joint Meeting with Chimacum School District Board of Directors to discuss the components of and review the timeline for the search process with consultant Hank Harris.

Superintendent

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree reported on the following:

- One of nine superintendents to present district reopening plans at state superintendents' meeting
- Hosted JCEP meeting September 29
- Management Team meeting September 30, reviewed reopening plan
- New guidance from OSPI, Department of Health, and Labor & Industries regarding personal protective equipment
- Sarah Rubenstein is convening a committee to review successes and challenges of the reopening process
- Acknowledged that students are overwhelmed and the district must assist students in learning how to learn and continually review and revise plans and processes to serve and support all students
- Stressed the importance the role of a healthy functioning Board in enabling the district to do the work of changing the educational process and thanked the directors for their service
- Working with local artists create the Sign of Hope campaign

Old Business

Board Retreat Synthesis

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree recommended discussing the report after all schools have presented their school improvement plans to the Board and Cabinet and Management Teams have reviewed the report.

Student Equity Report

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree recommended discussing the report after all schools have presented their school improvement plans to the Board and Cabinet and Management Teams have reviewed the report.

Approve Policy

Director Taylor moved to approve Policies 2004 Accountability Goals, 3120 Enrollment, 3143 District Notification of Juvenile Offenders, and 4301 Limiting Immigration Enforcement as presented. Director Welch seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Retire Policy

Director Welch moved to retire Policies 3144 Release of Information Concerning Student Sexual and Kidnapping Offenders and 4314 Notification of Threats of Violence or Harm. Director Ross seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

New Business

Policy and Procedure 3510 and 3510P Associated Student Bodies – First Review

PTHS Principal Ehrhardt explained the WSSDA-recommended edits to the policy and procedure. The policy will be presented for adoption at the October 15 Regular Business Meeting.

Policy 3535 Financial Aid Advising – New – First Review

PTHS Principal Ehrhardt presented the new policy, which aligns with recent state legislation. Chair James-Wilson requested that eleventh grade students be included in the first paragraph of Scope of financial aid advising day(s). The policy will be presented for adoption at the October 15 Regular Business Meeting.

Policy and Procedure 3122 and 3122P Excused and Unexcused Absences – First Review

PTHS Principal Ehrhardt explained the policy and procedure updates, which align with new OSPI emergency rules regarding attendance for the 2020-21 school year. Chair James-Wilson said under Absence from in-person learning, the letter A at the end of WAC 392-401-015A should be after 401, and that “principals” should be corrected to “principles” in paragraph 2 of page 2. The policy will be presented for adoption at the October 15 Regular Business Meeting.

Public Comments – None

Board Discussion and Comments

Legislative Priorities

The Board reviewed WSSDA legislative position priorities and the results of the September 25 Legislative Assembly, which Chair James-Wilson attended. Each director will send their top 15 priorities to Chair James-Wilson who will compile the information and submit the district’s priorities list to WSSDA.

Board Reflections on this Meeting

Director Welch said this was an emotional meeting and that this is a time for redesigning education with a focus on relationships. Director O'Hara said the issue of student engagement is not new and many social service expectations are placed on schools. Director Taylor added that educators need the help of others to solve society's problems. Chair James-Wilson feels the district is capable of creating solutions to help all students succeed. Director Ross is optimistic about the possibility of area districts sharing some programming to increase offerings for students.

Future Meeting Topics and Agenda Planning

October 6, 2020 Special Joint Meeting with Chimacum School District Board of Directors, Virtual Meeting via Zoom, 6:00 p.m.

The Boards will discuss the search process with Consultant Hank Harris.

October 15, 2020 Regular Business Meeting, Salish Coast Elementary Site Visit or Virtual Meeting via Zoom, 5:30 p.m.

Reports include Salish Coast Elementary Annual Report and School Improvement Plan, Annual Title I/LAP, Maintenance and Facilities, August and September Fund Summaries, and Internal Controls.

October 19, 2020 WSSDA Fall Regional Meeting, Virtual Meeting via Zoom, 6:00 p.m.

Directors will notify the superintendent's office if they plan to attend.

November 5, 2020 Work/Study Meeting, Blue Heron/OCEAN Site Visit or Virtual Meeting via Zoom, 5:30 p.m.

Blue Heron and OCEAN Annual Reports and School Improvement Plans, District Assessment Results, Transportation Services Annual Report, and Human Resources Annual Report will be presented. The Board will review the Draft Strategic Plan Update.

Executive Session – not needed

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Gessner-Crabtree
Secretary

ATTEST:

Jennifer James-Wilson
Board Chair