

Chimacum School District Board of Directors Chair Dr. Kristina Mayer called the meeting to order at 7:31 AM and roll call was taken. PRESENT BY ZOOM: Port Townsend Directors – Nathanael O’Hara, Jennifer James-Wilson, Doug Ross, Jeff Taylor and Connie Welch. Chimacum Directors – Dr. Kristina Mayer, Tami Robocker, Sarah Martin, Mickey Nagy and Kathryn Lamka.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Port Townsend School District Chair Nathanael O’Hara.

Nathanael O’Hara provided an overview of the agenda. Connie Welch made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; Mickey Nagy seconded; motion carried. (10-0)

Human Capital Enterprises Consultant, Hank Harris, provided an overview of the superintendent candidate evaluation process, discussed Open Public Meetings Act guidelines, and provided specific language required when acting on moving finalists forward. The Boards will recess to separate executive sessions to share opinions and evaluate superintendent candidate qualifications, and then return to open session to move a lead finalist forward.

Jeff Taylor asked if other candidates will be informed to stand by if not the lead candidate. Hank Harris confirmed this will happen.

Kristina Mayer asked all board members to refer to the Ideal Profile while discussing qualifications and looking for a good fit.

It was agreed that if the Boards do not require the entire allotted 3 hours in executive session, they may recess prior to returning to open session at 10:30 AM.

Recess to Executive Session

The Boards recessed to separate executive sessions at 7:40 AM to discuss and evaluate superintendent finalists – RCW 42.30.110(1)(g). The executive sessions are estimated to last approximately 2 hours and 50 minutes with possible action to follow in open session.

Executive Session

Chimacum School District Board of Directors reconvened from executive session at 8:33 AM and recessed for an estimated 2 hours.

Port Townsend School District Board of Directors reconvened from executive session at 8:46 AM and recessed for an estimated 1 hour and 40 minutes.

Resume Public Meeting

The open public meeting resumed at 10:30 AM.

Selection of Semi-Finalist Superintendent Candidates

Superintendent candidates were referred to by letters Y and P. Nathanael O'Hara and Kristina Mayer addressed each candidate by letter and asked for motions to move candidates forward as lead finalists. Voting took place as follows:

Nathanael O'Hara asked for a motion to move a lead finalist forward. Jennifer James-Wilson made a motion to move forward candidate Y as the lead superintendent finalist for Port Townsend School District and conduct additional reference checks, a full background check, and engage the Board Chair to enter contract negotiations with this finalist; Connie Welch seconded; motion carried. (5-0)

Jennifer James-Wilson stated that candidate Y was found to be an exciting person who would fit the district's needs well and Connie Welch agreed. Chair O'Hara noted this candidate fits Port Townsend's Ideal Profile and community input was unified around this candidate. Director Welch added she enjoyed conversations with all four candidates.

Kristina Mayer stated appreciation for the caliber of candidates and the partnership with Hank Harris, who met and exceeded expectations. Mayer thanked the Port Townsend Board for an engaging partnership and respectful joint process; this collaboration will be a key component to moving forward and it's been a great community builder.

Kristina Mayer asked for a motion to move a lead finalist forward. Mickey Nagy made a motion to move forward candidate P as the lead superintendent finalist for Chimacum School District and conduct additional reference checks, a full background check, and engage the Board Chair to enter contract negotiations with this finalist; Tami Robocker seconded; motion carried. (5-0)

Tami Robocker said it was a positive experience with Port Townsend. Kathryn Lamka stated it's been a growth experience and they've selected from a panel of excellent candidates. Mickey Nagy noted the collaborative effort will bring synergies for the districts and communities.

Hank Harris expressed sincere gratitude to Chimacum and Port Townsend and spoke to the uniqueness of the forward-thinking joint search experience.

Next Steps

- Hank Harris confirmed that all finalists are awaiting calls and it was agreed that each board chair will call their respective selected candidates; Harris will notify all other candidates. Additionally, all board members are invited to call the selected candidate to offer a warm welcome.
- Harris will work with a 3rd party entity on an investigatory background check, which may take approximately two weeks.

- Board members may email Katy Gaffney and Traci Meacham if they would like to assist in calling references and Hank Harris will provide contact information accordingly.
- Each board chair will facilitate contract negotiations. It is recommended that all parties refer to legal counsel for advice during this process and WSSDA may also be of support. Hank Harris is not involved in contract negotiations. Jennifer James-Wilson confirmed Port Townsend's central office generally handles contract negotiations.
- Hank Harris will follow up with each selected candidate to discuss logistics.

Jennifer James-Wilson thanked Hank Harris and the Chimacum School District Board for the kind words and tender process, applauding the collective willingness to collaborate. Benefits from this work together will come to fruition in ways unimaginable at this time.

Adjournment

Kristina Mayer entertained a motion to adjourn; Nathanael O'Hara so moved.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:56 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathanael O'Hara
Board Chair