

Board Chair Nathanael O'Hara 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 Gessner-Crabtree, staff, students, families and community members.

Chair O'Hara led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda

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

Recognition

Hero Awards

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree and Orchestra Instructor Daniel Ferland presented PT Schools Hero Awards to senior orchestra students Soso Johnston, Leah Levine, and Stella Jorgensen in recognition of their coordination of many aspects of the Winter Stringfest Virtual Concert in December. The students organized the fundraiser to benefit the Port Townsend Kiwanis Club's Backpack Project that provides food to needy families, obtained sponsorship from local businesses, coordinated rehearsals and coached fellow students, met with local organizations to promote the event, coordinated equipment needs and maintained the tradition of each orchestra student receiving a t-shirt. Mr. Ferland expressed pride in the students and thanked them for their outstanding contributions to the successful event.

Music in our Schools Month

Music Instructor Daniel Ferland recognized two PTHS students who received All Northwest Band honors: Maya Dow on trumpet and Indigo Gould on flute. He also explained current music opportunities at the middle and high school levels, including hopes of year-end virtual concerts. He thanked Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree, administrators, PTHS Music Boosters and Yea! Music for supporting the programs and reaching out to students. Music Instructor Kim Clarke also described music offerings at the middle and elementary school levels. She also discussed the importance of the social emotional aspect of music for students and that students are eager to play together. The Board thanked the instructors and other contributors for encouraging and supporting students during these challenging times, and said they hope group opportunities will increase this school year and next.

Public Comments

Bruce Cowan, Michelle Poore and Celia Fulton Walden presented comments about the benefits of music in schools.

Board Correspondence

The Board reviewed a donation letter from Jefferson County Association of Realtors and an email from Jake Gregg regarding reopening schools. The Board also reviewed emails and letters from Becky Brown-Nienow, Katherine Darrow and Tom Pendley, Lori Bernstein, Bruce Cowan, Pat Yearian, Celia Fulton Walden and Gary B. Larson regarding music in schools.

Consent Agenda

Director James-Wilson moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Director Welch seconded and the motion carried 5-0. Included on the consent agenda were the following items: 1) Payroll for February 2021; 2) Accounts Payable as of March 18, 2021; 3) Recommend the following actions:

- Hires: Approve Castley Sierociuk as .5 FTE Reading/Literacy Coach, leave replacement, Blue Heron Middle School, effective March 1, 2021.
- Resignations/Retirements: Accept resignation of John Burke, 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher, Blue Heron Middle School, effective August 31, 2021.
Accept resignation of Carol Light, .5 FTE Language Arts Teacher on leave of absence, Blue Heron Middle School, effective immediately.
Accept resignation of Sophia Breithaupt, 6.0 Hr/Day Special Education Paraeducator, Salish Coast Elementary, effective February 26, 2021.
Accept resignation/retirement of Susan Vokurka, 6.0 Hr/Day LPN/Paraeducator, effective August 31, 2021.
Accept resignation of Nicole Rose, 6.5 Hr/Day Special Education Paraeducator, Blue Heron Middle School, effective March 19, 2021.
Accept resignation of Lucero Moreno-Figueroa, 6.0 Hr/Day, 2 Day/Week Special Education Paraeducator, Salish Coast Elementary, effective the end of the 2020-2021 school year.
- Leaves: Approve revision of medical leave of absence for Laura Cook, 1.0 FTE Speech Language Pathologist, Salish Coast Elementary, as per the attached letter.
Approve paternal leave of absence for David Kelley, 1.0 FTE Teacher, Port Townsend High School, first semester of the 2021-2022 school year.
- Transfers Recommend transfer of Chase Campbell from 6.25 Hr/Day, 2 Day/Week, to 6 Hr/Day, 5 Day/Week Special Education Paraeducator, Salish Coast Elementary, effective March 8, 2021.
- Minutes: Approve Minutes of the February 18, 2021 Special Meeting
Approve Minutes of the February 18, 2021 Regular Business Meeting
Approve Minutes of the February 24, 2021 Special Joint Meeting with Chimacum School District Board of Directors
Approve Minutes of the March 4, 2021 Special Meeting
Approve Minutes of the March 4, 2021 Work/Study Meeting
- Donation: Accept Donation of \$3,328.00 Jefferson County Association of Realtors to support students in need.

Reports

Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Graduation Pathways

Port Townsend High School Principal Carrie Ehrhardt and Special Services Director Shelby MacMeekin presented the report. They explained recent changes to state graduation requirements for the class of 2020 and beyond, focusing on the effects for special needs students. The report explained Graduation Pathways, CTE Graduation Pathways offered in the district, pathway completion data for students in the PTHS Class of 2020, and future graduation pathway requirements for all students. Discussion followed.

Senior Class Year-End Events

PTHS Principal Ehrhardt reported that the senior class and school administration are working with Jefferson County Health Officer Dr. Tom Locke to plan graduation and prom. Preliminary planning includes prom on the tennis courts May 26, a class barbeque and awards ceremony June 10, and graduation at Memorial Field June 11. Students will receive a rapid COVID-19 test prior the events. Discussion followed.

High School and Blue Heron Associated Student Bodies (ASBs)

PTHS ASB Advisor Patrick Gaffney presented the annual report of celebrations, challenges and year-end activities. Discussion followed. The Board hopes to create a stronger connection with the ASB Representative and will discuss the position at their April 1, 2021 Work/Study Meeting.

Blue Heron ASB Advisor Christie Boyd and students Sawyer Duval, Gina Tran and Ayelen Soto-Zavalza presented the school's annual report of celebrations, challenges and year-end activities. Discussion followed. Blue Heron Principal Campbell expressed appreciation for Advisor Boyd's contributions to students.

Transportation of Students Who Live Within One Mile of School

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree presented the report compiled by Director of Transportation Monica Mulligan. The report is required annually by Policy 6600. Discussion followed.

Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) Update

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree provided an update of current governor's guidance for holding in-person public meetings. She explained that virtual meetings are required with the option of adding an in-person component. The Board will begin offering an in-person location at their May 6, 2021 Work/Study Meeting.

Asset Preservation

Maintenance and Facilities Supervisor Justin Gray presented the report, which is required annually by the State Asset Preservation Rule for school buildings built after 1993 with state funding assistance. The report included an explanation of the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) Asset Preservation Program and the OSPI Information and Conditions of Schools report for Blue Heron Middle School. Discussion followed.

Chair O'Hara recessed the meeting at 7:30 p.m. for a five-minute break. The meeting resumed at 7:35 p.m.

Superintendent

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree reported on the following:

- Update on School Reopening Efforts
 - Low case numbers in Jefferson County
 - Vaccinations for school staff
 - Governor's Proclamation of Student Mental Health Crisis
 - Family Survey of learning model preferences, results by school
 - Each school's proposal to meet governor's metrics for in-person learning
 - Constraints on expanded in-person learning
 - Meeting with certificated and classified unions April 22 to compare school proposals with Memorandums of Agreement/Understanding

The Board supports increased in-person instruction and directed district staff to explore all options.

Due to the length of the meeting, Director James-Wilson moved to amend the agenda to allow the presentation of New Business item OPEPO Program Change Request at this point in the meeting. Chair Welch seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

OPEPO Program Change Proposal

Salish Coast Elementary Principal Lisa Condran and OPEPO Teachers Heather Sanders and Cherry Chenruk-Geelan presented the proposal to change the program grades from 1st – 5th to 1st – 4th. The proposal included reasons for consideration, possible transition scenarios, history of proposal study meetings, OPEPO family survey results and feedback. OPEPO Parent Heather Dudley-Nollette added that some families feel sadness about the proposed change and that the change would decrease teacher burn-out and increase the sustainability of the program. Discussion followed. The proposal will be presented for approval at the April 1, 2021 Work/Study Meeting.

Superintendent Report, continued

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree invited each school principal to provide an update on failing grades and supports offered to students who have not engaged.

Director of Finance and Business Operations

Director of Finance and Business Operations Amy Khile presented the March 2021 enrollment report. She also gave budget summaries for all funds, special education funding reports, and capital levy and bond analyses for February 2021. Ms. Khile added that the estimated amount of the food service bid approved during the February 18, 2021 Regular Business Meeting is \$125,000 to \$150,000. Discussion followed. The Board requested inclusion of revenue loss information in next month's report.

Old Business

Capital Projects Update

Maintenance and Facilities Director Gray provided updated cost estimates for the Capital Projects report presented during the January 21, 2021 Regular Business Meeting. He added that the Salish Coast covered play structure was inadvertently omitted from the report. The cost estimate for the structure is \$80,000 and Mr. Gray has requested an installation estimate. Discussion followed.

New Business

Policy, Procedure, Form and Appendices 2145, 2145P, 2145F, 2145 App 1, 2145 App 2, 2145 App 3, and 2145 App 4 Suicide Prevention – First Review

Postponed until the April 1, 2021 Work/Study Meeting.

Consideration for Promotion and Retention

Postponed until the April 1, 2021 Work/Study Meeting.

Public Comments – None

Board Discussion and Comments

Chair O’Hara asked about the possibility of bringing back all students to in-person learning.

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree thanked Art Instructors Christie Boyd, Michele Soderstrom, and Christie Boyd and the Facilities team for coordinating the Signs of Hope project at the schools.

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree shared a video of the installed Blue Heron signs.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1afUKEAkBZVvFRBuqOMwtEVO3I7xTSZAw/view?usp=sharing>

Next Meetings

April 1, 2021 – Special Meeting, Virtual Meeting via Zoom, 3:30 p.m.

- Review Board Self-Assessment results with WSSDA Consultant

April 1, 2021 – Work/Study Meeting, Virtual Meeting via Zoom, 5:30 p.m.

Executive Session – Not Needed

Adjournment

Director Taylor moved to adjourn. Director Welch seconded.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Gessner-Crabtree
Secretary

ATTEST: _____
Nathanael O’Hara
Board Chair