

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

Board Thought

Director Welch presented thoughts about waiting: for vaccines, for sunny weather and flowers, and students waiting to return to school. She shared quotes from Joseph Campbell and Former President Barack Obama that encourage people to embrace circumstances that may not be as planned and become the ones to create the changes for which they hope.

Agenda Approval

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

Recognition

Hero Awards

Maintenance and Facilities Supervisor Justin Gray presented PT Schools Hero Awards to department members Shane Trammell and Andy Kithcart in recognition of their teamwork, willingness to shift gears to do what needs to be done, and positive attitudes. Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree and Director of Finance and Business Operations Amy Khile presented a PT Schools Hero Award to Supervisor Gray as the leader of the team that is always ready to help and has supported great changes this year. They praised him for his organization and dedication and for being smart and funny.

Season One High School Athletics

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree congratulated all Season One athletes and coaches for completing the season with courage and spirit. PTHS Athletic Director Patrick Gaffney thanked the Transportation Department, District Office and Maintenance and Facilities Department for their support in offering athletics for students. He said athletes and coaches enjoyed the experience and he introduced the athletes and coaches in attendance. Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree thanked Athletic Director Gaffney and the coaches for supporting this opportunity for students.

Public Comments – None

Board Correspondence – None

Reports

Educational Technology Support

District Librarian Joy Wentzel presented the report of educational technology support celebrations, challenges and future considerations. She provides technology support this school year as Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA). Discussion followed.

Technology Annual Report

Director of Technology Services Richard Durr II presented the department annual report including staffing, expenditures and equipment. The report also included completed and in-process upgrades to district systems as well as areas for improvement. Discussion followed.

Day on the Hill Meeting with Legislators

Board Legislative Representative Director James-Wilson, Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree, and Student Representative Finn O'Donnell attended the meeting March 19, 2021 with Senator Kevin Van De Wege, Representative Steve Tharinger, and Representative Mike Chapman. Director James-Wilson said the three focus areas were fiscal, graduation flexibility, and student well-being. Finn O'Donnell reported that the students spoke with legislators, the governor, and the superintendent of public instruction about student mental health and well-being. Director James-Wilson said the group encouraged legislators to revise the prototypical funding model for school counselors and nurses. Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree added that the group also requested that legislators provide stabilization of transportation and enrollment funding, and that a study group will review the prototypical funding model.

ASB Representative

PTHS ASB Executive President Finn O'Donnell reported on the following:

- Senior class is continuing to plan prom and graduation
- Participating seniors will be tested with rapid COVID-19 tests
- Hopeful that some seniors will be vaccinated before culminating events
- ASB is planning fun end-of-year events

Superintendent

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree reported on the following:

- State audit beginning soon
 - Amy Khile explained that this is a Financial Statements and Federal Single Audit
 - Entrance conference details will be presented to the Board at the April 15, 2021 Regular Business Meeting
 - Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree and Chair O'Hara will complete the risk assessment
- Explained each school's plan to increase in-person learning for students who are currently in the blended learning model
 - Salish Coast Elementary Increases
 - Grades K-2 - April 12
 - Grades 3-5 - April 14
 - OPEPO - April 14
 - Blue Heron Middle School Increase
 - All Grades – April 19
 - Port Townsend High School Increase
 - All Grades – April 19
 - OCEAN continues as distance learning program
- Praised district staff for their willingness to move forward together to make big changes for students and said this is not easy for staff .

Chair O'Hara thanked Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree for her steady leadership that has been critical in allowing the district to get to this point.

Old Business

OPEPO Program Change Update

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree notified the Board that the OPEPO Review Team chose to offer Grades 2-5 in school year 2021-22 and Grades 1-4 in following school years.

New Business

Reimagining Role of Student Representative

The Board is interested in strengthening the role of the student representative. They reviewed a sample student application and WSSDA Model Policy and Procedure 1250 Students on Governing Boards. PTHS Principal Carrie Ehrhardt and ASB Executive President Finn O'Donnell presented ideas from a brainstorming session of school administrators and senior student leadership, including an application process, selecting the representative from ASB officers, compensation, and awarding credit. The Board discussed additional options such as selecting two representatives and offering a scholarship. They would appreciate increased information about the issues affecting students, and hope to consistently involve students in legislative and WSSDA activities. Chair O'Hara directed Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree to convene a work/study group to research current practices in other districts and present possible models at a future meeting prior to the end of the school year. Director Welch volunteered to join the work/study group.

Policy and Procedure 6000 and 6000P Program Planning, Budget Preparation, Adoption and Implementation – First Review

Director of Finance and Business Operations Amy Khile explained the WSSDA-recommended edits that eliminate the need to update the policy each time laws or changes in contracts occur. The policy will be presented for second review and adoption during the April 15, 2021 Regular Business Meeting.

Policy 6600 Transportation – First Review

Amy Khile explained the recommended edits that align with WSSDA model policy and are based on House Bill 2455 – Child Care – Parents Attending High School. The legislation allows school districts to transport infant children of students. The policy will be presented for second review and adoption during the April 15, 2021 Regular Business Meeting.

Policy 2246 Optional Education Program (OPEPO)

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree explained the edits needed to align with the updated program model. Director James-Wilson asked that a reference to elementary grades be added to the end of the first paragraph. The policy will be presented for second review and adoption during the April 15, 2021 Regular Business Meeting.

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

PTHS Principal Carrie Ehrhardt explained the policy edits recommended by WSSDA, and the procedure edits and addition of four appendices recommended by a district team of counselors and principals. She

said this creates a district-wide process for all schools to follow. The team consulted with OSPI and risk management during the review process. Director James-Wilson requested that Principal Ehrhardt obtain student feedback about the content. Director James-Wilson also mentioned that support of students after alleged sexual abuse is included in the policy, but not the procedure. Principal Ehrhardt said guidance on this issue is not offered by WSSDA so she will contact OESD 114 for assistance. The policy will be presented for second review and adoption during the April 15, 2021 Regular Business Meeting.

Consideration of Promotion and Retention, Policy and Procedure 2421 and 2421P

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree explained that the current Policy and Procedure 2421 and 2421P Promotion and Retention have not been updated since 2008. She presented updates that are needed in order to ensure decisions are made on an individual student basis and data driven. She also provided retention research resources for the Board's review. School principals and Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree reviewed WSSDA model policy and other districts' policies. The policy will be presented for second review and adoption at the April 15, 2021 Regular Business Meeting.

Approve Resolution 21-01 Emergency Waiver of High School Graduation Credits

The resolution allows the district to seek emergency waivers of some graduation credits for students in the Classes of 2020 and 2021 in the 2020-21 school year due to the impacts of the COVID-19 emergency. PTHS Principal Carrie Ehrhardt explained the waiver implementation plan. Director James-Wilson moved to approve Resolution 21-02 Emergency Waiver of High School Graduation Credits as presented. Director Welch seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Public Comments – None

Board Discussion and Comments

Director Welch enjoyed the Blue Heron Virtual Talent Show. Director James-Wilson encouraged the Board to participate in The Community Wellness Project's Spring Into Wellness Challenge. She also notified the Board of the opportunity to assist the YMCA in preparing and delivering food to families during spring break. Director James-Wilson also reminded the Board of the Public Disclosure Commission Form F-1 April 15 submission deadline. Chair O'Hara suggested discussing questions from the board self-assessment during this section of future meetings. Director James-Wilson would also like to the Board to consider holding a 90-minute retreat to discuss the self-assessment.

Future Meeting Topics and Agenda Planning

Wellness Policy and Physical Education Annual Review and PTHS School-Based Health Clinic reports will be presented at the April 15, 2021 Regular Business Meeting. Chair O'Hara will be excused. Human Growth and Development Curriculum and Social Emotional Learning reports will be presented at the May 6, 2021 Work/Study Meeting. The meeting will include an in-person option at Blue Heron Middle School in addition to Zoom.

Next Meeting

April 15, 2021 – Regular Business Meeting, Virtual Meeting via Zoom, 5:30 p.m.

Executive Session – not needed

Adjournment

Chair O'Hara entertained a motion to adjourn. Director Welch so moved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Gessner-Crabtree
Secretary

ATTEST: _____
Nathanael O'Hara
Board Chair