

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

On behalf of the Board and the District, Chair O'Hara expressed condolences to the Grinnell Family and the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe for the loss of Tribal Council Member Kurt Grinnell, saying this is a loss for the Tribe, community, region and nation. Chair O'Hara described Mr. Grinnell as a teacher, patient and intelligent, and a great leader who was lost far too young.

Agenda Approval

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

Recognition

Season Two High School Athletics

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree congratulated all Season Two student-athletes and coaches for completing their season. The coaches and students in attendance described their experiences.

Teacher Appreciation Week

Chair O'Hara read aloud the Port Townsend School District Proclamation of Teacher Appreciation Week. Representing district teachers were Port Townsend Education Association President Melissa Love and Vice President Don Oliveira. They said it has been a fun week and they have felt appreciated in their schools. They also explained some of the challenges teachers face this school year.

New National Board Certified Teacher

National Board Cohort Facilitator and Blue Heron Middle School Teacher Leslie Shively congratulated PTHS CTE Teacher Jennifer Kruse for earning her National Board Certification. PTHS Principal Carrie Ehrhardt added that Ms. Kruse supports students in and out of the classroom. Ms. Kruse said she is honored to work for the district and appreciates the district's support of teachers who wish to continue their education.

Employees with 25 Years Longevity

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree congratulated Blue Heron Middle School Science Teacher Roger Mills for his 25 years of working in the district. Blue Heron Middle School Principal Theresa Campbell said Mr. Mills is a well-respected leader of the Blue Heron staff, is a continuous learner, and has had a positive impact on thousands of students. Mr. Mills said working in the district and living in the community has been a wonderful experience. Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree will deliver certificates of appreciation and 25-year pins to Mr. Mills and PTHS Teacher Tim Behrenfeld.

Public Comments

Sonya Goss thanked the district staff, teachers, and board for their support of her family during their time of loss. She said she appreciates school staff more than ever this year and is grateful for the memorial in her son Travis' name that is located at Blue Heron Middle School.

Board Correspondence – None

Reports

ASB Representative

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

- Planning prom for juniors and seniors only
- Prom goers will receive rapid COVID testing
- Senior Honors and Awards took place via Zoom yesterday
- AP tests are underway

Reimagining Board Student Representative Role

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree presented the report, which included recommendations from the board-directed work group for expanding and strengthening the student representative role. Discussion followed. A proposal will be presented at the May 20 meeting.

Nutrition and Physical Fitness – Policy 6700

Wellness Committee Chair Shelby MacMeekin presented the annual report of Wellness Committee work, physical activities in schools, and priorities moving forward. Discussion followed.

Human Growth and Development Curriculum

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree presented the report, which included an implementation timeline, an explanation of recent state legislation, current status of implementation at each school, and considerations for moving forward. She recommended that a stakeholder work group compare the District's current practices with new state requirements to create recommendations for updating the board policy and procedure. Discussion followed.

Social Emotional Learning

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree presented the Social Emotional Learning report. The report included a review of the District's support of a culture of wellness, the current status of SEL at each school, and future and fiscal considerations. Discussion followed.

Superintendent

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree reported on the following:

- Supervisor of Facilities and Maintenance Justin Gray applied for and the District was awarded a Commerce Grant for the HVAC system upgrade at PTHS
- Recent family survey revealed that some families would like an online education option next school year
 - If the Board wishes to pursue this option, a work group will present a proposal in May or June
- Student and community input being gathered regarding possible athletics combine between Port Townsend and Chimacum, data will be presented at May 20 board meeting
- Academic and Student Well Being Recovery Plan work continues
 - Plan must be submitted to OSPI by June 1

- Stakeholders will review template May 12 at 7:30 a.m., invited up to two directors to attend
- Incoming Superintendent Linda Rosenbury has participated in the planning along with district and building administrators
- Reminder that the May 20 Regular Business Meeting will offer both an in-person and virtual attendance options. Thanked IT Technicians Alex Hankel and Max Sudlow for accepting the challenge of assembling the necessary technology.
- In honor of Teacher Appreciation Week, expressed thoughts about teaching being about relationships and giving of oneself. She thanked the Board for supporting the teaching staff.

Old Business

Policy 3113 Social Emotional Climate

Director James-Wilson and Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree revised the policy following first review. A work group comprised of Wellness Committee members and building staff will take on the task of creating the procedure. Director Ross moved to approve Policy 3113 Social Emotional Climate as presented. Director Welch seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

New Business

Draft Student/Parent Handbooks 2021-22

Salish Coast Elementary Principal Lisa Condran, Blue Heron Principal Theresa Campbell and PTHS Principal Ehrhardt presented drafts of the 2021-22 student/parent handbooks for their schools. Discussion followed. The handbooks will be presented for approval at the May 20, 2021 Regular Business Meeting.

PTHS Course Fee Waiver Request

PTHS Principal Ehrhardt explained that expenses for course supplies were lower this year due to students attending remotely and the receipt of grant funding, and she presented the request to waive the fees for Art, Robotics, Culinary Arts, and Maritime courses. Director James-Wilson moved to approve the Waiver of PTHS Course Supply Fees for the 2020-21 School Year. Director Welch seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

School Board Position Filing

The Board reviewed a Jefferson County Election Guide Update Memo, the Jefferson County Election Guide, and a Jefferson County Elections Candidate Filing Memo. Director James-Wilson noted that the correct candidate filing week is May 17-21, 2021 with May 3 as the first day candidate declarations may be received by mail.

Public Comments – None

Board Discussion and Comments

The Board wishes to increase their opportunities for in-depth discussions and considered the options of moving the Board Discussion time earlier on the agenda, individual board members researching and reporting on topics of interest, board members contacting Chair O'Hara to request agenda items, in-person lunches with the superintendent, and continuing discussions of the self-assessment results.

Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree mentioned that the work of creating the next strategic plan will provide opportunities for in-depth discussions and self-assessment review. The Board will keep Board Discussion in its current agenda location and will begin monthly lunch meetings with Superintendent Gessner-Crabtree in groups of one or two.

Future Meeting Topics and Agenda Planning

Chair O'Hara will try to join the May 12 stakeholder review of the Academic and Student Well Being Recovery Plan. Student Well Being Update and Quarterly Public Records Requests reports will be presented at the May 20, 2021 Regular Business Meeting. Safe Routes to School and Summer Maintenance Projects reports will be presented at the June 3, 2021 Work/Study Meeting. Beginning with the May 20 meeting, both in-person and virtual attendance options will be offered.

Next Meeting

May 20, 2021 – Regular Business Meeting, Blue Heron Middle School Gymnasium, 3939 San Juan Avenue and Virtual Meeting via Zoom, 5:30 p.m.

Executive Session – not needed

Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Gessner-Crabtree
Secretary

ATTEST: _____
Nathanael O'Hara
Board Chair