

Board Chair Nathanael O'Hara called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. PRESENT: Nathanael O'Hara, Keith White, Connie Welch, Laura Tucker, and Jennifer James-Wilson. Also present were Superintendent Polm, ASB Representative Gerry Coker, staff, and community members.

Connie Welch led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Approval

Laura Tucker moved to approve the agenda. Keith White seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Recognition

Superintendent

Superintendent Polm presented Hero awards to Catherine Kapp, Gary Roe, and Anita Snell for their outstanding work as volunteers at Grant Street Elementary.

School Board Appreciation

Superintendent Polm read a proclamation from Governor Inslee designating January as School Board Recognition Month, and presented certifications of appreciation to each Port Townsend School Board member.

Board Chair O'Hara adjourned the meeting at 6:14 p.m. for a short reception honoring school board members. The meeting was reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Public Comments - None

Board Correspondence – None

Reports

Student

Gerry Coker, ASB Representative, reported that the Junior class is preparing for the Winterfest dance, which will be combined with Chimacum High School, and individual class fundraising projects are progressing.

Board

Ms. James-Wilson and Mr. White praised the Winter Stringfest music program on December 17, 2017. Mr. O'Hara thanked the district and school buildings for their appreciation to board members.

Superintendent

Superintendent Polm reported on:

- His ride on an elementary school bus route from Grant Street
- Attendance at sporting events
- Learning Walks at each school
- Staff meetings regarding teacher evaluations
- West Sound Tech STEM meetings at Olympic ESD 114
- Application for NOAA's B-WET grant (experiential learning opportunities) and possible application to GEAR UP (readiness for undergraduate programs)

Strategic Plan

Superintendent Polm explained that this draft of the strategic plan was developed from the district core principles and goals, and will be reviewed annually. Ms. Healy-Raymond explained this plan reflects some of the innovations the District is going forward with, such as place-based learning and the Maritime Discovery School initiative. The six goals, objectives, strategies, and measures of success in the plan were discussed.

Unfinished Business

Board Self-Assessment

Superintendent Polm explained that a link will be sent to each board member to complete a new self-assessment by the end of January.

Legislative Priorities Letter

Superintendent Polm read the letter he had prepared, as directed by the board at the last meeting, to the State legislators expressing the issues Port Townsend School District considers as top priorities for the 2017 State legislature. It was noted that legislators have changed since the last election, and the letter will be corrected with names of the newly-elected officials.

New Business - None

Policy Review

Policy 4217 – Effective Communication

Superintendent Polm explained that this is a new policy, recommended to ensure all students, families, applicant, participants, and members of the public with disabilities are able to participate in all district services. Procedures will be developed to implement the policy.

Policy 4218, Language Access

Superintendent Polm said this policy deals with providing communication assistance to persons who may not speak English as a first language. Procedures will be developed to implement the policy.

Policy 4220, Questions or Concerns Regarding Staff or Programs

Superintendent Polm explained this policy outlines the procedure for community questions or concerns regarding staff or programs. The heading and paragraph two will be changed to read “questions and concerns” instead of “complaints”.

Board Member Announcements/Suggestions for Future Meetings

Mr. White will not be at the January 23 and March 27, 2017 meetings. Ms. Tucker will not be at the February 13, 2017 meeting; she also reported there will be a garden work party at Blue Heron on January 18, 2017. Ms. Welch said there is a Paramount Duty group rally at 10:00 a.m. on January 18 also. Ms. James- Wilson will not be at the April 24 and May 8, 2017 board meetings.

Executive Session

The meeting was adjourned to an executive session at 8:40 p.m. to review the performance of a public employee for approximately 20 minutes. The executive session was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. and the work/study meeting was reconvened.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John A. Polm, Jr., Secretary

ATTEST: Nathanael O’Hara, Board Chair