



MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS – REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, October 26, 2005
Black River High School, 7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Joy Poff. The Board and audience recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag. President Poff announced that the meeting was being audio-tape recorded and that the agenda background materials are available in the Superintendent's Office after 4:00 p.m. the Friday preceding the board meeting.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joy Poff, President
Lynn Desmarais, Vice President
Marcie Maxwell
David Merrill
Al Talley

Dr. Dolores Gibbons, Superintendent and Secretary
to the Board of Directors

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Assistant Superintendent Moore informed the Board of Directors and audience that Cherrie Palm, retirement coordinator, has recently been approved as a Certified School Business Specialist. This is a stellar accomplishment. Only 15% of WASBO members have achieved such recognition. The process for applying for certification includes submitting a portfolio of work and proof of attendance in various workshops. Mr. Moore congratulated Cherrie on her willingness to take the time and make the effort to improve her skills while employed with the Renton School District.

Principal Larry Dobson welcomed the Board and audience to Black River High School. He indicated the Halloween floral arrangements at each Board member's seat had been made by students in the BRHS Horticulture class. In addition, each Board member had a handmade nameplate made by students in a Multi-Media class. Assorted homemade

cookies were prepared by students in a Culinary Arts class for the audience to enjoy during the evening. Dr. Gibbons and the Board thanked Mr. Dobson and his students for their personal efforts for the Board meeting this evening.

“GOOD NEWS”
ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Poff and Board members read the following “good news” announcements:

- Lindbergh High School senior Julian Reyes has been awarded the Distinguished Regents Scholarship from Washington State University. Julian was awarded the scholarship based on his academic strength, leadership, and community and extracurricular involvement. Julian frequently shows exceptional commitment and academic performance while managing part-time jobs, extraordinary family situations, and other special circumstances. Julian is one of only 25 students receiving the four-year award worth more than \$54,000; covering undergraduate tuition, fees, room and board, and a book stipend.

Lindbergh High School senior Olga Sievers has been awarded the Silver Regents Scholarship. Only 75 students receive this two-year award worth a total of \$8,000, covering about three-quarters of resident tuition. Olga was selected for the award based on academic strength and community involvement.

Two Hazen High School juniors, Briana Alzola and Ryan Schindler, have been chosen to receive a Crimson Regents Scholarship as part of the Washington State University Regents Scholars program. The University grants these awards only to a select group of the finest and most promising high school scholars in the state. The Regents Scholars Program recognizes exceptional students and keeps them in the state of Washington for their college education.

- Lindbergh High School staff are working with the Writers InThe Schools (WITS) program to bring working writers into the classroom to work with students. The school’s resident writer is Scott Driscoll, a Seattle-based non-fiction writer and

university instructor. Scott is working with language arts teacher Taryn Stermer to design two projects linked to the curriculum. Earlier this month, through the WITS program, Pulitzer Prize nominated author Hu Jin visited Lindbergh to spend an hour with students. Mr. Jin, whose book "Waiting" won the National Book Award, is an internationally acclaimed author.

- Hazen High School is hosting an exhibit in tribute to Northwest minority pioneers. The exhibit showcases the unique historical contributions of early minority pioneers in the states of Washington, Oregon and Idaho. The exhibit includes the Northwest Black Pioneers, Reflections of Seattle's Chinese Americans: The First 100 Years, and Latino Pioneers of the Northwest. The exhibit was organized by a group of community volunteers in cooperation with Macy's. It is located in the auditorium foyer and will be on display through October 28th.
- About 1,500 students throughout the district have a new winter coat thanks to Renton Rotary and Project Warm. Last Saturday, Rotarians welcomed the students to the Renton High School cafeteria, allowing students to pick the style and color of winter coat they liked best. Rotarians increased the number of coats available from last year by 300 percent. Family liaisons from Communities In Schools of Renton ensured that students in need had a chance to receive a warm winter coat.
- Maplewood Heights Elementary School staff and parents have combined their efforts to promote healthier kids. Once a month, PE teacher Paul Giralmo and the school's PTA organize a Saturday Family Walk using a trail in the area. In addition, a group of 20 students are participating in the Seattle Marathon Association's Kid Marathon program. They are each spending time after school with parent support to accumulate 25 miles of walking or running by Saturday, November 26th when they will complete the final 1.2 miles of the marathon. This is the second year for this marathon program at Maplewood facilitated by Linda DeCamp, and

some returning participants are developing into faithful runners.

- Hazelwood Elementary School students participated in testing given last year by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Results from the test were recently released showing Washington students scored higher in nearly every category than the national average. When the results were announced, federal education officials said they were the best fourth-grade scores since the national testing program began in 1971. Achievement gaps between racial groups are narrowing nationally and on the state level, but the difference was particularly noticeable in Washington among black students, who nearly met the national average for all races in fourth-grade math and reading and significantly bypassed the national average for black students. Reading scores for all of Washington's ethnic groups in fourth grade beat their national averages.
- Kennydale Elementary School recently held a Family Fun Math Night that drew participation of 110 Kennydale students and about 90 parents. Sponsored by the Kennydale PTA, the event featured 11 stations of fun math activities and games such as pantomimes, probability pigs, estimating jar contest and math bingo. The highlight of the event was that each of these stations was run by a Kennydale student volunteer that had applied for the position of Math Night game teacher. These students spent time prior to the event learning their stations and really rose to the occasion showing their leadership skills and willingness to serve others.

RECESS

At 7:12 p.m. a 10-minute recess was called so the Board and audience could enjoy the delicious treats prepared by the Culinary Arts students. The meeting reconvened at 7:25 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS A-I w/addendum Approved

By motion from Talley and second by Desmarais, the Board approved the following consent agenda, Items A-I with addendum. Vote 5-0.

- A. Minutes
 - 1. Minutes of the October 12, 2005 Regular Meeting

- B. Warrants
 - 1. Capital Projects Fund
Nos. 203457-203499 inclusive - \$548,851.06
 - 2. General Fund
Nos. 150731-150762 inclusive - \$43,636.23
Nos. 150763-150947 inclusive - \$169,327.82
Nos. 150948-151140 inclusive - \$312,037.42
 - 3. Associated Student Body Fund
Nos. 425950-425992 inclusive - \$30,351.51
Nos. 425993-426062 inclusive - \$80,372.56

- C. Personnel Exhibits
(Employment with the District will be conditional upon the District's receipt of a criminal conviction history record that is clear of any convictions, adjudications, protective orders, final decisions, or criminal charges in accordance with Washington State law.)

- D. Staff Travel
 - 1. Celeste Brady, Leah Gipe, Jennifer Stein, Robert Conway, Alicia Allton and Katerina Terechina to SIOP Reading Model Training in Long Beach, CA, December 1-3, 2005
 - 2. **Andrew Lumpe to TNE Learning Network Conference in Chicago, Illinois, November 14-15, 2005 (addendum)**

- E. Student Travel
 - 1. Renton High School Life Management Students to Union Gospel Mission, Seattle, WA, October 27, 2005

- F. Change Orders
 - 1. Change Order No. 2 Relating to Kennydale Elementary School Replacement Project; Wick Constructors - \$12,261.39
 - 2. Change Order Nos. 1 and 2 Relating to the Lindbergh High School Domestic Water Pipe Restoration Project; Auburn Mechanical, Inc. - \$38,283.00

- G. Acceptance of Project Completion
 - 1. MDF/IDF Air Conditioning Upgrades at High Schools and Middle Schools; Crescent Sheet Metal - \$270,157.96
 - 2. MDF/IDF Air Conditioning & UPS Power at 9 Elementary Schools; D. K. Systems - \$184,960.00

- H. Award of Bid to Merlino Brothers, LLC for the Hazen High School Portable Classroom Site Improvements

- I. Donations
 - 1. \$500.00 from Renton Community Foundation – Beyond the Basics for the Hazen Library
 - 2. Ink Pens (valued at \$3,000.00) from Seattle Specialties for all School Locations
 - 3. \$20.00 from John Caldwell for McKnight Middle School Clubs
 - 4. \$75.00 from J.B. McHugh Construction, Inc. for the Lindbergh High School Golf Team
 - 5. \$50.00 from Washington Mutual Matching Gift Program (Allison Lee) for Hazen Music Program
 - 6. 17” Color Monitor w/Power Cord to the Career & Life Skills Dept. from William Tozier
 - 7. Make-up for the Renton High School Drama Club (valued at \$800.00) from Pat Adderson and Roberta Williamson
 - 8. Trophy Parts and Computer from Northwest Awards & Ribbons to Nelsen Middle School Woodshop/Tech Ed Classes
 - 9. \$1,000.00 from the Highlands PTA for the Highlands Library
 - 10. 125 T-shirts (valued at \$875.00) from Jostens to the Link Crew at Hazen High School

**CALL FOR CORRESPONDENCE
AND DELEGATIONS
FROM THE FLOOR**

Various representatives from the Samoan-Pacific Islanders Association (SPIA) spoke on behalf of the growing population of Pacific Islander students immigrating to the Pacific Northwest. They shared their concern with problems of language and cultural barriers from their group and English speaking students and teachers. The SPIA representatives submitted a proposed contract for the Board to consider which would create an

intervention/prevention program for Pacific Islander students in the community. Dr. Gibbons agreed to take the first step in coordinating accurate identification of the Pacific Islander students. She will respond to SPIA with further actions.

**KINDERGARTEN READING
PROGRAM**

Approved – Final Reading

By motion from Maxwell and second by Desmarais, the Kindergarten Reading Program was approved for the final reading. Vote 5-0.

**I-728 REPORT ON
2004-2005**

Assistant Superintendent Fantasia indicated under Initiative 728 each school district is required to provide an annual public accounting of the I-728 funds detailing how they were used. The expenditures of over \$3.1 million for 2004-05 were focused on:

K-4 Class Size Reduction

She indicated 75% of the funds were utilized to hire 20.654 FTE classroom teachers to reduce class sizes in grades K-4 (27 teachers). The emphasis was on the primary grades, most teachers were hired for first or second grade. Additionally, instructional materials were purchased to support instructional settings.

5-12 Class Size Reduction

14.75 FTE classroom teachers were hired to reduce class sizes in grades 5-12. Two instructional aides were hired and instructional materials were purchased.

Extended Learning Opportunities for Students

Summer school support was provided to students K-12. There were 183 elementary students supported by tuition reduced summer school program with transportation. Almost 400 secondary students attended a tuition reduced fee summer school. Thirteen schools provided after-school activities focused on the Essential Academic Learning Requirements.

Professional Development for Educators

Staff development program offerings included credit courses, workshops, conferences, seminars and job-alike opportunities for both certificated and paraprofessionals. Buildings used I-728 funds to develop and implement portions of their Comprehensive School Improvement Plans. Additionally, a series of presenters provided professional development training on diversity and closing the achievement gap. Over 1,303 teachers and staff participated in professional development activities.

WEST HILL BOUNDARY
ADJUSTMENTS

Superintendent Gibbons reviewed documents that were provided to the Board earlier. During the last year and a half, several separate, but linked, studies have been done to plan for the future of student housing needs in the Renton School District. Through the work of the Comprehensive Boundary Review Task Force and the Enrollment Review Committee, a set of recommendations was formulated and approved by the Board.

Unfortunately, the fall 2005 enrollment patterns seem to be shifting from previous years. While the overall district enrollment projections were highly accurate, the growth centers and profile of students appears to be changing. Growth in the Renton and Lindbergh High School services areas and decline in the Hazen High School service area is appearing as a new pattern.

In light of the potential enrollment increase coming from the Valley View Apartment complex to Campbell Hill and because of the apparently shifting district-wide enrollment patterns, staff requests the Board to:

Postpone the Renton High School service area boundary change for one year until the fall of 2007. By motion from Talley and second by Desmarais, the Board approved this action. Vote 4-1-0 with Merrill voting "nay." Merrill stated he felt a study session should be conducted prior to Board action.

In addition, the circumstances outlined above drive a companion Board request:

Postpone any decision about the K-2, 3-5 partner school model for Campbell Hill and Lakeridge, along with the placement of Bryn Mawr Kindergarten students at their home school, for one year until the fall of 2007. By motion from Talley and second by Maxwell, the Board approved this action. Vote 4-1-0 with Merrill voting “nay.”

A third request relates to Honey Dew:

Postpone the reopening of Honey Dew Elementary School for one year until the fall of 2007. By motion from Talley and second by Desmarais, the Board approved this action. Vote 4-1-0 with Merrill voting “nay.”

Maxwell stated she felt it was a good idea to step back and watch the enrollment trends and to save costs on refurbishing Honey Dew when there are not students in the building.

The Board discussed several dates to hold a study session to gather Board thoughts on future facilities considerations. A firm date was not set.

ADDITIONAL DELEGATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

There were no additional delegations from the floor.

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

Talley mentored at McKnight and Kennydale and attended a Chamber Blue Ribbon Committee meeting. He joined the superintendent to site visits at Black River High School and Maplewood Heights and joined the Appreciation Patrol at Hazen High School. He was present at a Public Safety meeting and a self esteem program at McKnight Program entitled “Powerful to Be Me.” He was also honored as the Citizen of the Year at the Chamber banquet.

Desmarais went to site visits with the superintendent to Hazelwood and Maplewood Heights, weekly mentoring at Nelsen and many Lindbergh High School parent meetings and football games.

Poff attended the Citizen of the Year Banquet and mentored at Talbot Hill.

Maxwell attended the Citizen of the Year banquet and joined the superintendent on site visits to Renton Park, Hazelwood and Lakeridge. She was present at a Chamber Blue Ribbon Committee meeting and a Kennydale Neighborhood Association meeting. She participated in the Chamber Business Expo and a Renton Area Youth Services (RAYS) auction. She also attended a King County Sexual Assault Resource Center breakfast meeting.

Merrill visited Highlands Elementary.

Superintendent Gibbons shared recent articles and stories regarding Renton Rotary's Project Warm which provided coats to 1,500 students. She attended the WASA Metro New Administrator social which was a great success. She also spoke at the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center breakfast meeting. Dr. Gibbons congratulated Board member Maxwell on her appointment to serve on the Renton Chamber of Commerce Board.

RECESS

At 8:30 p.m. a recess was called for five minutes to discuss personnel matters with no action following.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, at 8:38 p.m. Desmarais moved and Maxwell seconded to adjourn the executive session and regular meeting of the Board. Unanimous vote.

The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for November 16, 2005 at the Kohlwes Education Center.

Secretary	President
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