

MINUTES  
Renton School District  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS – REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, August 11, 2004  
Kohlwes Education Center, 7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Marcie Maxwell. The Board and audience recited the pledge of allegiance to the flag. President Maxwell 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:

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

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

MEMBER EXCUSED:

David Merrill

NEW ADMINISTRATOR  
INTRODUCTIONS

Assistant Superintendent Kay Hermann introduced Rebecca Nelson-Schlossstein, Assistant Principal Nelsen Middle School and Curriculum Director, Andrew Lumpe. Ms. Nelson-Schlossstein has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Special Education and has been a teacher at Nelsen Middle School for the last seven years. Dr. Lumpe most recently was a professor at Southern Illinois University and was a school board president for four years. Ms. Hermann and the Board of Directors welcomed the new administrators.

“GOOD NEWS”  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

- Jo Weiss, parent of recent Hazen High School graduate Krista Weiss, wrote a letter this week to Superintendent Dolores Gibbons to thank her and all Hazen staff for the fantastic job they do in getting students ready for college and other careers. In the letter, Ms. Weiss said Krista will attend Indiana University beginning this fall. Before enrolling in the university, Krista took placement tests for

Advanced Placement and German courses. Thanks to her outstanding high school education, Krista's scores on those tests will allow her to enter third-year German classes as well as bypassing freshman English composition courses. Krista's college advisor stated during their meeting, "Where did you go to high school? You got a great education!"

- The American Red Cross Web site spotlights Lindbergh High School's efforts to teach students First Aid. The article highlighted health teacher Mary McConaghy's class that uses the Red Cross methods of teaching CPR techniques, how to recognize emergencies, and the best way to bandage and sling a victim. Students in the class are left confident they can help someone in need. Also as a result of the class, almost 20 students were certified in First Aid.
- Renton School District Transportation's website was among the top 10 selected by *School Transportation News* as one that epitomized the best school district transportation sites available. To make the list, sites had to exhibit excellent user interface, meaning transportation pages must be intuitively and prominently linked and seamlessly integrated into the main school district site. Sites also had to be aesthetically pleasing with simple, yet sharp graphics. The Transportation web site was considered to have a straightforward and easy-to-use presentation and load time was extremely fast.

CONSENT AGENDA  
ITEMS A-G w/addendum  
Approved

By motion of Poff and second by Desmarais, the Board approved the following consent agenda with addendum, Items A-G. The addendum included a recommendation to hire Mr. Ed Crow as Assistant Principal at Renton High School. Dr. Gibbons stated Mr. Crow is a graduate of the UW Danforth Program and taught at Rainier Beach High School. Vote 4-0.

A. Minutes

1. Minutes of the July 14, 2004 Regular Meeting

B. Warrants

1. Capital Projects Fund  
Nos. 202299-202347 inclusive - \$1,717,154.22

- Nos. 202348-202372 inclusive - \$1,609,562.38
- 2. General Fund
  - Nos. 138308-138312 inclusive - \$98,303.79
  - Nos. 138313-138564 inclusive - \$514,147.34
  - Nos. 138565-138717 inclusive - \$356,091.85
  - Nos. 138718-138846 inclusive - \$238,641.36
  - Payroll – July 30, 2004 - \$6,750,136.45
  - Nos. 444541-444956 inclusive - \$1,761,602.62
  - Direct Deposits - \$3,174,560.63
  - Unissued Warrants - \$1,813,973.20
  - Nos. 444080-444540 inclusive - \$1,726,942.63
- 3. Associated Student Body Fund
  - Nos. 423803-423817 inclusive - \$7,938.74
- 4. Private Purpose Trust
  - Nos. 700236-700244 inclusive - \$3,155.50
- C. Personnel Exhibits (a copy of which is attached as part of these minutes)
- D. Contracts and Agreements
  - 1. Agreements with Non Public Agencies for Education Services for 2004/2005
  - 2. Recommend approval of the salary and benefits for the Assistant/Associate Superintendents, Chief Technology Officer, Executive Directors, Directors and Classified Managers for the 2004-2005 school year.
- E. Authority to Declare Vehicle T230 as Surplus
- F. Approval of Appointment of Designated Official for AHERA (Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act).
- G. Change Orders
  - 1. Change Order No. 1, 2 and 3 Relating to Hazen High School Phase 3.A Renovation Project; Wick Constructors, Inc. - \$32,322.00

CALL FOR CORRESPONDENCE  
AND DELEGATIONS  
FROM THE FLOOR

There was no correspondence to be read or any delegations from the floor. Dr. Gibbons stated she had met with the South Pacific Islander community member who was present at an earlier board meeting. He may choose to address the Board again at a later date.

FUTURE FACILITIES PLANNING

UPDATE

Dr. Gibbons updated the Board on the progress of the future facilities planning. (A copy of the Future Facilities Planning Draft is attached to these minutes.) She indicated the main objectives considered include:

- Facilities for Student Needs
- Student Housing Based on Enrollment Utilization
- Long Term Technology Strategies
- Safety, Maintenance Practices
- Financial Management

She stated long-range thinking is imperative to successfully plan for future facilities. The overcrowding in the middle schools is a critical issue that needs to be addressed, along with possible additions of all-day kindergarten and preschool. The one-mile transportation guidelines need to be evaluated and timelines for action need to be set. Dr. Gibbons said the board will have the opportunity to review the recommended action plans in the fall. The sub-committees for the facility focus groups are still in the process of being formed, but the Comprehensive Boundary Review Committee has already begun their study.

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND  
UPDATE

Director Sheppard gave an early analysis of the 2004 WASL results in the test areas of reading and math.

He stated elementary is showing the greatest gains. There appears to be strong growth in both reading and math. An early study to see the actual growth while factoring in the changes to the cut scores indicates the elementary schools are showing substantial gains over last year's scores.

Math scores at the middle and high school level are continuing to be an area of concern. Scores are not increasing at a rate that will be needed to keep pace with the increased demands coming from both AYP and the Certificate of Academic Achievement requirements.

The district's alternative programs are facing increasing difficulty in meeting AYP as well.

Mr. Sheppard reiterated these figures are preliminary. OSPI is still working on the formulas before official results

can be announced. He will bring the board a final presentation this fall.

#### POTENTIAL REFUNDING OF 1996 BONDS

Assistant Superintendent Moore explained to the Board the district continues to look for a market for our 1996 and 1998 bonds. In order to determine when a bond is a good candidate for a refunding, the district must determine whether there is sufficient savings in reduced interest payments over the life of the bond. A comparison is done between the prior debt service (principal and interest payments), and the new payments based on the anticipated reduction in interest cost. The comparison then evaluates the savings over the remaining life of the bond and attaches a present value to the savings. As a benchmark, the Renton School District has established a percentage of savings threshold or at least 4% before a bond is considered a good candidate for refunding.

Based on current interest rates, the 1996 General Obligation Bonds qualify as an excellent candidate for refunding. The anticipated percentage of savings has been forecasted at 5.0% with a net present value savings of \$500,000 in reduced tax payments to taxpayers of the Renton School District.

Mr. Moore anticipates bringing a recommendation to approve the sale of the 1996 bonds to an upcoming Board meeting.

#### ADDITIONAL DELEGATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

There were no additional delegations from the floor.

#### INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

Dr. Gibbons shared updated photos of the construction site at the new Hazelwood Elementary. She circulated a Scholastic Magazine article that highlighted Talbot Hill's recent 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools of Distinction award and the Even Start annual report. The superintendent distributed a packet of materials that had been handed out at the administrative retreat to each of the Board members which reflects the progress the district has made in attempting to close the achievement gap. She requested the Board review the information and let the Superintendent's office know if there are particular programs they would like to include in Board reports for 2004-05.

Poff manned the Renton School District Renton River Days booth for a few hours and attended an I-884 organization meeting with the superintendent.

President Maxwell and the Board set the board dates for the 2004-05 school year.

Maxwell attended the Renton Pavilion Building grand opening and the Renton School District management retreat. She hosted a Rotary picnic and attended a Kenndale Neighborhood quarterly meeting. She participated in a 8<sup>th</sup> District Candidate's Forum and the Puget Sound Regional Economic Breakfast. She was also present at a Chamber Blue Ribbon Committee meeting.

Maxwell reminded the Board of the following activities:

- 40 Assets Program, August 23 @ Dimmitt
- Renton High School All Class Reunion on 9/23/04
- Hazen High School All Class Reunion on 10/1/04

President Maxwell distributed information on the upcoming primary election. She shared a Hazen High student contacted her and was soliciting used prom clothes in an effort to assist students in need. She complimented the student on her community involvement and care for others.

Desmarais worked in the district's Renton River Days booth.

Talley participated in the CISR Run for Kids, worked in the Renton River Days booth and marched in the Renton River Days parade "Men Against Domestic Violence." He attended the Renton River Days banquet and a RTCC meeting. Talley met with Mary Ellen Stone of King County Sexual Assault and was present at the Pavilion grand opening.

RECESS

At 8:10 p.m. a recess was called for 20 minutes for an executive session on personnel, legal and negotiation matters with no action following.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, at 8:36 p.m. Poff moved and Talley seconded to adjourn the executive session and the regular meeting of the Board. Unanimous vote. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for August 25, 2004 at the Kohlwes Education Center.

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Secretary

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President