

MINUTES  
Renton School District  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS – REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, March 24, 2004  
Bryn Mawr Elementary School, 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  
   David Merrill  
   Al Talley

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Principal Susan Mather welcomed the Board and audience to Bryn Mawr. A fifth grade student explained the Read to Feed program to the Board and audience. She stated Heifer International developed the Read to Feed program to promote literacy while giving students a way to help families in need. Heifer International provides a "living loan" of an animal, and the training to take care of it, to a family. The family "repays" the living loan by passing on one or more of their gift animal's offspring to another family in need.

Bryn Mawr students will support the program through a Reading Challenge. Students will read at home every night for 20 minutes. For every minute they read, they will be "earning" a penny to help "buy" an animal for a family. The students and staff are very excited about the reading challenge and the opportunity to provide assistance to families in need.

Teacher Erik Hanson presented his fifth grade students who performed a scene from "James and the Giant Peach." The students recently performed the production before parents and staff.

“GOOD NEWS”  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

- A Renton High School senior recently received the highest rating at the 2004 Washington Journalism Education Association competition. The competition is an annual invitational to high school journalists who compete on deadline and are judged by professionals in newspaper editing and publishing. The student is editor in chief of *The Talking Stick*, Renton High School’s student newspaper.
- A Hazen High School senior won first place for his beautiful, ingenious jewelry in the State High School Jewelry Competition sponsored by the Seattle Metals Guild. Judges of the competition said that they were very impressed with the conceptual approach and craftsmanship of the four pieces submitted by the student into the competition. Also at the event, Hazen art teacher Gary Grossman was recognized as the state’s Outstanding Jewelry Teacher. Their work is currently on display at Gallery One in Ellensburg.
- McKnight Middle School physical education teacher Joe Carchedi has won the Great Northwest District Middle School Physical Education Teacher of the Year award. The award is based on the candidate’s education, teaching style and background, and offered by the Washington Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. Joe will head to Chicago next April to represent the Northwest District in the National Middle School Physical Education Teacher of the Year competition.
- Twenty-one high school students have qualified to compete at the DECA International Career Development Conference to be held in May in Nashville, Tennessee. The students qualified for the national competition by placing at the recent DECA State Career Development Conference.

Hazen High School, 12 students  
Advisor, Ray McCabe

Lindbergh High School, 7 students  
Advisor, Don Bailey

Renton High School, 2 students,  
Advisor, Jeff Dowd

- Six district high school students have been awarded the 2004 Outstanding Junior award by St. Andrews Masonic Lodge in Renton. School counselors nominate high school juniors for the award. More than 30 students were nominated: 10 awards were given.

Renton High School Family and Consumer Sciences teacher Joe Bento was also named the 2004 Outstanding Educator award for his contributions to the success and growth of youth.

- Dimmitt Middle School students raised about \$625 for Pennies for Patients, a fundraiser for Leukemia Research. The money collected has come in the form of spare change from students and staff. The money will go directly to a patient in our area. Leukemia is the second leading cause of death of children in the United States.
- Dimmitt Middle School teachers are participating in McTeacher's Night at the McDonalds at 73 Rainier Ave. S. on March 25 from 4-7 p.m. Customers will receive a free book, a slice of apple pie and a chance to get their photograph taken while they get caught eating and reading. Dimmitt will receive twenty percent of the earnings for the night and use the profits for the school's reading program.
- Congratulations to Renton High School Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) members for their success at the recent regional competition. The students worked extremely hard and did really well. The state competition will be held in mid-April in Wenatchee.
- Children throughout the district recently received free dental work during Children's Free Dental Day. The program, offered by the Vendeland Dental Professionals, treated over 180 children with x-rays, check-ups, sealants and orthodontic referrals. The average age of children treated was 7-years-old. The treatments totaled more than \$27,000. The group, made up of four general dentists, will offer a

similar program for adults in November and for children again next year.

- Hazen High School seniors, along with help from music teacher Mary Beth Mayzek, organized a benefit concert for fellow student who died recently after a long and heroic battle with cancer. The student was a member of the school's orchestra, playing both violin and piano. He was admired for his talent and loved for his humor. All who knew him felt lucky to know such a generous human being. Students in the school's music program have gone to great lengths to put their considerable talents towards a good cause: Proceeds from the concert will go to The Fred Hutchison Cancer Research Center.
- Renton High School teachers Dutch Day and Jeff Heft recently registered more than 95 students as new voters. The students will all be 18 years-old by Election Day in November: Just in time for the presidential elections on November 2.
- Staff in the Personnel Department have been instrumental in organizing and managing the annual conference for the state's Personnel Association currently underway in Seattle. The group was responsible for overseeing registration, handouts, food, decorations and goodie bags for the hundreds of participants expected to attend the conference.

## RECESS

At 7:29 p.m. a recess was called for 10 minutes to allow the Board, guests and students to visit. The meeting reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

## CONSENT AGENDA

### ITEMS A-J

Approved

By motion of Poff and second by Desmarais, the Board approved the following consent agenda, Items A-J, as presented. Unanimous vote.

#### A. Minutes

1. Minutes of the March 10, 2004 Regular Meeting

#### B. Warrants

1. Capital Projects Fund  
Nos. 202046-202049 inclusive - \$206,800.00

- Nos. 202050-202080 inclusive - \$607,257.33
- 2. General Fund
  - Nos.134420-134600 inclusive - \$173,045.47
  - Nos.134601-134835 inclusive - \$451,969.25
- 3. Associated Student Body Fund
  - Nos. 422787-422815 inclusive - \$16,660.28
  - Nos. 422816-422869 inclusive - \$40,350.84
  - Nos. 422871-422918 inclusive - \$56,061.00
- 4. Private Purpose Trust
  - Nos. 700205-700208 inclusive - \$665.00
- 5. Trust
  - Electronic transfer for Trust Flex - \$702.01
  - Electronic transfer for Hazen Script - \$1,697.63
- C. Personnel Exhibits as presented, a copy of which is attached as a part of these minutes.
- D. Staff/Student Travel
  - 1. Michael Antley and Lindbergh Students to National Close-Up Program in Washington, D.C.
  - 2. Dave Black, Matt Wiese and McKnight Middle School students to Westport, WA
  - 3. McKnight Students to Bonney Lake's Rope Course
- E. Contracts and Agreements
  - 1. Contract DSHS Interlocal Agreement for School-Based Medicaid Administrative Match Program
  - 2. Agreement with Central Washington University for Purpose of Making Student Teacher and Other Field Experience Placements
- F. Approval to Increase Copy Paper Price
- G. Resolution 15-03/04 Delegating Authority to WIAA
- H. Approval of Easement with Skyway Water and Sewer District at Dimmitt Middle School
- I. Change Order No. 12 Relating to Lindbergh High School Modernization Project; G. C. Finn Construction Co. - \$31,137.00
- J. Acceptance of Donations

1. \$86.16 from Target to Maplewood Heights Elementary School to Support Activities or Purchase Materials
2. \$144.35 to Lindbergh High School Take Charge of Education Program from Target
3. Two Books from Michelle Lyons for the H.O.M.E. Program Library
4. Books for the H.O.M.E. Program Library from Anping Tsao
5. \$250.00 from the Lindbergh High School Booster Club to the Lindbergh Girls Track Team
6. \$200.00 from Richard Pentuk to the Hazen High School Library
7. \$450.00 from the Hazen High School PTSA to Janice Faris in the Library
8. PTSA grant for \$200.00 to Tasha Schoeder Hazen High School Foreign Language Teacher
9. \$2,000.00 from Bryn Mawr PTA to the Bryn Mawr Library
10. 18 Books from Janet Bredl (estimated value \$70.00) to the McKnight Library
11. Furniture Donation from Lithia Dodge/Chrysler of Renton (estimated value \$2,750.00):
  - a. 67 assorted chairs
  - b. 21 assorted tables
  - c. 13 assorted file cabinets
  - d. 3 bookcases, 6 desks
  - e. 2 carts
12. Donations from Brian Hartman to Lindbergh High School:
  - a. \$2,500.00 to the General ASB Fund
  - b. \$1,500.00 to the General Fund for the Fine Arts Program
  - c. \$1,500.00 to the Lindbergh Booster Club
13. \$175.00 from the Lindbergh High School Boosters to the Dance Squad
14. \$2,400.00 from the Benson Hill PTA to Benson Hill for Expenses of the Fifth Grade Camp Seymour Trip
15. Miscellaneous Items from the Benson Hill PTA to Benson Hill Elementary (Valued at \$1,173.56)
16. Dental Services on Children's Free Dental Day from Vendeland Dental Professionals (approximate value \$9,050.00)

CALL FOR CORRESPONDENCE  
AND DELEGATIONS  
FROM THE FLOOR

Community member Don Henry addressed the Board regarding the playfield design at Bryn Mawr. Since there is not enough staff to supervise the lower area of the playground, students are not allowed to play in that vicinity. He encouraged future school building plans have a different design which will utilize the grounds more effectively.

Enrollment Review Committee community member Jeff Brendt thanked Louis Pappas and the principals for their work and guidance on the ERC team. He expressed his desire that McKnight and Hazen be enlarged so students would not have to move to schools further away because of exceeding building capacity.

Diane Kearney, Enrollment Review Committee community member, also thanked Mr. Pappas for his direction on the ERC. She feels the district should address imposing impact fees since we are so overcrowded in certain areas. Dr. Gibbons informed the Board and audience that administration has considered impact fees and the topic will be revisited.

POLICY NO.3132,  
CHILDREN OF SCHOOL  
EMPLOYEES  
Approved - Final Reading

By motion of Poff and second by Talley, Policy 3132 was approved for final reading. Unanimous vote.

ACCEPTANCE OF  
ENROLLMENT REVIEW  
COMMITTEE REPORT  
2003-2004  
Approved

Executive Director Pappas reviewed the ERC scope of work for 2003-2004. This year's scope included: enrollment projections for 2004-2005, school building capacity, portable classroom needs, middle school building utilization patterns and future needs on I-728 potential classroom needs.

Mr. Pappas stated enrollment projections appear reasonable and all elementary schools, with the exception of Highlands, have adequate instructional space for their projected enrollments. He noted several schools need portables to house new

students or to replace old portables. All three middle schools are making appropriate use of available classrooms, although McKnight will continue to have “roving” teachers even with the addition of four portable classrooms.

The committee had three recommendations:

1. Support implementation of the District proposal presented to the ERC regarding portables;
2. A plan for the housing of McKnight students must be determined and implemented in the immediate future. This solution must fit with the recommended Comprehensive Boundary Review (see Recommendation #3); and
3. During the 2004-2005 school year undertake a Comprehensive Boundary review.

The complete recommendation is attached as part of these minutes. By motion from Poff and second by Desmarais, the Board unanimously accepted the 2003-2004 Enrollment Review Committee report.

#### 2003-2004 SUPERINTENDENT PERFORMANCE REVIEW

President Maxwell stated the Board of Directors had met and started discussion and work on the superintendent’s performance evaluation. They will meet again on April 6, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. to complete the review.

#### REPORT ON MENTOR PROGRAM/RECRUITMENT

Elementary Peer Mentor Nancy Osborn gave a brief history of the Peer Mentor Program. The program provides support and direction to first year teachers. New teacher Andrea Wieggers shared her personal experiences in the classroom and her enthusiastic support of the Peer Mentor Program. The novice teachers share ideas at their monthly meetings and connect with other district personnel.

Dianna Coile, curriculum director, stated the Peer Mentor Program encourages teachers to get involved in the Professional Certification process their second year of teaching (teachers have five years to complete). Renton School District and Seattle Pacific University maintain a partnership to assist teachers in earning their professional certification that provides

low tuition cost and district support for the teachers. She explained how the professional certification process model has changed and teachers must provide several portfolio products during the process. The new model emphasizes self-reflection and steps for professional growth which drives for high school performance.

HIGH SCHOOL  
COURSE OFFERINGS/  
REGISTRATION  
BOOK

Executive Director Pappas and Assistant Superintendent Fantasia reviewed the newly revised high school registration booklet. The high school booklet functions as a planning guide for students for high school and beyond. There was a lot of discussion between principals, department heads and curriculum directors preparing the new material. The main changes in the course offerings are:

- Increased consistency across subject areas in naming conventions
- Designation for grade level offerings
- Review of and reduction in teacher or department permission
- Review and reduction in grade requirements for sequential courses

Dr. Fantasia stated the driving force behind the revisions in the registration booklet was the desire for all students to succeed. She indicated future discussions will include review of honors and advanced placement courses.

RESOLUTION 16-03/04  
REFUNDING OF BONDS  
Approved

Assistant Superintendent Rich Moore and district financial advisor, Al Dashen, updated the Board regarding potential refunding of the Renton School District 1996 Unlimited Tax General Obligation Bonds. They explained a refunding is very similar to refinancing a home mortgage. Bonds are sold with an average value of interest over the life of the bonds. The bonds are sold often with an anticipated payment cycle of 20 years. The investors who purchase bonds anticipate interest earnings on bond principal over the life of the bonds. Similar to home mortgages, when investment rates drop below the face value of the bonds, it becomes advantageous to refund the bonds

and reissue them at a lower rate. Mr. Dashen indicated they were watching the bond market closely to determine the most beneficial date to sell the bonds.

The second part of Mr. Moore's proposal to the Board is approval of Resolution 16-03/04 which is required to apply to be part of the State Guarantee Plan. The state plan makes bonds very marketable because the bonds are insured and they receive a higher bond rating.

By motion from Talley and second by Poff, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 16-03/04 Refunding of Bonds.

#### INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

Dr. Gibbons attended a Lindbergh High School parent meeting and updated them on education reform and No Child Left Behind laws. She also attended a Rotary weekend training in preparation of her role as president of Renton Rotary next year.

President Maxwell was present at the Hazen World Culture celebration and a recent Maplewood Heights auction. She attended the Renton City Council meeting and participated in granting the Renton High School in Excellence awards to students. She visited the Talbot Hill Microsociety marketplace and the Lindbergh High PTA meeting reviewing graduation requirements. President Maxwell attended a Blue Ribbon Panel meeting with the Chamber and a Budget Advisory Committee meeting.

Desmarais attended the first Lindbergh track meet, her weekly mentoring and a Budget Advisory Committee meeting. She also presented a trophy at a recent soccer Commissioner's Cup event.

Talley mentored at Kennydale and McKnight and attended the Maplewood Heights auction. He was present at the Chamber Blue Ribbon Committee meeting and had a site visit to Campbell Hill with Communities in Schools of Renton.

#### RECESS

At 9:10p.m. a recess was called for 20 minutes for an executive session on property negotiations and personnel with no action following.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, at 9:35 p.m. Desmarais moved and Poff seconded to adjourn the executive session and the regular meeting of the Board. Unanimous vote. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled April 7, 2004 at the Kohlwes Education Center.

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Secretary

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President

Note: Board minutes are edited for Web publication. Patrons wishing official minutes may contact the Superintendent's Office: (425) 204-2340.