

MINUTES

Renton School District BOARD OF DIRECTORS – REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, April 28, 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
 David Merrill
 Al Talley

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

INTRODUCTIONS

President Maxwell welcomed the Hazen High students and parents this evening. She introduced Representative Fred Jarrett from the 41st Legislative District who was also in attendance. Representative Zack Hudgins, 11th Legislative District, arrived shortly thereafter.

SPECIAL PROCLAMATIONS

President Maxwell read a proclamation for Public Schools Volunteer Week, April 18-24, 2004.

President Maxwell also read a proclamation for Teacher Appreciation Week, May 2-8, 2004.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Hazen High School Principal Rick Stubrud presented 12 outstanding seniors for the class of 2003-2004: The students introduced their parent(s) and one of the most influential teachers in their lives. The Board congratulated the seniors and wished them success in their future endeavors. Principal Stubrud

emphasized the students were wonderful role models and an asset to the school and community.

“GOOD NEWS”
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

- A senior at Hazen High School is a winner of a 2004 National Merit Scholarship. She will receive a corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship award from Boeing. Scholarships are offered to students with the strongest combination of academic skills, extracurricular accomplishments and potential for success in college. They are selected from students who advanced to the finalist level in the National Merit Scholarship competition and present an outstanding academic record, are endorsed by their school principal and write an essay.
- McKnight Middle School head custodian, Russell McPeak, recently aided a student who was choking during lunch period. Russell recognized that the student was having trouble breathing and immediately began performing the Heimlich Maneuver to dislodge the food from the student’s windpipe. After catching his breath, the student was okay.
- The Highlands Elementary School community, under the leadership of fourth-grade teacher Cindie Weldon and the student council, recently held a very successful food drive for Highland’s families. In just three weeks, the school collected enough food for 27 families to enjoy three meals a day, for more than a week. They even collected enough to donate to local food banks. Students and families at Highlands gave from the heart to help others in their community.
- Lindbergh High School students recently nominated teachers to be honored at an upcoming Teacher Appreciation Evening at the Renton Stake Chapel of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. The teachers were selected because of the significant, positive influence they have on student’s lives. The teachers to be honored are Kara

Bradford, Geoff Newing, Jeff Rettman, Angie Reed, Linda Sismour, and Ken Storkson,

- Talbot Hill Elementary School has been named a finalist in the first annual 21st Century Schools of Distinction Award, offered by the Intel Corporation, Scholastic Administrator Magazine and the Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence Foundation. More than 1,250 applications were received for the new award program that honors schools for implementing innovative programs that support positive educational for children. This program highlights successes of the nation's best schools and celebrates their use of technology, the benefits of strong teamwork and their development of excellent classroom teachers.

Talbot, one of only 56 schools selected, was chosen in the Innovative Use of Technology category for implementing innovative uses of technology among students, teachers, administrators and/or parents. Two winners will be named in each category at a black-tie gala on June 21 in New Orleans during the National Educational Computer Conference (NECC). The winning schools will each receive \$10,000. In addition to the categories listed above, two schools will be honored with a "Best of the Best" award and will each receive \$25,000.

- Congratulations to students in the Renton High School Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) program for their great work at the recent FCCLA State Leadership Conference. Two students received a gold rating for their Café Express Entrepreneurship project and are runner-ups for the National Leadership Conference in Chicago this summer. Two students also received a silver rating on their Interpersonal Communications Project. Both groups represented Renton High, and the district extremely well.

RECESS

At 7:57 p.m. a recess was called for 10 minutes to congratulate the Hazen seniors and their parents and to enjoy refreshments. The meeting reconvened at 8:13 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

ITEMS A-J

Approved

By motion of Merrill and second by Poff, the Board approved the following consent agenda, Items A-I, with addendum. A correction was noted on the agenda, D.1 Staff Travel, which should read Shannon Henry not Shannon Harvey. Unanimous vote.

A. Minutes

1. Minutes of the April 7, 2004 Regular Meeting
2. Minutes of the April 7, 2004 Board Study Session

B. Warrants

1. Capital Projects Fund
Nos. 202101-202129 inclusive - \$473,736.28
2. General Fund
Nos.135251-135502 inclusive - \$222,468.40
Nos.135503-135720 inclusive - \$414,331.54
Nos.135721-135934 inclusive - \$187,616.31
3. Associated Student Body Fund
Nos. 423028-423082 inclusive - \$34,482.43
Nos. 423083-423124 inclusive - \$32,358.06
Nos. 423125-423155 inclusive - \$20,536.35
4. Private Purpose Trust
Nos. 700209-700220 inclusive - \$2,515.42
5. Trust
Electronic transfer for Trust Flex - \$2,501.57
Electronic transfer for Trust Flex - \$710.29
Electronic transfer for Hazen Script - \$1,364.64

C. Personnel Exhibits as presented, a copy of which is attached as a part of these minutes.

D. Staff/Student Travel

1. Shannon Henry to Link Crew Training in Temecula, CA, May 11-14, 2004
2. Jane Freer, Carol Toy, Bill Riggs, Sheryl Dunton and Linda Butts to MicroSociety Schools Summer Training Conference in St. Petersburg, FL, July 18-21, 2004

E. Student Travel

1. Tiffany Park Second Graders to Carkeek Park on June 4, 2004
2. Renton High School Access Students to Central Washington University in Ellensburg, WA on May 21, 2004
3. Hazelwood Elementary Fifth Graders to Factoria Cinemas on June 7, 2004

F. Site Lease Agreement with UPN Television Stations for Lease Space at Nelsen Middle School for Alternative Transmission Site

G. Approval of June 15, 2005 for Senior Graduation Date for the 2004-2005 School Year

H. Acceptance of Commissioning Report with Keith Welsh Associates for the Highlands Elementary Rebuild

I. Acceptance of Constructability Reports

1. Benson Hill Elementary – LRC Consultants
2. Hazelwood Elementary – Nixon Consulting International

J. Acceptance of Donations

1. Donations for Renton Invitational Track Meet
 - a. \$100.00 from Renton Highland Self Storage
 - b. \$100.00 from. GSG Corporation/Diamond Lil's
 - c. \$100.00 from Neil Hick, Jr.
 - d. \$100.00 from C.N. Sports LLC dba Foot Zone
2. Summer School – Middle School Programs Donations
 - a. \$50.00 from Law Offices of Frank V. Davidson
 - b. \$400.00 from First Savings Bank of Renton
 - c. \$400.00 from Iola Nelson, CPA
3. Donations of Books to McKnight Middle School Library
 - a. 12 books from Jeanine Patterson family (valued at \$60.00)

- b. 21 books from Janet Bredl (valued at \$175.00)
4. \$200.00 from Wells Fargo Foundation Educational Matching Gift Program to the Hazen Music Department
5. \$932.54 from the Maplewood Heights PTA to the Maplewood Heights Library
6. \$1,000.00 from Greg Taylor to McKnight Middle School for their "Dynamic Empowerment for Building Bridges through Diversity" project through the Circle of Giving Event
 7. \$100.00 Safeway card from the Friendly Kitchen to a Bryn Mawr family
 8. \$30.00 Safeway card from Highlands Lion Club to the Health Services Program
 9. \$5,500.00 from Benson Hill PTA to Benson Hill Elementary for Field Trips
 10. \$2,175.00 from the Maplewood Heights PTA to Maplewood Heights ASB for the Purchase of Instruments
 11. Set of Encyclopedias (Valued at \$250.00) from Martina Dalton to Hazelwood Elementary

CALL FOR CORRESPONDENCE
AND DELEGATIONS
FROM THE FLOOR

There was no correspondence or delegations from the floor.

SUPERINTENDENT'S
CONTRACT FOR
2004-2005
Approved

President Maxwell met with the superintendent as authorized by the Board. Maxwell stated she was pleased the superintendent would continue to work at the Renton School District and thanked her for her wonderful work with staff, students and the community. By motion from Poff and second by Talley, the superintendent's one-year only contract for 2004-2005 was unanimously approved.

UPDATE ON FACILITIES
PLANNING

Dr. Gibbons distributed handouts explaining the intensity of the District's mission to invite businesses, community members, staff and students to give their input on planning for the future facilities use of the

District. Invitations have been mailed to community groups and local organizations, as well as an open invitation published in the local newspaper, to attend one of the many focus group sessions being presented by the District.

Professional forecast groups will also help develop the data needed to formulate the District's needs for the future.

PERFORMANCE AUDIT
PERSONNEL SERVICES
DEPT. EXECUTIVE
SUMMARY

Sherrie Evans, Education Management Solutions, stated EMS specializes in human resource audits for school districts and organizations all over the country. The focus of the audit is to compare personnel operations with best practices. They conducted extensive interviews, sent out surveys and observed staff for over five months with the areas of review including: organizational structure, recruitment and selection, substitute and employment support services, negotiations and employee relations, payroll process and employee benefits, document and records management and uses of technology. She shared that the surveys received back reflected Renton School District staff feel the Personnel Dept. is very customer-oriented and guidance is valued during employee related issues.

The findings and recommendations of the audit encouraged clearly defined job responsibilities that would produce more efficient workflow with less duplication between departments. Internal and external communication should be clarified and improved and an emphasis on staff cohesiveness can be strengthened. (A complete copy of the report is attached to these minutes.)

Ms. Evans thanked the Personnel Services Department for its openness and cooperation during the audit. Dr. Gibbons stated the recommendations incorporate a 2-5 year work plan that includes developing an action plan. Vice President Poff asked to see the prioritization on the action plan at a later date.

CURRICULA ADOPTION
7TH GRADE WORLD
GEOGRAPHY AND CULTURES

Approved – 1ST Reading

Curriculum Director Ed Sheppard commented the new curriculum is more aligned with state mandates and takes advantage of bond technology dollars as the course is available on-line. He stated the adoption committee worked with students to receive input. By motion from Poff and second by Desmarais, the Board unanimously approved the adoption of the 7th grade World Geography and Cultures curriculum for the first reading.

GRADUATION ISSUES:
REQUIREMENTS AND
RATE GOALS

Approved

Executive Director Pappas and the secondary principals reviewed the federal and state graduation requirements. They indicated Renton School District has implemented new high school graduation requirements and graduation rate goals this last year. One of the goals for the classes of 2004-2013 is an annual one percent increase from the 2003 graduation rate or 73 percent, whichever is lower. Additionally, a goal for the class of 2014, is a graduation rate of 85% for each of the nine groups of students noted in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. The attributes to improve graduation rates were reviewed, as well as the characteristics of effective prevention and recovery programs. Each secondary school has submitted individual building goals to increase graduation rates as required by the state A+ Commission.

The current high school requirements include:

- 10th grade WASL*
- Culminating project
- High School Plus (Beyond) Education Plan
- Senior Academic Core/Total Credits

*Includes Certificate of Academic Achievement and Certificate of Individual Achievement

Mr. Pappas indicated recent legislation has approved up to four retakes of the WASL. Director Poff questioned the cost of retakes and if they were funded by the state (they are not). After motion by Talley and second by Poff, the individual secondary school building graduation rate goals were unanimously approved by the Board.

**I-728 USE PLANS
FOR 2004-2005**

Approved

Dr. Fantasia stated the I-728 Committee met four times this year with the goal of determining the use of I-728 funds for 2004-2005. She stated that basically the funds were a rollover of this year's plan with the exception of a \$375,000 contingency plan which will be reviewed in January and March.

The funds are broken down as follows:

- 82% staffing support
- 5% site plans
- 11% K-12 educational support

By motion from Desmarais and second by Poff, the I-728 use plans for 2004-2005 were unanimous approved.

**ADDITIONAL DELEGATIONS
FROM THE FLOOR**

Superintendent Gibbons introduced Fred Row, interim Executive Director of Special Education and gave his professional background.

**INFORMATION AND
PROPOSALS**

Dr. Gibbons had the opportunity to attend the Masonic Outstanding Juniors celebration recently. President Maxwell and the superintendent made a presentation to the Renton City Council regarding issues in the District.

Director Merrill attended a RTCC meeting and a Lindbergh High School PTA meeting.

Vice President Poff attended a Renton Community Foundation meeting and has been working on their website.

President Maxwell was present with the superintendent for the presentation to the Renton City Council. She also attended Highlands Community Association and Kennydale Neighborhood Association meetings, as well as a Renton City Council meeting. Maxwell participated in a Renton Chamber of Commerce meeting where U.S. Congressman Adam Smith was a guest.

Desmarais participated on the Cascade principal interview team and attended PTA meetings at Lindbergh and Nelsen and a PTA Council meeting. She also went to her weekly mentoring.

Talley mentored at Kennydale and McKnight, and attended a RTCC meeting and a Diversity Advisory Committee meeting.

RECESS

At 10:10 p.m. a recess was called for 30 minutes for an executive session on negotiations, legal and property matters with no action following.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, at 10:52 p.m. Poff moved and Desmarais 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 May 12, 2004 at the Kohlwes Education Center.

Secretary

President

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