

MINUTES  
RENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS – REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, June 9, 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

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS            Black River principal intern Mike Williams introduced the six outstanding seniors from Black River High School for 2003-2004. The students and their advisors shared some of the hardships they have had to overcome to reach this important goal in their lives.

Director Jay Leviton presented the outstanding seniors for Sartori Education Center. The students expressed their gratitude that the Renton School District offers alternative programs for students to succeed. The Board of Directors congratulated all the students and their parents for their accomplishments and wished them luck in their future endeavors.

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

- A Lindbergh High School senior won a college-sponsored Merit Scholarship from Seattle Pacific University. Colleges select winners from among finalists in the National Merit Scholarship competition who plan on attending their school. College-sponsored awards range from \$500 to \$2,000 per year for up to four years

of undergraduate study. The student became a finalist in the competition by performing well on the 2002 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, having a strong academic record, being recommended by her school principal and writing an essay.

- A Renton High School senior is the fastest runner in the state in the 400-meter. He won the state title in a winning time of 48.93 seconds during the recent state track championships in Pasco. He also finished fifth in the 200-meter race, seventh in the 100-meter race and ran the anchor leg in the fourth-place 400-meter relay team race.
- Other district winners at the state track meet were announced.
- A Lindbergh High School senior has been named by the King County Journal as one of the top 20 local high school graduates. It's the 10<sup>th</sup> year the Journal has recognized students from public and private high schools across the Eastside and South County for the award. Schools nominate their best students in one of 10 categories: academic achievement, community service, leadership, most inspiring, outstanding science, performing arts, promoting diversity, unsung hero/heroine, visual arts and vocational expertise. The winners are chosen by panels of judges from the community. The student was recognized in the Academic Achievement category and was profiled in the Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Journal.
- Third-grade students in teacher Kristen Brenneman's class at Sierra Heights Elementary School recently donated their voices to a song destined to entertain troops serving in Iraq. Kristen convinced a music producer at radio station Warm 106.9 to use her students in a music project to alter the hit single "Til I See You Again" written and performed by Jim Brickman and Mark Schultz. The writers agreed to allow the student's voices — offering positive messages to troops — to be inserted into the song. Additionally, students recited the Pledge of Allegiance, which was inserted at the end of the song. The new "military tribute" version of the song is a big hit, getting airplay here in the Seattle area and others markets such as Nashville, St. Louis,

Salt Lake, Boise and others. Barnes & Nobles has received requests for the new version of the song. The radio station also has received numerous requests for copies of the song. Many of those copies are being sent directly to soldiers in Iraq. Kristen and her students will receive CD copies of the song.

- Dimmitt Middle School is presenting the second annual Art Gallery Show at Artist's Gallery of Seattle, at 902 First Avenue South. The show will run through the end of June. Gallery hours are Tue. -Sat. 11a.m. to 7p.m. Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.
- The Nelsen Chapter of the Nation Junior Honor Society raised more than \$1,500 in a fundraiser held in conjunction with Outback Steakhouse. Students sold tickets to a dinner that was provided by the restaurant.
- Bryn Mawr and Cascade elementary schools will receive thousands of dollars worth of new books for students to take home thanks to grants from the non-profit organization Page Ahead and the Reading Is Fundamental program. Bryn Mawr will receive almost 1,200 books with an equivalent value of more than \$5,900; Cascade will receive about 1,500 books worth more than \$8,300. Page Ahead is a non-profit organization, which depends entirely on community donations.
- Fifth-graders at Campbell Hill Elementary School will participate in a graduation ceremony on June 15 in the Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center. The event includes a slideshow of students in caps and gowns, as well as student-perform songs and poetry. The evening will end with the presentation of diplomas.
- The Greater Renton Chamber of Commerce recently recognized Renton School Board member Al Talley as Volunteer of the Year. Al was recognized as someone who demonstrates service and commitment beyond expectations and as a leader and a doer in community. In presenting the award, current Chamber Chair Ron Stroben said, "Al serves as a role model to his peers, family and others in the community. He can frequently be seen at Chamber events, dishing out wisdom that sometimes only he understands. He's a man with a fancy van, a beautiful wife, and a heart for service."

- Renton School District was recently nominated for the Greater Renton Chamber of Commerce Beautiful Renton Award. The award is offered to a business or organization that has made Renton a more beautiful city by constructing an attractive, new building. The district was nominated for the Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center.
- Eight teachers from Dimmitt Middle School and Renton High School have been selected to participate in the University of Washington GEAR UP Summer Institute for Educators. This year's programs center around the theme Fostering Critical Thinking and Literacy Across the Curriculum. Applicants from across the state submitted a team project that included creative teaching strategies and opportunities for students to apply their knowledge in real life contexts.
- Two Lakeridge Elementary School fourth-graders are collecting backpacks and school supplies to send to Iraqi students. The two students have been following events in Iraq and decided to do something to help children who want to learn in that part of the world.

## RECESS

At 8:15 p.m. a recess was called for 10 minutes to congratulate all of the outstanding seniors and their parents. The meeting reconvened at 8:30 p.m.

## CONSENT AGENDA

### ITEMS A-I

Approved

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

#### A. Minutes

1. Minutes of the May 26, 2004 Regular Meeting

#### B. Warrants

1. Capital Projects Fund
  - Nos. 202204-202246 inclusive - \$913,924.56
2. General Fund
  - Nos. 136716-136971 inclusive - \$382,001.67
  - Nos. 136972-137164 inclusive - \$176,837.00
  - Payroll Ending May 28, 2004 - \$6,475,537.64
  - Nos. 443621-444079 inclusive - \$1,641,560.31
  - Direct Deposits - \$3,080,417.43
  - Unissued Warrants - \$1,753,559.90

3. Associated Student Body Fund
    - Nos. 422331-423375 inclusive - \$27,151.20
    - Nos. 423377-423430 inclusive - \$47,769.37
  4. Private Purpose Trust
    - Nos. 700228-700230 inclusive - \$267.03
- C. Personnel Exhibits (a copy of which is attached as part of these minutes)
- D. Staff Travel
1. Jeff Dowd to Marketing Education Conclave in Philadelphia, PA
  2. Dolores Gibbons, Sheryl Dunton, Ed Sheppard, Vera Risdon, Sally Boni and Sharon Chilenski to 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools of Distinction Awards in New Orleans, LA
- E. Student Travel
1. Campbell Hill Elementary First Graders on Walking Field Trip to Skyway Park, June 11, 2004
- F. Contract Agreement with Effective Communication for Medicaid Match Services for Spring 2004
- G. Authority to Exercise Renewal Option for General Office Supplies for 2004-2005
- H. Change Order No. 15 Relating to Lindbergh High School; G. C. Finn Construction Co. - \$33,688.00
- I. Acceptance of Donations
1. One box of Printing Paper and Two Reams of Card Stock (Valued at \$60.00) from Mr. Pinkham to Lakeridge Elementary
  2. \$50.00 from Pennies for Patients Fundraiser for Bryn Mawr Elementary Students' Pizza Party
  3. 384 Bottles of Bubbles from Toymith Incorporated to Lakeridge Elementary School (Valued at \$384.00)
  4. \$75.00 from Lindbergh High School Booster Assn. to the Lindbergh Dance Team
  5. Middle School Summer School Program
    - a. \$200.00 from Bryant Motors
    - b. \$800.00 from Renton Carpenters Union 1797

CALL FOR CORRESPONDENCE  
AND DELEGATIONS  
FROM THE FLOOR

Several Renton High School students expressed their concern that the Journalism class, which is an elective, is proposed to be reduced to a one semester class for 2004-2005. They fear reduced enrollment will eventually cause the journalism program to be cancelled. President Maxwell thanked the students for coming to show their support for the class and stated change is constant and sometimes necessary to accommodate state mandates for core classes. Executive Director of Secondary Education Louis Pappas will meet with the students on June 10, 2004.

Nelsen Middle School parent Lisa Smith shared her dissatisfaction with the length of a short term suspension issued a student who allegedly sexually harassed her daughter. She voiced her concern about the students being in contact with each at school after the suspension is over.

REVIEW POTENTIAL  
NEW EVALUATION TOOL  
FOR SUPERINTENDENT'S  
EVALUATION

The Board reviewed many superintendent evaluation tools used in the state. It was suggested several elements from the various forms could be integrated. Board members Maxwell and Desmarais (Merrill as an alternate) will meet with the superintendent and prepare a draft evaluation form for all of the Board to review.

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION:  
PERFORMANCE COMPONENT  
AWARD FOR 2003-2004

Approved

President Maxwell stated the Board approved the Superintendent's 2004-2005 contract at the April 7, 2004 Board meeting. At that time it was decided to delay the approval of the performance component until the end of the school year. By motion from Poff and second by Merrill, the Board approved the full performance component award for 2003-2004. Vote 5-0.

UPDATE ON FUTURE  
FACILITIES PLANNING  
GOALS AND PROCESS

Approved

Dr. Gibbons indicated the newest materials the Board has received reflects the *Goals and Parameters* which will guide the *Facility Planning and Development*. To advance student success, the district will provide facilities

that improve the learning environment while balancing resources.

Superintendent Gibbons stated the materials are more fully refined from prior documents and brings the Board to the next level of planning. She asked the Board to review the proposed goals and consider whether the document captures an accurate analysis of data collected over the last two months.

Discussion ensued on past practices and trends that are considered when trying to forecast facility use and be fiscally responsible. By motion from Poff and second by Talley, the Board approved the goals and process to be used during the Future Facilities Planning. Vote 5-0.

**CURRICULA ADOPTION FOR  
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE,  
GRADES 7-8 AND K-5 GENERAL  
MUSIC AND MIDDLE SCHOOL  
MUSIC SURVEY**

Approved - Final Reading

By motion from Poff and second by Desmarais, Curricula Middle School Science, Grades 7-8 and K-5 General Music and Middle School Music Survey were approved by the Board for the final reading. Vote 5-0.

**CURRICULA ADOPTION OF  
FRENCH 1-6 AND FRENCH 7-8**

Approved – Final Reading

By motion from Poff and second by Desmarais, French 1-6 and French 7-8 were approved by the Board for the final reading. Vote 5-0.

**STRATEGIC LISTENING  
INSTITUTE PROPOSAL**

Approved

Superintendent Gibbons indicated Strategic Listening Institute is a unique package that offers hardware, software, training and specific project integration for two-way communication between parent and community involvement. The product gives the school district the ability to collect input, share information and manage survey results in an expeditious manner. Multiple strategies and technologies available through Strategic Listening offer some sophisticated communication solutions. The two-year plan would train administrators in the communication strategies and in the use of the technologies. The plan includes staff development, equipment and a questionnaire system. By motion from

Merrill and second by Desmarais, the Board approved the Strategic Listening Institute proposal. Vote 5-0.

COMPREHENSIVE BOUNDARY  
REVIEW RECOMMENDATION

Approved

Executive Director Pappas requested the Board review the recommendations submitted from the Comprehensive Boundary Review Committee. The committee has formulated recommended phases for the review work that includes a planning phase, development phase, consideration phase and an implementation phase. They have also developed draft parameters to be followed and a suggested task force representation list.

Mr. Pappas stated as the district undertakes the Comprehensive Boundary Review study, identifying guiding principles to assist in the decision-making process is important. Formulating boundary adjustment recommendations constitutes a major challenge and many issues must be taken into consideration. In this process, the well-being and needs of students are the fundamental value of all decisions and actions. The Board discussed the concept of "neighborhood" schools and a feeder school system. There will be a series of community meetings in the fall of 2005 to educate the community on the process and timelines. By motion from Poff and second by Desmarais, the Board approved the Comprehensive Boundary Review recommendation. Vote 5-0.

POLICY 3245 STUDENTS  
AND TELECOMMUNICATION  
DEVICES

Approved – First Reading

By motion from Poff and second by Merrill the Board approved the first reading of a new policy (No. 3245) regarding possession and use of personal telecommunication or other related electronic devices while on school property. Vote 5-0.

ADDITIONAL DELEGATIONS  
FROM THE FLOOR

There were no additional delegations from the floor.

INFORMATION AND  
PROPOSALS

Talley attended his weekly mentoring at McKnight and Kenedydale and Jim Ventris' retirement party. He was also present at the Mentor Dessert Reception, the CISR dinner and the Business Excellence Awards dinner.

Desmarais observed the robotics competition at Lindbergh and the state track meet in Pasco. She was also at the Mentor Dessert Reception, the Lindbergh track team awards ceremony and the senior barbecue. She visited her weekly mentee at Nelsen.

Maxwell attended the Mentor Dessert Reception and the CISR and Business Excellence Awards dinners. She participated in the Highlands and Kenndale Community Association meetings and went to a Special Education Advisory Committee meeting. Maxwell was present at the University of Washington superintendent candidates' seminar hosted by Renton School District which focused on building community relationships.

Poff attended Mentor Reception and a retirement party for Jeri Willits.

Merrill assisted in the robotics competition, the Mentor reception and a RTCC meeting. He also visited the district data center.

Superintendent Gibbons advised she had received correspondence from OSPI stating the charter schools initiative did receive enough signatures to be on the November ballot. OSPI indicated school districts need not accept any applications until after November and clear direction from the state was available.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, at 10:40 p.m. Poff moved and Desmarais seconded to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board. Unanimous vote. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for June 23, 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.