

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS – REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, October 22, 2003

Thomson Early Childhood Center, 7:00 p.m.

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

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

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Thomson students sang (and signed) America the Beautiful for the audience. They also performed a song from their "Zoo Phonics" program.

Executive Director Kay Hermann introduced Susan Lander, Outstanding District Support Employee. Susan had been called to military duty when the awards were announced last spring. Ms. Hermann praised Ms. Lander for years of dedication and service to Renton School District students and staff.

Thomson principal Cindi Addis gave a Power Point presentation about the programs provided at Thomson. There are approximately 170 kindergartners from the Bryn Mawr, Campbell Hill and Lakeridge areas that attend Thomson. They also offer a popular preschool program that is at full capacity every year. Thomson offers OT/PT services, and speech and pool therapy, in addition to their ESL programs. She stated the population at Thomson is very diverse, with 72% minorities. She indicated there was strong parent involvement and high student expectations. Principal Addis thanked the Thomson PTA for all of their support.

“GOOD NEWS”
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

- Thomson Early Childhood Center recently held its second annual math family night. Over 175 children enjoyed participating in math activities with their parents. Activities included making a large graph of what “critter” they liked most from reptiles provided by Renton Fish Gallery and Pets. It was a fun and successful hands-on event.
- More than 70 Hillcrest families in the ECEAP program will again receive holiday food and gifts thanks to our friends at Wizards of the Coast. The company not only offers each child in the Hillcrest program a gift, they provide something to every child in the family. It totals hundreds of gifts. Wizards employees have offered the gifts and food program for several years.
- Fifteen sophomores and two chaperones from Renton High School will take part in the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center’s “Hutch High” thanks to a grant application by Barbara Fujita. The students will attend a half-day science symposium at the research center to explore the world of biomedical research. The program focuses on fostering student interest in science and science-related careers. The goal of the program is to give high school students exposure to scientists and to the cutting edge research going on at the Hutchinson Center. Presentations take the form of seminars and hands-on activities, emphasizing the research taking place at the center.
- Kennydale Elementary School will participate in a sister schools program, partnering with schools in Uganda, East Africa. Students will learn about life that is very different from their own and have an opportunity to directly help the children in that country. Special attention is given to contrasting the conditions in Ugandan schools with those in our own schools. Students will gain a greater understanding of the world around them, and a greater appreciation of the resources and opportunities available to them in their own school.

Kennydale students will be encouraged to take part in a special project such as writing individual or class books, making educational games, writing pen pal letters, or collecting items for a specific need. There will be a supply

drive for items needed by students in Uganda. In April, a second slides show will be given showing the presentation of those supplies to Ugandan teachers and students. Students get to see the direct effect of their generosity. Whatever their age, our children see firsthand the difference they can make when they decide to take action.

- Hazen High School physical education teacher Lori Dunn, has been awarded the Outstanding Secondary Teacher by members of the Washington Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. The award recognizes the work of outstanding physical education teachers at the state and district levels. Lori will be considered for a similar award at the national level.
- Benson Hill PTA and staff members tomorrow night will host the annual Family Reading Night. Families will rotate through three mini reading sessions. At each session, staff members will read a favorite children's book and highlight an effective reading strategy that parents can use when reading aloud to their children. At the conclusion of the evening, students will receive a book to take home, compliments of Benson Hill PTA.
- The Renton School District was honored recently by the American Red Cross for participating in a two-year pilot program to bring disaster preparedness training and information into schools. The innovative curricula were taught last year at Nelsen Middle School and Kennydale Elementary School. The program is in conjunction with the Red Cross' nationwide initiative called "Together WE Prepare." Last year's sixth-graders at Nelson were taught Red Cross disaster preparedness methods including such life-saving skills as First Aid and CPR.
- The district's Nishiwaki Exchange Delegation returned home recently after ten days in Japan. Erin Estes, seventh-grade teacher at McKnight and Nelsen Middle School Assistant Principal Jennifer Glueck took 12 eighth-graders—four from each middle school—and visited schools, cities, temples, shrines, festivals and a castle. The group learned a lot by living the everyday life of the Nishiwaki people. The students went to school with Japanese students for a day and learned many things. The experience was fantastic for everyone in the delegation. The friendship and relationship through the sister city program has continued for 18 years.

- Bill Gladsjo, the district's director of school safety and attendance, was recently honored at a Truancy Workshop sponsored by the King County Court System. Bill received recognition for his work with truant students from King County Prosecuting Attorney Norm Meleng. Local representatives also recognized Bill for his time and service to their committees.
- Sue Brumfield's kindergarten classes at Tiffany Park Elementary School recently won honorable mention for their entry into the scarecrow contest as part of the City of Renton fall festival. The festival was held in downtown Renton at the Piazza. Students will receive ice cream treats as part of their reward.

RECESS

At 7:40 p.m. Board President Talley called a 10-minute recess to allow parents and staff to visit and enjoy refreshments.

The meeting reconvened at 7:50 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

ITEMS A-J

Approved

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

Board member Merrill asked for more detail on the responsibilities of the new position, Chief Technology Officer, that is included on tonight's personnel exhibits. Dr. Gibbons stated the district needs leadership to help develop and enforce a five-year technology plan. The reliance on technology is incorporated into almost every day-to-day activity and program from lunch counts to the Accelerated Reader program at the schools. The new WSIPC conversion will need significant support in training and management of the hardware/software. Planning staff development activities from the recent bond sale will take major coordination, as will the possible partnership with Cisco Systems. The recommended candidate has strong curriculum and special education background, in addition to his technology expertise.

On the call for the vote, the Board approved the consent agenda Items A-J. On the call for the vote, the vote was 4-1-0 with Merrill voting against.

- A. Minutes
 - 1. Minutes of the October 8, 2003 Regular Meeting
- B. Warrants
 - 1. Capital Projects Fund
 - Nos. 201752-201777 inclusive - \$231,093.24
 - Nos. 201778-201781 inclusive - \$332,661.72
 - 2. General Fund
 - Nos. 123177-123191 inclusive - \$40,453.14
 - Nos. 130450-130638 inclusive - \$506,533.26 (03/04)
 - Nos. 130639-130801 inclusive - \$307,364.74 (03/04)
 - 3. Associated Student Body Fund
 - Nos. 422021-422046 inclusive - \$14,731.31
 - Nos. 422047-422077 inclusive - \$29,904.27
 - 4. Private Purpose Trust
 - Nos. 700183-700184 inclusive - \$386.00
 - Nos. 700185-700186 inclusive - \$1,073.00
 - 5. Trust
 - Electronic transfer for Hazen Script - \$1,908.35
- C. Personnel Exhibits as presented, a copy of which is attached as a part of these minutes.
- D. Staff/Student Travel
 - 1. Mary Nassif, Hillcrest Special Services, to International Dyslexia Association Conference in San Diego, CA
 - 2. Lex Meneeley, Hillcrest Special Services, to Annual Teacher Educators for Children with Behavioral Disorders Conference in Tempe, AZ
 - 3. Lisa Behmer, Michelle Ortuno, Diane Rademacher and Lynne Wasson to the Northwest Mathematics Conference in Whistler, B.C.
 - 4. Earline Bala and Paula Gamble to the National Indian Education Convention in Greensboro, N. C.
 - 5. Shana Pennington-Baird to 23rd Annual Northwest Booking Conference in Boise, ID
 - 6. Don Bailey and Lindbergh High DECA students to Western Regional DECA Leadership Competition in Boise, ID
 - 7. Various students to "First and Goal Luncheon" to Seattle Seahawks Stadium
 - 8. Fifteen Renton High School "Gear-Up" students to Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center to Attend Half-day Science Symposium
- E. Situation Recommendation Concerning Increase in Health Care Authority Contribution Benefit Pool with:

- a. Renton Classified Managers
 - b. Renton Assistant/Associate Superintendents
 - c. Renton Confidential Assistants
 - d. Renton Director's Association (RDA)
 - e. Renton Executive Director's Association
- F. Employee Contract with United Classified Workers Union for 2003-2004 Reopeners in the 2001-2004 Agreement
- G. Additions/changes to Board Approved Instructional Field Trip List and the Master List of Co-Curricular Activities
- H. Resolution 7-03/04 Authorizing Cancellation of Outstanding Warrants from September 2, 2001 through August 31, 2002
- I. Change Order No. 8 Relating to Lindbergh High School Modernization; G. C. Finn Construction, Inc. - \$10,733.00
- J. Acceptance of Donations
- 1. \$850.00 from Hazelwood Booster Club to Hazelwood Elementary as follows:
 - a. \$350.00 for Technology
 - b. \$500.00 for Staff Development
 - 2. \$19.50 from Mark and Grace Nagamatsu to McKnight Middle School
 - 3. 42 Books to McKnight Middle School Library from Jeff Kluth
 - 4. \$1,500.00 from Jostens, Inc. to the Graduated Class of Lindbergh 2003

CALL FOR CORRESPONDENCE
AND DELEGATIONS
FROM THE FLOOR

Mr. Adam Arriaya, Bryn Mawr parent, expressed his concern about student misbehavior on bus route 22. He has contacted the principal and Transportation. Dr. Gibbons stated she would check it out and get back to him. Mr. Arriaya also asked what plan will be initiated to increase Bryn Mawr's WASL scores.

RESOLUTION NO. 8-03/04
DECLARING THE
WAREHOUSE PROPERTY
SURPLUS
Approved

Mr. Rich Moore, Assistant Superintendent for Business, said construction will soon be completed on building C at Renton High School. Purchasing, Warehousing and Student Nutrition operations will move into building C. He

stated the current warehouse property site is not part of the District's long range plans. With approval of this resolution, he can request a commercial appraisal, submit the property to the market, set a timeline and begin to receive bids. By motion of Merrill and second by Poff, the board approved Resolution 8-03/04 declaring the warehouse as surplus property. Vote 5-0.

RESOLUTION 9-03/04
EDUCATIONAL MAINTENANCE
AND OPERATIONS LEVY

Approved

Mr. Moore indicated to the audience that the Board recently held a special study session to review the special election on February 3, 2004. A variety of factors were considered in establishing the levy amounts. The anticipated assessed valuation, the maximum levy lid percentage (24.93%), anticipated tax rate, projections for the legislative authorized inflation percentage and the impact of I-728 on future revenues were all factors that were considered. After considering the pros and cons of a two-year levy versus a four-year levy, the Board was in favor of a four-year proposition. This would save on election costs and allow the District to pursue other student instructional topics. By motion from Poff and second from Desmarais, the Board voted to approve Resolution 9-03/04, a 4-year educational maintenance and operations levy. Vote 5-0.

DISTRICT GOALS
2003-2004

Approved

The Board of Directors reviewed the proposed goals for 2003-2004. (A copy of the new goals are attached to these minutes). Each individual goal was reviewed in detail. The Board decided to add a preamble to the beginning of the goals which includes a statement that includes "staff commitment to school/home connection." The Board also agreed to add a comment about the state graduation requirements under the **Improve Student Learning in the Renton School District** goal.

MAIN COMPONENTS

- Improve Student Learning in the Renton School District
- Improve Technology Use
- Maintain Stable, Positive Fiscal Position
- Publish Revised District Policies
- Phase III Capital Projects
- Safe and Civil Schools
- Negotiations

By motion from Poff and second by Maxwell, the revised District Goals for 2003-2004 were approved. Vote 5-0.

**SUPERINTENDENT
COMPENSATION GOALS
FOR 2003-2004
Approved**

Dr. Gibbons explained there are state prescribed goals for superintendents. She has support teams within the District that help in getting the goals met. She stated her connection with state legislators has helped Renton gain some visibility. She intends to stay in close contract with this group. A copy of the superintendent's compensation 2003-2004 goals are attached as part of these minutes. By motion from Poff and second by Desmarais, the Board approved the superintendent's goals for 2003-2004. Vote 5-0.

**ADDITIONAL DELEGATIONS
FROM THE FLOOR
INFORMATION AND
PROPOSALS**

Maxwell stated she will be attending the WSSDA conference in November. She recently was present at the bond sale, the Board special study session and the Chamber of Commerce forum for city council and mayor candidates. She met with Eastside school board members, attended a Leisure Estates meeting, PTA Council meeting and the Harvest Festival at Tiffany Park.

Poff was also at the special study session and Leisure Estates meeting. She was present at a recent Gifted Advisory Committee meeting.

Merrill was at the study session and participated on the interview team for Director of Safety/Hearings.

Desmarais attended a Nelsen PTA meeting, Nifty Nelsen night and mentored at Nelsen. She was also at the bond sale.

Superintendent Gibbons passed around a masonry article about Hazen. She also distributed a proposed list of special presentations to the Board.

President Talley was present at the Renton PTA Council meeting, a Technology Committee meeting and the bond sale. He also attended the King County Sexual Assault

breakfast meeting and mentored at Kenndale and McKnight.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, at 8:55 p.m. Merrill moved and Maxwell seconded to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board. Unanimous vote. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for November 19, 2003 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.