

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
OLYMPIA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 111
January 12, 2004**

The regular meeting of the Olympia School District Board of Directors was called to order by President John McGee at 7:00 p.m., Monday, January 12, 2004, at the Knox Administrative Center, 1113 Legion Way SE, Olympia, Washington 98501. Also present were Vice President Michelle Parvinen, Director Carolyn Barclift, Director Russ Lehman, Director Rich Nafziger and Superintendent Bill Lahmann.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Thomas and Matthew Malm.

DIRECTOR NAFZIGER MOVED AND DIRECTOR PARVINEN SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF DECEMBER 15, 2003. MOTION CARRIED.

As January is School Board Recognition Month, Shelley Carr, Director of Communications, spoke on behalf of District administration, reading a proclamation in honor of the Board of Directors and presenting each with a certificate of appreciation for their efforts and devotion to the Olympia School District. A short break followed.

President McGee reconvened the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

There were no audience members present wishing to address the Board on agenda items.

COMMUNITY COMMENT

Dagmar Grove, Chair of Lincoln Enrollment Committee, presented the Board with a report on enrollment at Lincoln, showing that there was basically an entire class of kindergarten students on a waiting list, and stating that there are many more Grade 1 through 5 students than are actually reflected on the report, since parents are often discouraged from adding their name to a list that is so unlikely to afford them an opportunity to enroll. Other families are reluctant to move their children from one school to another once the school year has begun, so they don't pursue enrollment when it becomes clear there will not be space for their student(s) on the first day of school. Many express their frustration that the fate of their child rests on a lottery for placement in the program of their choice.

ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT UP BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Director Barclift stated that she and Director Nafziger attended a legislative reception sponsored by the Thurston County School Directors Association and the Tumwater Chamber of Commerce. Only three of the ten scheduled legislators were present. Gary Alexander clearly wants to pass a bill to try one charter school, to see what a school could do with less restrictions. In response, Director Barclift suggested that they remove restrictions from Olympia and let us show them what we could do. Director Nafziger added that he found it to be quite well attended and a good meeting.

Director Lehman stated that during his two years on the Board there has not been a presentation on alternative education programs in the District. He suggested a future agenda item where the Board could review the potential acceptance of additional alternative education in our community, not now available to families because we lack the necessary infrastructure.

Superintendent Lahmann reminded the Board that on February 4th the Olympia School District will be hosting a Washington State School Directors Association Region 5 dinner meeting at McKenny Elementary School.

Superintendent Lahmann also noted that the State Board of Education will be meeting at the Knox Administrative Center on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, January 14th through 16th. He stated that the State Board had invited our Board and himself to greet them on Thursday morning and make a few comments. He encouraged the Board to participate if they were available; President McGee indicated that he would attend.

Director Barclift noted that tomorrow the Governor's State of the State address is being held at Olympia High School. Superintendent Lahmann stated that the District and OHS administrators had made preparations regarding traffic circulation and developed contingency plans ranging from medical emergencies to demonstrators.

CONSENT AGENDA

DIRECTOR PARVINEN MOVED AND DIRECTOR BARCLIFT SECONDED APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS, AS PRESENTED:

1. SCHOOL DIRECTORS

1.1 Board Meeting Schedule

- Monday, January 26, 2004, 7:00 p.m., **Regular Board Meeting**, Reeves Middle School, 2200 Quince Street NE, Olympia, Washington 98506.
- Monday, February 9, 2004, 7:00 p.m., **Regular Board Meeting**, Knox Administrative Center, 1113 Legion Way SE, Olympia, Washington 98501.
- Monday, February 23, 2004, 7:00 p.m., **Regular Board Meeting**, Garfield Elementary School, 325 Plymouth Street NW, Olympia, Washington 98502.

3. CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

3.1 Classified Personnel Report

The Board approved the classified personnel report dated January 12, 2004, previously submitted for its review.

4. PUPILS & SCHOOL PROGRAMS

4.1 Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act Grant

Board approval was granted for the submittal of the Carl D. Perkins grant application. The application, when approved by the state, authorizes the District to receive over 0.33 million dollars of enriched state funding above the basic allocation level, and \$55,594 in federal grant funds to support Career & Technical Education programs in Olympia.

8. FINANCES

8.1 Approval of Vouchers

The Board approved the following vouchers as presented: Associated Student Body Fund Voucher Nos. 25061 through 25103, in the total amount of \$22,386.22; Capital Projects Voucher Nos. 7298 through 7325, in the total amount of \$110,394.76; General Fund Warrant Nos. 14191 through 14300, in the total amount of \$1,167,913.50; General Fund Voucher No. 126796 in the amount of \$22,173.90; General Fund Voucher Nos. 126484 through 126795, in

the total amount of \$399,502.35; and, Transportation Vehicle Fund Voucher No. 41, in the amount of \$1,064.38.

8.2 Financial Reports

Board approval was granted for the November 2003 Revenue and Expenditure Reports for the General, Capital Projects, Debt Service, Associated Student Body and Transportation Vehicle Funds.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. SCHOOL DIRECTORS

1.1 Televising Board Meetings

Shelley Carr, Director of Communications, reviewed two options for the Board's ongoing consideration of the feasibility of televising its meetings. The discussion which ensued involved many aspects of the proposal:

number of cameras

- two is minimum, but three would be required in order to make a professional production; two cameras would be stationary, the third would focus on the speaker

use of TCTV for production

- most efficient and could begin immediately

length of meetings

- consider having more than two meetings a month
- consider starting meetings earlier
- televise just the meetings at Knox (although it was noted that frequently an agenda item is given consideration at more than one meeting)

use of students/OSD staff for production

- both OHS and CHS have broadcasting programs
- not known whether staff would be available to supervise
- summer and other breaks during the year could leave gaps in student availability
- would provide educational opportunities for students
- students may not work past 10:00 p.m.

suggestion

- start the process utilizing TCTV; gradually transfer responsibility to staff/students

timing:

- earliest start would be beginning of 2004-05 school year in order to work into students' schedules and create classroom experience; would require a decision by April this year to provide adequate time to set it up.

Director Barclift stated that she has concerns about funding. Director Nafziger agreed, and noted that, having served on the Budget Advisory Committee last year, he was fully aware of the budgetary constraints the District faced. He said he is struggling with some of the cuts we've made, with desirable students programs being dropped from the budget; if it isn't an emergency, it seems difficult to swallow. Director Lehman said that while money issues are certainly legitimate, he was not willing to give up on it. He noted that since it seemed an offset had easily been found for the Thurston Regional Planning Commission (TRPC) membership, perhaps there was an offset to be found for this. Director Lehman wondered if there might be foundation monies available somewhere, and he

asked how much the Board spent for the annual National School Boards Association conference, suggesting that perhaps those funds could be better spent. Director Barclift was concerned about any suggestion that offsetting funds could be easily found, and she said she placed a very high priority on the conferences the Board attended, as the information they offered provided the basis for learning how to improve as an effective Board. With reference to travel and conferences, Director Nafziger said he believed the Board should be looking at everything with a view toward how it contributed to student achievement.

President McGee asked the Board how actively they felt the Board should continue investigating the proposal. Superintendent Lahmann responded that perhaps staff should look further into the possibility of student involvement and related costs, seeking input from the high schools on schedules and the concerns they see. President McGee asked if someone on the Board would be willing to look into potential funding from foundations or grants; Director Nafziger agreed to look into it.

Superintendent Lahmann noted that the TRPC membership would in many ways create its own offsets by virtue of the monies it would save in needed research and reports, and that, in fact, Bob Wolpert, Director of Facilities & Operations had brought documentation to Cabinet just that morning that will be very helpful to the District in making other decisions.

Superintendent Lahmann noted that the budget review process would be beginning very soon, and that he understood that the Board would like the updates to be as comprehensive as possible, including some of the issues the District is dealing with and the related costs. The Budget Advisory Group will be forming and start up in February.

6. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS-NEW CONSTRUCTION

6.1 L. P. Brown Elementary School, Additions & Modernization -- Architect Selection

Bob Wolpert, Director of Facilities & Operations, presented the administration's recommendation for Erickson McGovern as the firm to design the additions and improvements to L. P. Brown Elementary School. He noted that of the six firms that stepped forward, four were selected for review by a small team consisting of a principal, a certificated staff member, a parent, the librarian and one of our project managers. Erickson McGovern was involved with us ten years ago with the design of Marshall Middle School. They were very impressive in the interview process and come very highly recommended.

DIRECTOR LEHMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATION'S SELECTION OF ERICKSON McGOVERN AS THE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN FIRM FOR THE ADDITIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO L. P. BROWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. DIRECTOR BARCLIFT SECONDED THE MOTION. FOUR AYES (Director Nafziger was absent during the vote),
MOTION CARRIED.

Board Member Comments

Director Barclift suggested that the Board take a look at its meeting structure, perhaps having one meeting as a dedicated study session. President McGee agreed, stating that this subject was one of his frustrations, and they might need to have a meeting about meetings.

Director Parvinen asked about the status of student representation on the Board; Superintendent Lahmann stated that as part of their student election, each high school will select candidates; those

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students will put together their bios and create a media presentation to the student bodies, then will be subject to a vote by the high school and middle school students.

Director Parvinen asked about Staff recognition coming up in May, noting that two Board members typically serve on the committee. She also stated that she had served in that capacity for two years, but would step aside this year. Dr. Rick Wilson, Director of Personnel and Human Resources, presented an overview of the process followed by the committee. President McGee and Director Lehman volunteered to serve as the Board representatives of the committee.

Superintendent Lahmann noted that a permanent Board representative is needed to serve on TRPC. Bob Wolpert, Director of Facilities & Operations will attend most sessions.

After overview by President McGee, Director Lehman agreed to serve as the Board representative with the WIAA.

Future Agenda Items

- Board Retreat - matrix request will be sent out to coordinate available dates
- Superintendent mid-term evaluation (review and contract decision) - Wednesday, February 11th, 6:30 p.m. - Executive Session
- Review of Volunteer Requirements - January 26
- Policy Review, Section 3000-Students - January 26
- Budget Status Review - February 9
- Staff Recognition - May 10
- Alternative Programs
- Board Meeting Structures
- Joint Meeting with Griffin School District Board of Directors
- Joint Meeting with Olympia City Council

There being no further business to come before the Board and no Executive Session required, President McGee adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

President