



**Board of Directors**

Carolyn Barclift

Russ Lehman

Bob Shirley

Frank Wilson

Adam Buchholz,

*Student Representative*

William V. Lahmann, Superintendent

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
FEBRUARY 11, 2008**

A regular meeting of the Olympia School District Board of Directors was called to order by President Carolyn Barclift at 6:30 pm on Monday, February 11, 2008, at the Knox Center, 1113 Legion Way SE, Olympia, Washington 98501. Also present were Vice President Bob Shirley, Directors Russ Lehman and Frank Wilson, Student Representative Adam Buchholz and Assistant Superintendent Jim Crawford.

President Barclift led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**OLYMPIA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN “BIKES TO AFRICA”**

Students in the Social Affective Block (SAB) program at Olympia High School, have been contributing to the **Bikes to Africa** program by repairing bicycles donated to OHS and the program. Ed Pong, Director of Secondary Special Education, began by playing a newsclip from NorthWest Cable News featuring the OHS program. Mr. Pong thanked the Board for their support and talked about the opportunity for students, who have not always been successful in their academic endeavors, to experience teamwork, collaboration, and group and individual success. He introduced Mohamed El-Sokkary, SAB teacher, and gave a brief overview of how the SAB program was started at OHS. Mr. El-Sokkary provided background information about the Bikes to Africa program and the SAB program's involvement. Students Robert Hill and Sergio Ramirez spoke about their experiences and what the Bikes to Africa program has meant to them.

Michelle Young spoke on behalf of Global Alliance for Community Education (GACE), the organization that created and sponsors the program, and talked about how it was created and its current operation.

**VICE PRESIDENT SHIRLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF JANUARY 28, 2008. DIRECTOR WILSON SECONDED. THREE AYES, ONE ABSTENTION; MOTION CARRIED.**

There were no audience members who asked to speak about items on the agenda.

**COMMUNITY COMMENT**

**Jeff Loyer** addressed the Board about a recent PFLAG (PARENTS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS) poll of students from the greater Olympia area. He said the poll indicated that GLBTQ (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, questioning) students and staff, and their allies, do not feel safe in any of our schools. He said intimidating terms and comments are common, and the topic is not only absent in our curriculum but avoided by staff. He recommended the aggressive pursuit of a safe environment for a diverse population; enforcement of a policy against use of derogatory terminology; use of posters clearly identifying policy and identifying safe faculty; make literature available in libraries at all levels. He stated that these recommendations are appropriate for all levels, not just at the high schools, as very young children are using inappropriate terms, as well.

President Barclift suggested further collaboration with regard to ideas for implementing desired change. Director Lehman spoke of the importance of bringing specific incidents to the attention of administrators and he encouraged the repeat at all middle schools of the Stonewall Youth assembly which occurred at Washington Middle School last year.

**Stephen Bray** expressed concerns about District complacency, noting that WASL scores could be considerably improved, and even when we may be highly ranked statewide, scores may need to be considered on the basis of whether they are where they should be and how they can be better. He said we have talented students and families in our district who will perform well regardless, and advocated for funding for highly-capable students equal to the funding devoted to special education students. He said

our most talented students should not be taken for granted, and higher-achieving academic students should be considered a type of special education, as well, with classes offered at middle school which will provide the tools for students to take advanced classes in high school, particularly in science.

Director Lehman invited Mr. Bray to provide the Board with his specific ideas about what the District can do to support highly-capable students and how the District can more appropriately distribute its public funds. He added that this is a clear link with the Strategic Plan. President Barclift noted that throughout the Strategic Plan process the consensus was for all students to have equal opportunities to reach their academic potential.

## CONSENT AGENDA

**DIRECTOR LEHMAN MOVED ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA, AS PRESENTED. VICE PRESIDENT SHIRLEY SECONDED. FOUR AYES; MOTION CARRIED.**

### **1 SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

#### **1.1 Board Meeting Schedule**

- Monday, February 25, 6:30 pm, **Regular Board Meeting**, CHS
- Monday, March 10, 6:30 pm, **Regular Board Meeting**, Centennial ES **NOTE LOCATION CHANGE**
- Monday, March 17, 6:30 pm, **Study Session (Budget)**, Knox Center
- Monday, March 24, 6:30 pm, **Regular Board Meeting**, McKenny ES
- Monday, March 31, 6:30 pm, **Joint Meeting-Olympia City Council**, Knox Center
- Monday, April 14, 6:30 pm, **Study Session (Budget)**, Knox Center
- Monday, April 21, 6:30 pm, **Regular Board Meeting**, Knox Center

### **2 CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

#### **2.1 Certificated Personnel Report**

The Board approved one leave of absence and three changes in assignment.

### **3 CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL**

#### **3.1 Classified Personnel Report**

The Board approved the Classified Personnel Report dated February 11, 2008.

### **4 PUPILS & PROGRAMS**

#### **4.1 Federal Grant Application – IDEA Part B and IDEA Section 619 (Pre-school)**

The Board approved the submittal of the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) federal grant application to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

#### **4.2 Overnight Field Trip Requests**

The Board approved the following overnight field trips:

**OHS** – Band/Orchestra/Choir to State Music Convention in Yakima, WA; all-state music groups to rehearse, perform and compete; 27 students, two teacher chaperones; February 15-18, 2008.

**OHS** – Wind Ensemble to Washington Music Educators Conference in Yakima, WA (overnight stay in Ellensburg); performance at conference; 51± students, one teacher, four parent chaperones; February 16-17, 2008.

### **5 BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

#### **5.1 Final Acceptance – Bid No. 583 Ingersoll Stadium Improvements**

The Board authorized final acceptance of Bid 583, Ingersoll Stadium Improvements.

### **8 FINANCES**

#### **8.1 Approval of Vouchers**

The Board approved cancellations totaling \$129,438.28, and the following expenditures: Private Purpose Trust Voucher No. 9, in the total amount of \$191.11; Associated Student Body Fund Voucher Nos. 30113 through 30147, in the total amount of \$40,030.02; Capital Projects Voucher Nos. 9728 through 9738, in the total amount of \$243,494.11; and, General Fund Voucher Nos. 140818 through 140936, in the total amount of \$496,286.86.

REGULAR AGENDA

**1 SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

**1.1 Policy 2161– 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading**

Assistant Superintendent Hans Landig, Student Support, recommended the adoption of Policy 2161, Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students. The recommended amended policy incorporates suggested revisions from Vice President Shirley, and combines Policies 2161 and 2162 to comply with changes in Federal law and the Washington Administrative Code governing services to students with disabilities.

**VICE PRESIDENT SHIRLEY MOVED TO APPROVE POLICY 2161. DIRECTOR LEHMAN SECONDED. FOUR AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

**1.2 Board Vacancy Process**

After discussion, the Board determined the following process for filling the vacant District 2 seat.

**A. General**

The Board requires a minimum of information from those who would like to be considered, but invites more information from applicants should the applicant choose to provide written material for the Board's consideration. The process will be open to the public, including all information submitted by applicants. The session in which directors ask questions of applicants will be public, as will the vote to choose the new director.

Applicants who wish to listen to the Board's discussion about the process for filling the vacancy may access it through a link to the podcast of that segment of the meeting.

**B. Information Required to Become an Applicant**

All persons wishing to be considered an applicant for the vacant director position must:

- State that he/she is (and be) a citizen of the United States.
- Provide a residential address that is in director district two, and is the same as the person's address that appears on voter registration rolls.
- State that he/she is willing to take an oath or make an affirmation as follows:  
"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution and laws of the state of Washington, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of director to the best of my ability."

**C. Other Information from Applicants**

Each applicant may choose the amount and content of information to share. All information will be posted to the OSD website.

**D. Duties of Board Secretary**

- The Board secretary must establish a web page dedicated to the process for filling the vacant position. The secretary must place and maintain on the OSD home page a link to the page dedicated to the process for filling the vacancy.
- The secretary must issue a press release and disseminate the announcement via the Olympia School District website, school websites and newsletters, local media outlets, school site councils and PTA/PTO organizations, neighborhood associations and service organizations.
- The secretary must determine whether the person meets the qualifications described in section B, and report the determination to directors and to the person who submitted the information.
- The secretary must list on the website the names and addresses of all qualified applicants, including all information provided by the applicants.

**E. Calendar for Interview and Selection Process**

- February 28 (Thursday) Applications will be accepted from interested persons until 5:00 p.m.
- March 5, 6:30 p.m. (Wednesday) The Board will meet to screen all applicants, providing each applicant with five minutes to make a presentation. As many as three, but not more than five, applicants will be selected for further consideration.
- March 12, 6:30 p.m. (Wednesday) The Board will meet with the selected applicants in a community forum environment
- March 19, 6:30 p.m. (Wednesday) The Board will deliberate, with a goal of selecting a person to fill the position during the session. *(This date changed from March 17<sup>th</sup> when a conflict was noted.)*

**VICE PRESIDENT SHIRLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE SELECTION PROCESS AS FINALIZED; DIRECTOR WILSON SECONDED. THREE AYES; MOTION CARRIED.**

The Board recessed at 8:40 p.m. and reconvened at 8:55 p.m.

**8 FINANCE**

**8.1 Budget: 2007-2008 Update / 2008-2009 Projections**

Assistant Superintendent Jim Crawford provided the Board with an update on the District budget status. He stated that this is the first report of the year that reflects actual revenues from the state, and informed the Board that he would be bringing monthly updates in the months ahead. He said current year expenditures are projected to be \$1.9 million below budget, with salaries and benefits somewhat underspent. Non-employee related costs are projected to be underspent by nearly \$1 million at this point, but likely to change as usual. Revenues are also currently projected below budgeted levels, with particular uncertainty around special education revenues and federal grants. October enrollment was below projection, reflecting about \$200,000 in reduced revenue, and we have fewer high school students enrolled in Running Start than budgeted.

Mr. Crawford noted that special education revenues are below projection, with the total special education enrollment being below that budgeted, while the number of students with higher cost needs is up. We are applying to the state for reimbursement of some of those additional costs. Other funding variables were highlighted, as well. In response to a comment from President Barclift, Mr. Crawford noted that COLA (cost of living adjustments) decisions would also be something to watch as the legislature deliberates.

President Barclift noted a conflict with the March 17<sup>th</sup> date established for the Board to deliberate about the Director Selection Process. An agreement was reached to hold that meeting on Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

President Barclift reported on the WASA/WSSDA (WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS / WASHINGTON STATE SCHOOL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION) Legislative Conference, reporting that the legislative session has seen the introduction of several bills, with lots of obligations, but no funding. She encouraged the Board to visit the WSSDA web page to make prioritizing suggestions, and also encouraged Board members to participate in the monthly meetings with our legislators.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jim Crawford, Acting Board Secretary

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Carolyn M. Barclift, President