EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Directors of the Olympia School District held an Executive Session at 6:00 pm on Monday, March 13, 2006, at the Knox Administrative Center, 1113 Legion Way SE, Olympia, Washington 98501. It was a closed session for the continuance of the Superintendent’s mid-year performance review. No action was taken as a result of the Session.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Olympia School District was called to order by President Russ Lehman at 7:00 pm on Monday, March 13, 2006, at the Knox Administrative Center, 1113 Legion Way SE, Olympia, Washington 98501. Also attending were Vice President Rich Nafziger, Directors Carolyn Barclift, Michelle Parvinen and Bob Shirley, Student Representative Palmer Buchholz, and Superintendent Bill Lahmann.

President Lehman led the pledge of allegiance.

DIRECTOR PARVINEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF FEBRUARY 27, 2006, AS PRESENTED. DIRECTOR BARCLIFT SECONDED THE MOTION. FIVE AYES; MOTION CARRIED.

There were no community members who wished to address agenda items.

COMMUNITY COMMENT

Mike Freeman – Chairman of Community Partnership for Special Education Action (CPSEA) – Mr. Freeman listed their group’s four top priorities for additional funding, and stated that although it is a tough time to be asking for more funding, major portions of special education are broken and the crisis cannot be addressed without additional funding. He stated that for four years he has been asking the District for an explanation of the difference between the revenues generated by special education students and the budget for special education, a difference of $5 million.

Loren (Mike) Freeman – Bridges – he addressed proposals to spend $600,000 on math curriculum as a risky investment, and concerns that such an expenditure would mean the District could not address the brokenness of special education, the result of which might be that concerned citizens would be forced to engage in more adversarial efforts.

President Lehman noted that he had been hearing about the unaccounted difference in funding for over four years. Mr. Freeman stated that they had worked from the state’s funding formula to establish the amount that was coming to the District for special education students, and continued to receive no response, except “it’s really complex”. Vice President Nafziger stated that the issue of transparency is one of clarity, and suggested that the District make an attempt toward clarification.

Superintendent Lahmann respectfully disagreed that answers had not been forthcoming in the past. He stated that the administration would provide information on the flow pattern for the Board at a later date.
Mark Thompson – stated he was here to follow up on an email regarding his daughter, who is high-functioning autistic, and the District has done wonderful things for his daughter at the elementary school level. He shared his experience of a lack of transitioning from an excellent elementary school program to the middle school, with no adequate process for passing information from one professional to the next level of professionals. He stated that some transitioning and pre-planning is needed, as budget decisions are made after placement decisions have been made, and that when his daughter gets misplaced, the impact is profound. No managerial process is in place, as professionals are caught up in administrative topics, and there needs to be a focus on capturing information and acting upon it in meaningful ways, putting into place the processes and procedures to make the program work.

Superintendent Lahmann agreed that the administration was not satisfied with the program that was tried at Capital High School, and some changes have already been made, but work was ongoing to improve the program. He noted that he would be looking into the issues of staff resources and the ability to make decisions on placement earlier to make transitions smoother.

Lisa Ritter stated that although she had not intended to speak tonight, she was very disturbed by Mr. Freeman's comments on funding discrepancies, and recommended the District hire an autism expert. Her 9-year-old son with high-functioning autism, did well in pre-school, but later teachers and aides had no training in autism. Services to her son often began late and were interrupted frequently for other program requirements, and she has found the District to be unresponsive to her concerns. She agreed that special education is in crisis.

ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT UP BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD
Director Barclift attended the Washington State School Directors Association (WSSDA) Director District 5 meeting in Raymond last week. She reported good discussions about graduation rates and other topics, and encouraged other Board members to take advantage of those meetings.

DIRECTOR BARCLIFT MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. DIRECTOR SHIRLEY SECONDED THE MOTION. FIVE AYES; MOTION CARRIED.

Consent Agenda

1 SCHOOL DIRECTORS
   1.1 Board Meeting Schedule
       ▪ Tuesday, March 14, 2006, 8:30 am, Board Retreat, AWSP, 1021 8th Avenue
       ▪ Thursday, March 23, 2006, 7:00 pm, Public Hearing I-728, Knox Center
       ▪ Monday, March 27, 2006, 7:00 pm, Regular Board Meeting, Olympia HS
       ▪ Thursday, March 30, 2006, 6:30 pm, Public Forum-West Side Boundary Review, Jefferson MS
       ▪ Monday, April 3, 2006, 6:30 pm, Joint Meeting: Olympia City Council, Knox Center
       ▪ Monday, April 17, 2006, 7:00 pm, Regular Board Meeting, Knox Center
       ▪ Monday, April 24, 2006, 6:30 pm, Study Session – Budget, Knox Center
2 CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

2.1 Certificated Personnel Report

The Board accepted two retirements and one resignation:

RETIREMENTS
Freemantle, Larry – Art at Olympia High School. Accepted his retirement effective at the end of the 2005-06 school year.
Miller, Kevin – Assistant Principal at Washington Middle School. Accepted his retirement effective at the end of the 2005-06 contract year (June 30, 2006).

RESIGNATION
Gribble, Sue – Principal at McKenny Elementary School. Accepted her resignation effective at the end of the 2005-06 contract year (June 30, 2006).

3 CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

3.1 Classified Personnel Report


4 PUPILS & SCHOOL PROGRAMS

4.1 Instructional Materials Committee

The Board approved the list of instructional materials previously presented for review.

4.2 Overnight Field Trip Requests

The Board approved the following overnight field trips:

- New Market Skills Center – Tacoma, Washington; STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE & SKILLS CONTESTS; CHS, 5 students; OHS, 7 students; April 13-15, 2006.
- CHS/OHS – Seattle; Pacific Northwest District Kiwanis Key Club Convention; 2 CHS, 7 OHS students; April 7 – 9, 2006.
- CHS – Snohomish/Mill Creek, Washington; TRACK MEET—MEN’S & WOMEN’S TRACK TEAMS; 60± students, 3 teachers, 6 to 10 parents; March 24 – 25, 2006.
- MMS – Walla Walla Learning Center, Rosario Beach, Deception Pass; STUDY OF TIDAL ZONES AND TIDE POOLS; 54 students, 2 teachers, 23 parents.

6 BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – NEW CONSTRUCTION

6.1 Award of Bid – Bid No. 607, Corridor Lockers for Washington Middle School

The Board accepted the bid from Northwest Handling Systems in the amount of $61,972 to install metal corridor lockers for the Washington Middle School project.

6.2 Final Acceptance – Bid No. 594, John Rogers Elementary, Interior Improvements, Phase I

The Board approved final acceptance of the interior improvements project for John Rogers Elementary School to prepare the facility for the relocation of Washington and Reeves Middle Schools.

8 FINANCES

8.1 Approval of Vouchers

The Board approved the following expenditures: Associated Student Body Voucher Nos. 27959 through 28000 and 28003, in the total amount of $50,260.98; Capital Projects Voucher Nos. 8513 through 8542, in the total amount of $2,170,916.32; General Fund Voucher Nos. 135101 through 135102, and 135104 through 135217, in the total amount of $437,716.51; and, Transportation Vehicle Fund Voucher No. 54, in the total amount of $72,796.66.

8.2 Facility Use Agreement – The Vineyard Church

The Board approved a one-year extension to the facility use agreement with The Vineyard Church to use Garfield Elementary School for Sunday worship services.

Superintendent Lahmann noted the inclusion in the Classified Personnel Report of Barb Killgore’s resignation, and offered his thanks to her for many years of very professional, faithful service to the District.
Regular Agenda

The Board agreed to consider the two regular agenda items in reverse order.

4 PUPILS & SCHOOL PROGRAMS

4.1 Capital High School International Baccalaureate Program (IB) Update

Teri Poff, Principal of Capital High School, provided the Board with an update on the progress of the International Baccalaureate Program and the goals for improvement. The presentation included information gathered from students, staff, and the Site Council. Staff addressed about restructuring the 9th grade English curriculum to better prepare all 9th grade students for the following high school years. Other staff members addressed their efforts in both the Science and Mathematics departments toward improvement.

1 SCHOOL DIRECTORS

1.1 West Side Boundary Review Update

Bob Wolpert, Facilities and Operations Director, reviewed the progress of the West Side Boundary Review Committee, including an overview of the points the Committee has considered in its deliberations, its work to date and plans for the remainder of its work, leading to recommendations to the Board on April 17th.

Mr. Wolpert noted with thanks the hard work of the committee, and made particular reference to the assistance of the Thurston Regional Planning Commission (TRPC) in their endeavors. He also noted the value District staff member Darlene Fuller has been to the team. As a result of her work on boundary review committees in the past, she has gained a level of expertise that has been a key element in the work that is being accomplished.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Highly-Capable Program Update – Spring 2006
- Outdoor School Options – Spring 2006

President Lehman adjourned the meeting at 8:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Secretary      President