

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
OLYMPIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 111
May 10, 2004**

The regular meeting of the Olympia School District Board of Directors was called to order by President John McGee at 7:06 p.m., Monday, May 10, 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 Todd Fulton, teacher at Olympia High School.

PRESENTATION

Mr. Bert Backman, Executive Director of the organization, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, and Mrs. Carol McCormick, State Awards Chair, presented awards to District administrators who were nominated by Todd Fulton, a teacher at Olympia High School, for their support of his military service as a Coast Guard Reservist. Recipients were Superintendent Bill Lahmann, Dr. Pam Farr--Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services, Dr. Paula Akerlund--Director of Special Services, Dr. Richard Wilson--Director of Personnel and Human Resources, and Peggy Locke--District Certification Officer.

VICE PRESIDENT PARVINEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 19, 2004. DIRECTOR LEHMAN SECONDED. THREE AYES; MOTION CARRIED.

IDENTIFICATION OF AUDIENCE MEMBERS WHO WISH TO SPEAK TO AGENDA ITEMS

Many audience members were identified

COMMUNITY COMMENT

Mrs. Katie Woodland and Mr. Loren M. Freeman were joined by others of the organization *Bridges*, there to express their concerns regarding the District's Special Needs program. Mr. Freeman stated that their goals are to 1) raise expectations for students receiving special needs services, 2) ensure that OSD provides support to teachers of special needs students through additional training, and 3) to see special needs students welcomed into their schools as full participating students.

Through discussion, it was stated that they desired to meet with the Board to address their concerns and recommendations. Superintendent Lahmann confirmed that the current Board was not part of the implementation of the special needs program, and that staff would be pleased to have an opportunity to meet with the organization prior to scheduling of any special session to be conducted by the Board.

President McGee suggested that such a meeting would likely require a date in the next school year. Director Barclift stated that it was appropriate that the organization meet first with the administration, and remarked on the importance of our special education program. It was agreed that a schedule would be put into place.

As a number of audience members had indicated their desire to address the Board regarding Alternative Programs, President McGee asked Superintendent Lahmann to provide a brief update on current plans. Superintendent Lahmann stated that there is currently no plan to reduce alternative programs and that the District understands the concerns of parents regarding loss of staff members from current alternative programs. He stated that the District will work closely with principals in identifying new teachers for alternative programs. He added that there remains a lot of work to do on the RIF process, particularly in terms of seniority and eligibility. He referred to this as a very difficult time, but restated that there is nothing on the docket to cut alternative programs.

Many parents and other concerned individuals spoke eloquently about their support for three vital Olympia School District programs: Special Services, Alternative Programs, and Kindergarten. Several suggestions for cost savings were made, many of which are currently being studied by staff. Director Nafziger reminded everyone of the importance of placing everything on the table so that we can make decisions that are in the best interest of all students and all programs.

President McGee called a ten minute break at 9:08 p.m.; the meeting was reconvened at 9:26 p.m.

ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT UP BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Director Barclift mentioned that the District received a School Board Challenge Award from the Washington State PTA, and she commended Paul Flock and his staff for their creativity and commitment. She noted that the Washington State School Directors Association (WSSDA) Area 5, Legislative Representatives, would be meeting tomorrow night here in the Knox Center considering issues to take before the legislature next year.

Director Barclift recommended the continuation of the study session on alternative programs.

She commented that this year's National School Board Association conference was the best she ever attended; she brought back a lot of good information on No Child Left Behind, including information on recommendations to amend and improve the legislation. She stated that the WSSDA Legislative Representatives were submitting a proposal for next fall's WSSDA conference inviting all school districts to bring specific details about areas where the law is having an unintended consequence, further inviting staff from Senator Murray's and Senator Cantwell's offices to participate.

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

Consent Agenda

1. SCHOOL DIRECTORS

1.1 Board Meeting Schedule

- Monday, May 17, 2004, 6:30 p.m., **Budget Study Session**, Knox Administrative Center, 1113 Legion Way SE, Olympia, Washington 98501.
- Thursday, May 20, 2004, 9:00 a.m., **Board Retreat**, OSD Support Services Conference Room, 1914 Wilson Street SE, Olympia, Washington 98501.
- Monday, May 24, 2004, 7:00 p.m., **Regular Board Meeting**, Jefferson Middle School, 2200 Conger Avenue NW, Olympia, WA 98502.
- Monday, June 7, 2004, 7:00 p.m., **Regular Board Meeting**, Knox Administrative Center, 1113 Legion Way SE, Olympia, Washington, 98501.
- Tuesday, June 29, 2004, 7:00 p.m., **Regular Board Meeting**, Knox Administrative Center, 1113 Legion Way SE, Olympia, Washington 98501.

2 CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

2.1 Certificated Personnel Report

The Board approved the acceptance of five retirements and four resignations, and approved two reductions in contract and five leaves of absence.

2.2 Executive Session

An Executive Session was requested for personnel and/or legal matters.

3. CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

3.1 Classified Personnel Report

The Board approved the Classified Personnel Report dated May 10, 2004.

4. PUPILS & SCHOOL PROGRAMS

4.1 Overnight Field Trip Requests

The Board approved the following student overnight field trips:

- Marshall Middle School - Marshall Alternative Program; culmination of unit on cultural change with a focus on art and music; Seattle and Bainbridge; 53 students, nine parent chaperones, two teacher chaperones; May 19-21, 2004.
- Hansen Elementary School – Skinner's 4/5 grade class; Lewis & Clark studies, history of eastern Oregon, geology of Oregon, and outward bound experiences; Bend, Oregon; 27 students; 30 parent chaperones, one teacher chaperone; May 26-June 1, 2004.

4.2 Instructional Materials Review

The Board approved the list of instructional materials earlier submitted for review.

6. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS-NEW CONSTRUCTION

6.1 Call for Bids – Reconstruction of Junior Varsity Baseball Field, Olympia High School

The Board granted permission to call for bids for the reconstruction of the junior varsity baseball field at Olympia High School.

8. FINANCES

8.1 Approval of Vouchers

The Board approved Associated Student Body Fund Voucher Nos. 25589 through 25671, in the total amount of \$84,597.94; Capital Projects Fund Voucher Nos. 7479 through 7504, in the total amount of \$230,704.65; and, General Fund Voucher No. 128670, in the amount of \$22,363.60, General Fund Voucher Nos. 128671 through 128998, in the total amount of \$392,701.77, and General Fund Warrant Nos. 14671 through 14754, in the total amount of \$1,179,441.12.

8.2 Lease Agreement – Eastside Cooperative Preschool

The Board approved a new lease agreement with Eastside Cooperative Preschool for the use of a portion of the Old McKinley School site to operate a cooperative preschool program.

8.3 Shared Parking Agreement – Calvary Chapel of Olympia

The Board approved a shared parking agreement with the Calvary Chapel in Olympia to share existing parking facilities.

Regular Agenda

1. SCHOOL DIRECTORS

1.2 Policies & Procedures Review, Section 2000 – *Instruction*

Dr. Pam Farr, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services, presented selected policies from Section 2000 – *Instruction*, for second reading and adoption.

DIRECTOR NAFZIGER MOVED TO ADOPT THE POLICIES PRESENTED UNDER SECTION 2000 – INSTRUCTION. DIRECTOR BARCLIFT SECONDED. FIVE AYES; MOTION CARRIED.

1.2 New Policy 3405, *Students – Nutrition*

Paul Flock, Director of Child Nutrition Services, presented new Policy 3405 for first reading.

Discussion ensued between the Board members, with Superintendent Lahmann stating that this policy provides an opportunity for us to make a start with the middle schools and allow some transition time while we consider appropriate implementation at the high schools.

Dixie Havlak, a member of the nutrition advisory group and a practicing dietitian, spoke urging the implementation of this policy, and particularly expressing her recommendation that food not be given as a classroom reward. She noted that real fruit smoothies were now available at the high school level where only sugary “slushies” had been sold previously, and that she was pleased to see a large banner at Capital High School announcing their healthy items. She encouraged the Board to keep the momentum going.

Dr. Gordon Wheat, also a member of the nutrition advisory group, spoke to the medical evidence and results of the continuing trend toward obesity in our country, that those who are overweight as children are those with amazing incidences of health issues as adults. For the children in our school district this is a number one cause of preventable death. Other speakers also spoke in favor of the proposed policy. Mr. Flock stated that the policy would return to the Board for adoption in two weeks.

1.3 New Policy 5630, *Students – Volunteers*

Mr. Ken Benny, Deputy Superintendent, presented new Policy 5630, **Volunteers**, for second reading and adoption.

Several members of the audience spoke with concerns about the appropriateness of subjecting volunteers, particularly parent volunteers, to potential background checks. Director Lehman presented an amendment to the proposed policy; Director Nafziger suggested that due to the lateness of the hour there was not adequate time to properly consider the amendment.

DIRECTOR NAFZIGER MOVED TO TABLE THE POLICY AND THE AMENDMENT FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION AT THE NEXT BOARD MEETING IN TWO WEEKS. DIRECTOR BARCLIFT SECONDED. FIVE AYES; MOTION CARRIED.

1.4 Reduction in Force Plan

Dr. Rick Wilson, Director of Personnel and Human Resources, requested approval of the Superintendent's plan for reduced education staffing for the 2004-05 school year. Jim Crawford, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Support Services, stated that the Education Staffing Plan is necessary to begin the process of reducing staffing levels under the terms of our contract with the Olympia Education Association, which requires that staff be notified by May 15th. The plan represents a worst case scenario, presented solely for the purpose of authorizing a reduction in force.

Discussion by the Board ensued, followed by comments from concerned community members.

DIRECTOR BARCLIFT MOVED TO APPROVE THE EDUCATION STAFFING PLAN AS PRESENTED. DIRECTOR NAFZIGER SECONDED. FIVE AYES; MOTION CARRIED.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Director Parvinen asked about the candidates for student representative to the Board. It was reported that Avanti had been unsuccessful in identifying a candidate, that Capital High School had one candidate, and that Olympia High School would need to have their candidate, if any, named by this Wednesday.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Staff Recognition – June 7th
- Budget Updates
- Policy Updates

President McGee recessed the Board to Executive Session at 11:46 pm. He reconvened the Board at 12:16 a.m. and immediately adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

President