

**Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of
OLYMPIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 111
May 22, 2006**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session was held at 6:30 pm prior to the Regular Board Meeting to discuss matters relating to bargaining.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

A regular meeting of the Olympia School District Board of Directors was called to order by President Russ Lehman at 7:00 pm, Monday, May 22, 2006, at Boston Harbor Elementary School, 7300 Zangle Road NE, Olympia, Washington 98506. Also attending were Vice President Rich Nafziger, Directors Michelle Parvinen and Bob Shirley, Student Representative Palmer Buchholz, and Superintendent Bill Lahmann. Director Carolyn Barclift joined the meeting in progress, during the Boston Harbor presentation.

The pledge of allegiance was led by President Lehman.

David Brooks, Principal of Boston Harbor Elementary School, welcomed the Board and introduced those staff members who were present. A PowerPoint presentation focused on their School Improvement Plan and accomplishments, activities related to their writing goals, and their efforts toward transforming into a Professional Learning Community. Included in their program was a "walk-about" visitation protocol, with the Board being asked to participate by viewing student work, after which staff members discussed their observations, modeling one PLC collaborative assessment. Jackie Hunt and Milt Harper of the Boston Harbor Community Recreation Project spoke about the plans underway for the recreational use of the Boston Harbor school grounds, to include a playground structure, running track and field upgrades, and reclamation and improvement of the existing nature trail through the nine-acre woods.

President Lehman thanked the Boston Harbor staff and community, and called a brief recess at 7:40 pm; the meeting reconvened at 7:45 pm.

DIRECTOR PARVINEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 8, 2006. DIRECTOR BARCLIFT SECONDED THE MOTION. FIVE AYES; MOTION CARRIED.

Audience members who wish to address the Board regarding agenda items were identified.

The following persons addressed the Board under Community Comment:

Yvonne – Closed Campus at Capital High School – She spoke as a mother who feels it is imperative to close the campus as soon as the remodel is done, as the quality of the learning environment is being compromised. She spoke of her son as being a wonderful student, a year round athlete, a talented musician. However, during the school day he became addicted to methadone, and also a user of cocaine and heroin. She said the nature of drug use is deceptive, at a huge level, and closing the campus would provide the minimum that needs to be done. She said he left campus daily, going to homes and cars of peers, as well as the campus woods, to do drugs. At every turn of addressing the issue with staff, they responded that their hands were tied. There were few responses to phone calls and emails requesting help. She suggested online tracking of students as something that might have provided earlier insight, and recommended that process as a vital program for the future. She warned every parent not to think it couldn't happen in their family, as she was an involved

parent and confident she knew where her son was and what he was doing—it all occurred during academic school hours.

David Losh spoke in support of PATS, as a great program, but addressed his concerns about next year due to the Pioneer renovation, and particularly with regard to transportation. He stated that Knox Center was not a good idea as a location, but thought Lincoln would be a good fit. He also spoke of his concerns about keeping high-capable students engaged through middle school, and suggested that, as a District, we need to start thinking creatively.

Ellen Rice spoke in support of two Capital High School juniors who had suggested they might job share the student representative position on the Board, and of their disappointment when their suggestion was turned down. She suggested the Board be more open to students' suggestions in the future—more willing to meet them half way. She also addressed the proposed curriculum change and the need for a mechanism by which parents can be heard and have their concerns addressed.

DIRECTOR BARCLIFT MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AND THE ADDENDUM THERETO. DIRECTOR SHIRLEY SECONDED THE MOTION. FIVE AYES; MOTION CARRIED.

CONSENT AGENDA

1 SCHOOL DIRECTORS

1.1 Board Meeting Schedule

- Monday, June 5, 2006, 6:30 pm, **Study Session – Budget**, Knox Center
- Thursday, June 8, 2006, 4:00 pm, **Retiree's Ice Cream Social**, Olympia HS Commons
- Monday, June 12, 2006, 7:00 pm, **Regular Board Meeting**, Knox Center
- Thursday, June 15, 6:00 pm, **Graduation-Avanti High School**, Knox Auditorium
- Saturday, June 17, 7:00 pm, **Graduation-Capital High School**, St. Martin's Pavilion
- Monday, June 19, 7:00 pm, **Graduation-Olympia High School**, St. Martin's Pavilion
- Tuesday, June 27, 7:00 pm, **Regular Board Meeting**, Knox Center

2 CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

2.1 Certificated Personnel Report

The Board approved one retirement and one resignation, and approved two leaves of absence, one reduction in contract, and three new contracts:

RETIREMENT

Kamerrer, Karen – Block at Jefferson Middle School. Retirement effective at the end of the 2005-06 school year.

RESIGNATION

VanClifford, Christopher – Math at Capital High School. Resignation effective at the end of the 2005-06 school year.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Rae, Paul – Math at Olympia High School. Requests a one-year .20 FTE leave of absence (from 1.0 to .80) effective the 2006-07 school year. (This is a continuation of Mr. Rae's 2005-06 contract status.)

Foor, Amelia – English teacher at Capital High School. Requests a .4 FTE leave of absence effective the 2006-07 school year.

INCREASE IN CONTRACT

Schuna, Jean – Grade three at Roosevelt Elementary School. Request a continuing .50 FTE increase in contract (from .50 to 1.0) effective the 2006-07 school year. (Ms. Schuna is transferring from a second grade assignment and will be filling the assignment vacated by Catherine O'Sullivan's retirement.)

NEW CONTRACT

Sagerser, Scott – Grade Two at Madison Elementary School. Request a temporary contract effective May 1 through June 21, 2006. This position is needed to alleviate overload situation in grade two.

Drummer, Alice – Principal at Centennial Elementary School. Requests a continuing 1.0 FTE contract effective the 2006-07 school year, beginning July 1, 2006.

Havens, Michael – Assistant Principal/Dean of Students at Jefferson Middle School. Requests a continuing .5 FTE Assistant Principal/.5 FTE Dean of Students contract effective the 2006-07 school year, beginning July 1, 2006.

3 CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

3.1 Classified Personnel Report

The Board approved the Classified Personnel Report dated May 22, 2006.

4 PUPILS & SCHOOL PROGRAMS

4.1 Overnight Field Trip Requests

The Board approved the following overnight field trips requests:

- **Capital High School** – Edinburgh, Scotland; to represent Washington state in the American High School Theatre Festival division of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival; THEATRE COMPETITION; 15-20 students, two teachers, one parent; August 11-24, 2007.
- **Olympia High School** – Seaside, Oregon; perform in two community venues; 50 band members, one teacher, four parents; May 19-21, 2006.

5 BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

5.1 Use of Equipment – Offsite Summer Sports Camps, CHS and OHS

The Board approved use of District equipment for the following:

CAPITAL HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

Boys Football	June 23-26, 2006	at Oregon State University
Boys Basketball	June 27-30, 2006	at Eastern Washington University
Girls Basketball	July 9-14, 2006	at JVs at Western Washington University
Girls Volleyball	July 14-16, 2006	at University of Washington
Girls Basketball	July 16-20, 2006	at Western Washington University

OLYMPIA HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

Boys Football	June 23-26, 2006	at Oregon State University
Boys Basketball	June 29-July 3, 2006	at Gonzaga University
Girls Soccer	July 7-9, 2006	at Blaine High School
Girls Basketball	July 8-11, 2006	at Gonzaga University
Girls Volleyball	July 14-16, 2006	at University of Washington

6 BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – NEW CONSTRUCTION

6.1 Final Acceptance – Bid 596, Relocation of Portable Classroom to Hansen Elementary School

The Board accepted the portable relocation project that moved one portable classroom building from Capital High School to Hansen ES.

6.2 Award of Bid – Washington Middle School Furnishings & Equipment

The Board awarded a bid for furnishings and equipment to Orion Systems of Olympia in the amount of \$62,180.00 and to Creative Office Furnishings in the amount of \$77,160.50, for furnishing and equipment to be installed at Washington Middle School.

8 FINANCES

8.1 Approval of Vouchers

The Board approved the following expenditures: Associated Student Body Voucher Nos. 28195 through 28237, in the total amount of \$59,913.06; Capital Projects Voucher Nos. 8632 through 8658, in the total amount of \$542,552.02; and, General Fund Voucher Nos. 135714 through 135921, in the total amount of \$606,952.04.

8.2 Financial Report – April 2006

The Board approved the April 2006 Revenue & Expenditure Reports for the Associated Student Body, Capital Projects, Debt Service, General, and Transportation Vehicle Funds.

8.3 School Meal Prices for 2006-07

The Board approved an increase in breakfast and lunch prices for the 2006-07 school year.

REGULAR AGENDA

1 SCHOOL DIRECTORS

The Board agreed to move Item 1.1 to the bottom of the agenda.

1.2 Westside Elementary School Boundaries & Revision of Board Policy 3130.1

The administration presented the proposed recommendation, the Board Option, for modifying the west side elementary school service areas.

Mark Campeau, a member of boundary review committee, described the process as a learning experience. As a strong proponent of option one, he said he finds he could live with the Board option. He noted that diversity was a key component in their consideration.

VICE PRESIDENT NAFZIGER MOVED TO APPROVE BOARD OPTION THREE, EXCLUSIVE OF ANY GRANDFATHERING CONSIDERATION. DIRECTOR BARCLIFT SECONDED THE MOTION.

A discussion ensued which concerned a lack of confidence in the growth projections, closer equalization of diversity numbers, respect for the Garfield Elementary desire to remain unaltered, and impacting the least number of families. Director Barclift called the question:

FOUR AYES; ONE NAY. MOTION CARRIED.

DIRECTOR SHIRLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE DISTRICT'S RECOMMENDATION TO GRANDFATHER 4TH, 6TH, AND 7TH GRADE STUDENTS, PROVIDING NO TRANSPORTATION TO GRANDFATHERED STUDENTS. PRESIDENT LEHMAN SECONDED THE MOTION.

During the ensuing discussion Director Parvinen reminded the Board of the comment made at the previous Board meeting that we would be withholding choice from students in lower economic households if transportation is not provided.

President Lehman called for a vote on the motion:

TWO AYES; THREE NAYS. MOTION FAILED ADOPTION.

VICE PRESIDENT NAFZIGER MOVED TO APPROVE THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION TO GRANDFATHER 4TH, 5TH, 6TH, AND 7TH GRADE STUDENTS, WITH TRANSPORTATION TO BE PROVIDED TO 4TH, 6TH AND 7TH GRADE STUDENTS. DIRECTOR PARVINEN SECONDED THE MOTION. FIVE AYES; MOTION CARRIED.

President Lehman called for a brief recess at 8:50 pm; the meeting was reconvened at 8:58 pm.

4 PUPILS & SCHOOL PROGRAMS

4.1 Middle School Math Materials Recommendation

Matt McCauley, Executive Director, K-12 Teaching & Learning, presented additional information on the request to approve the administration's recommendation. Bob Hughes, math teacher at Jefferson Middle School and pilot of the recommended program during the current year, spoke of his clear support, based on his experiences with his students this year, and provided several examples. Michael Cimino, principal at Jefferson Middle School, presented his view on the current curriculum and on testing scores, and noted his support of the recommended curriculum and his confidence that its implementation will work at Jefferson.

Kay Lee Evans spoke as a math professional of her concerns about the process, saying not enough time was spent evaluating the options, and citing examples of districts already using the recommended curriculum that are not satisfied with it. She said she had heard from parents of Tumwater students who indicate their highly-capable students are not adequately challenged and are bored by the curriculum. She presented the Board with a petition opposing the adoption.

Jodi Hansen spoke against the curriculum adoption, saying the process was weighted in favor of CMP and not enough anti-constructionist voice was heard. She said parents and students don't like Trailblazers, it doesn't teach the basics. In terms of WASL scores, she noted that the WASL tests are written from a constructionist math perspective. Another concern was that the recommendation was not supported by the Olympia High School math department.

Ryan Hall said how pleased and proud she was to be part of this great District, and genuinely appreciates it. She said a highly-respected University of Washington report warns against CMP. She noted Tumwater parents who are hiring tutors over the summer to teach their students basic skills. She also asked the Board to make more effort to obtain parent input.

Mike Snodgrass said he had not firmly made up his mind, but was concerned about process, and the short adoption cycle, saying he had never heard of an adoption happening this fast, and that it provided inadequate time for complete research and evaluation. He suggested a pause, to hear from and consider the input from our own math departments, and noted that many other studies offered differing viewpoints, many non-supportive.

Kris Paeth spoke as one who grew up in District and is a great supporter, but found this decision was being considered without adequately explaining the rationale or providing convincing evidence to support the change. She expressed concern about the many school districts across the country that have withdrawn the program or are trying to, and about many of our own middle school and high school math teachers who are concerned. She suggested that the decision should not be made quickly and time should be allowed for open and inclusive discussion so that all could be heard.

Maribeth Duffy spoke of the need to keep class size small, and its relationship to the current issue. She asked how the data was reviewed to decide that it was a middle school issue, as no individual student were tracked, and the process was very concerning and she would like the Board to step back and get more information. She said she was also very concerned about Trailblazers, and any program that might be an extension to it.

Frank McCormick said when he spoke with the Board some months back on the PATS program he had urged the District to aspire to achievement rather than attainment, and he believes adoption of the current recommendation would represent a significant step backward from the high achievement the District currently enjoys. He went on to say that while improving WASL scores is important, it should not provide the sole basis for curriculum

selection on any subject, and the goal of curriculum should be to prepare students for future learning opportunities. He said many current findings do not support CMP as an improvement in curriculum, and that it will not necessarily meet the needs of all students. He said there are too many unanswered questions and he urged the Board to defer a decision until it has analyzed whether we actually have a problem with mathematic in the District.

Anne Egeler reflected on a possible misunderstanding about the fears parents are experiencing, and that most are very proud to be part of this District, with its good math scores and excellent teachers. She asked the Board to give the same careful, analytical consideration to this issue that it gives to many other issues, looking at the pros and cons of many programs.

Angelika Hagen-Breaux said she came to the meeting with open mind, but is concerned about the lack of process involved. She would like to hear from opposing experts, as there is a lot of controversy. She said math is a quantifiable science, and asked the Board to please take their time to consider this carefully.

Following discussion, the Board agreed to defer action on the recommendation pending further review and analysis.

4.2 Policy 3242, Closed Campus

Superintendent Lahmann reported to the Board that a decision has been made to close the Capital High School campus beginning with the 2006-07 school year, as completion of construction will reduce the overcrowding during lunch periods that created the need to open the campus during the normal day. The Board affirmed that the return to a closed campus, in keeping with Board Policy 3242, should be implemented.

6 BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – NEW CONSTRUCTION

6.1 Award of Bid – Reeves Middle School Modernization & Additions

The administration recommends award of the Base Bid and Alternate Bid No. 1 in the amount of \$10,208,500 for the modernization and expansion of Reeves Middle School to Babbit Neuman Construction Company. Bob Wolpert reported that although the bid is over budget, it was the lowest of the four bids received, and alterations to the scope of work will be reviewed in order to bring it final cost back in line.

DIRECTOR SHIRLEY MOVED TO APPROVE AN AWARD TO BABBIT NEWMAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,208,500 FOR THE MODERNIZATION AND EXPANSION OF REEVES MIDDLE SCHOOL. DIRECTOR BARCLIFT SECONDED THE MOTION. FIVE AYES; MOTION CARRIED.

Due to the lateness of the hour, it was decided to postpone consideration of Item 1.1 to the next Board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

President