

**Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of
OLYMPIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 111
June 27, 2006**

A regular meeting of the Olympia School District Board of Directors was called to order by President Russ Lehman at 7:00 pm, Tuesday, June 27, 2006, at the Knox Center, 1113 Legion Way SE, Olympia, Washington 98501. Vice President Rich Nafziger, Directors Carolyn Barclift, Michelle Parvinen and Bob Shirley, and Superintendent Bill Lahmann were also present. Student Representative Rachel Reclam was unable to attend.

The pledge of allegiance was led by President Russ Lehman.

DIRECTOR BOB SHIRLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 12, 2006. DIRECTOR CAROLYN BARCLIFT SECONDED THE MOTION. THREE AYES; ONE ABSTENTION; MOTION CARRIED.

Audience members who wished to address agenda items were identified.

COMMUNITY COMMENT

Katie Woodland – provided the Board with handouts pertaining to special education allocation of funds.

Mike Freeman – spoke about small containment rooms, referring to their use as a symptom of a much larger problem. He addressed his concern that basic education dollars allocated to the District are not being distributed to special education students.

Vice President Nafziger asked for further clarification of the concerns about the small rooms, based on his observations. Mr. Freeman responded that the rooms were a very serious problem for not only the student being separated, but also for the rest of the class. He suggested some data-driven research of the small room use and the impact on all students.

President Lehman noted his disagreement with the notion that special education funds were being “siphoned off” for basic education and suggested a meeting. At the same time he thanked Mr. Freeman and others for bringing their concerns to the Board’s attention. It was agreed that the District would meet with Mr. Freeman

Debbie Sorrells – a community advocate for a number of years, with considerable experience in special education services and IEPs, said she is concerned about budget issues and looking for transparency in lay terms. She noted that isolation rooms are used on non-autistic students, too.

Carol Skinner – is also concerned with the containment room concept. She noted she has spoken in the past of the positive aspects of the education her daughter received, and suggested the Board speak with some students and parents.

Carrie Wack – said she heard a welcome rumor that the Board is contracting with the University of Washington to evaluate the special education program. She spoke of her experience, noting that her son did well in kindergarten, but an unknown change occurred in 1st grade, and although staff assured them he was happy and doing well, he was begging not to have to go to school. For 2nd

grade they put him in private school, at the recommendation of his teacher. She noted that every school and every staff member should be trained in the needs of autistic students, and explained that it took her own research to obtain the services she needed, but was not being provided by the school.

Kelley McGearey – as part of the school district since before pre-school, she noted that her family's problems began at middle school, when her son was mistakenly placed in a Lifeskills class. Although the teacher recognized he was higher-functioning and placed him back in general education, an incident occurred which allowed her son's reactions to escalate and led to unreasonable punishment. She stated she had many times observed students being placed in the "box" for inappropriate reasons and students being handled inappropriately. She noted several incidents which have occurred in her son's school life, leading to retaliatory measures being taken against her son. She recommended that camera's be placed in classrooms and in "boxes", that parents be allowed to drop in and observe their children, that reported incidents be reviewed within 48 hours and that more detailed explanations be given to parents of special needs children.

Tracy Duncan – her child has received no IEP services this year and is now behind or failing in every class, including two years behind in reading. She looks like a typical student, and no one acknowledges her daughter's autism diagnosis. She said they encounter never-ending paperwork stalls, being ostracized by staff and considered a troublemaker, while the school and district are letting her daughter slip through the cracks.

Andryea Grazier – said her daughter is a special education student entering 10th grade at Olympia High School. She stated that she has encountered many procedural safeguards with no explanations as to how they work or why. She said she has found the system laden with pitfalls, fears and intimidations, and that she finds no standard within the OSD's 18 schools as to how to interact with special education students and parents. She added that most parents of special needs students believe we're all in this together and can learn from each other. She stated that they are the District's greatest unused assets, willing to partner with the District and work for the benefit of all.

President Lehman called a five minute break at 8:13pm; the meeting reconvened at 8:21pm.

Director Barclift addressed the audience noting that a process is in place to investigate complaints and encouraging its use when incidents occur. Director Shirley stated his appreciation of those who spoke of specific incidents.

President Lehman removed Item 2.2 from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda, and an explanation will be provided at that time regarding Joy Walton's position. He further removed Items 2.3 and 3.2 for discussion during Executive Session, with action likely to follow.

DIRECTOR PARVINEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, WITH ITEMS 2.2, 2.3 AND 3.2 REMOVED AS NOTED. VICE PRESIDENT NAFZIGER SECONDED THE MOTION. FIVE AYES; MOTION CARRIED.

Superintendent Lahmann noted the Consent Agenda contained the resignation of Mike Hickman, who is leaving to become an Assistant Superintendent at ESD 113—an excellent opportunity for him, but one which leaves a tremendous hole for us. He went on to refer to Mike as one who cares deeply about every student, and thanked him for his leadership and expertise, and for the excellent job he has done for the District.

CONSENT AGENDA

1 SCHOOL DIRECTORS

1.1 Board Meeting Schedule

- Thursday, June 29, 6:30 pm, **Study Session—BAG/Budget**, Knox Center
- Monday, July 17, 6:30 pm, **Public Hearing—Budget**, Knox Center
- Monday, July 17, 7:00 pm, **Regular Board Meeting**, Knox Center
- Monday, August 14, 7:00 pm, **Regular Board Meeting**, Knox Center
- Monday, August 21, 6:30 pm, **Study Session**, Knox Center
- Monday, August 28, 7:00 pm, **Regular Board Meeting**, Knox Center

2 CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

2.1 Certificated Personnel Report

The Board accepted one retirement and one resignation, and approved one correction in resignation/retirement, one release from contract, four leaves of absence and two new contracts:

RETIREMENT

O'Keefe, Peggy, Block at Marshall Middle School. Retirement approved effective at the end of the 2005-06 school year.

RESIGNATIONS

Hickman, Mike - CTE Director. Resignation approved effective June 30, 2006.

RELEASE FROM CONTRACT

Dees, Jeannie – Grade Three at Garfield Elementary School. Released from her 1.0 FTE 2006-07 contract immediately.

CORRECTION TO RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT

France, Robert – Vocational Science Education at Capital High School. Approved retirement at the end of the 2005-06 school year.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Bierdeman, Karen – Elementary Teacher, Displaced. Approved a 1.0 FTE leave of absence effective the 2006-07 school year. (This is a continuation of Ms. Bierdeman's 2005-06 leave of absence.)

Hallett, Kelly – Grade Four at Centennial Elementary School. Approved a 1.0 FTE leave of absence effective the 2006-07 school year.

Merrigan, Sharyn – Humanities at Marshall Middle School. Approved a .40 FTE leave of absence (from 1.0 to .60) effective the 2006-07 school year. (This is a continuation of Ms. Merrigan's 2005-06 leave of absence.)

Walton, Joy – Approved a one-year leave of absence from her position as principal of Avanti High School. (To fill the new one year .50 FTE position of Parent Partnership On-Line Learning Administrator.)

NEW CONTRACTS

Gregory, Kathleen – Grade One at McLane Elementary School. Approved a 1.0 FTE provisional contract effective the 2006-07 school year. (FTE vacated by Beth Belding's retirement.)

Kruse, Christina – Math at Capital High School. Approved a 1.0 FTE provisional contract effective the 2006-07 school year. (FTE vacated by Chris VanClifford's resignation.)

Walton, Joy – Parent Partnership On-Line Learning Administrator. Approved a one-year .50 FTE contract effective the 2006-07 contract year.

STATE COLA INCREASE APPROVED FOR UNREPRESENTED CERTIFICATED ADMINISTRATORS:

Bill Lahmann, Hans Landig, Matt McCauley

2.2 OSD/OEA Contract Approval

The Board ratified the proposed contract between the Olympia School District and the Olympia Education Association for the contract years September 1, 2005, through August 31, 2008.

2.3 Unrepresented Certificated Salary Schedule

The Board approved the 2006-07 Unrepresented Certificated Salary Schedule presented in Executive Session.

3 CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

3.1 Classified Personnel Report

The Board approved the Classified Personnel Report dated June 27, 2006.

3.2 Unrepresented Classified Salary Schedule

The Board approved the 2006-07 Unrepresented Classified Salary Schedule presented in Executive Session.

4 PUPIL & PROGRAMS

4.1 Instructional Materials Committee

The Board approved the materials previously submitted for review.

4.2 Instructional Materials Committee

The Board acknowledged the list of instructional materials submitted for review. The materials are available for study in the K-12 Teaching & Learning office for a period of three weeks.

8 FINANCES

8.1 Approval of Vouchers

The Board approved the following expenditures: Associated Student Body Voucher Nos. 28315 through 28387, in the total amount of \$118,978.12; Capital Projects Voucher Nos. 8686 through 8712, in the total amount of \$335,657.84; and, General Fund Voucher Nos. 135925 and 136120 through 136258, in the total amount of \$425,942.73.

8.2 Financial Report – May 2006

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

8.3 Waiver of School Impact Fee – Catholic Community Services

The Board approved a restrictive covenant with the Catholic Community Services granting a waiver of school impact fees for 35 studio apartment units in the Devoe Housing Continuum project for the purpose of providing low-income family housing, subject to the requirements of CFR Part 91.

8.4 Lease Agreement – Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

The Board approved a one-year lease agreement with the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd to temporarily house Pioneer Elementary School, grades K-2, during the 2006-07 school year while the existing school campus is remodeled.

REGULAR AGENDA

1 SCHOOL DIRECTORS

1.1 “Unity in the Community” Proclamation

The community organization known as *Unity in the Community* has requested the Board of Directors join in their efforts to celebrate human rights and diversity, and oppose hatred directed against any person, by signing the presented proclamation.

VICE PRESIDENT NAFZIGER MOVED ISSUANCE OF A PROCLAMATION DATED JUNE 27, 2006, AFFIRMING SUPPORT OF *UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY* AND IT’S EFFORTS TO CELEBRATE HUMAN RIGHTS AND DIVERSITY AND ELIMINATE ACTS OF HATRED IN OUR COMMUNITY. DIRECTOR PARVINEN SECONDED THE MOTION. FIVE AYES; MOTION CARRIED.

4 PUPILS & SCHOOL PROGRAMS

4.1 Summer School Review

Matt McCauley, Executive Director of K-12 Teaching & Learning, introduced Melody Borcharding, K-8 Summer School Director, and Matt Grant, High School Summer Director, and thanked them for the work they have done in putting these programs together. Ms. Borcharding reviewed the enrollment and course offerings for the K-8 summer school program, which opened this week. Director Barclift asked about the relationship between the number of students registered for summer school and the number initially recommended for the program, and Ms. Borcharding said she would look for the data. In response to a question from Director Shirley, Ms. Borcharding explained that the program was basically one of intervention to bring students to the level they need for catching up to grade level for fall. Mr. Grant reviewed the classes offered in the high school summer school program, and explained how the classes are designed to meet the needs of students. He also explained that each student thought to be in a position of needing the summer school program was contacted by letter and by phone calls; they will develop further strategies for engaging students for next year.

Vice President Nafziger suggested further consideration of the appropriateness of charging students for summer school classes they need to take in order to graduate. Mr. McCauley explained the reasoning behind the fees, based on the number of students projected to attend and the number of teachers that might be needed, and it was thought they needed to retrieve some costs. He noted that they would be learning from this year's experience and would be better able to plan for next year.

4 PUPILS & SCHOOL PROGRAMS

4.2 Middle School Math Adoption Process Continuation

Matt McCauley, Executive Director, K-12 Teaching & Learning, provided information and a timeline for continuing the Middle School Math Adoption process. Director Parvinen agreed to join the Math Team as they continue their review. Director Shirley asked if the publishers would agree to allow us to post materials online for side-by-side comparisons. Director Barclift suggested that perhaps we could provide links from our website to that of the publishers. Those alternatives and others will be considered.

Theresa Jeng – asked who will do the research and how, and who will be the contact. She asked for a fair and open process, and an early parent forum so parents concerns can be heard. She asked for meeting dates and other information to be posted to the website.

Mike Snodgrass – said he was glad to hear that others were being added to the adoption process, noting there are parents and teachers he is aware of who are interested in participating. He added that the process needs more time, not less. He is looking for diversity in the research, and to serve on the committee. He said he believed not enough time was given to thoroughly reviewing the curriculum options, and would suggest representation from every site, with every middle school math teacher having an opportunity to evaluate and provide input.

Kaylee Evans – thanked the Board for extending the process, but said she was appalled with the bias of the Committee, the Board and the process. She stated that a review of seven curriculums in one day cannot result in an informed decision. She suggested the availability of sample lessons and onsite review of text books.

1 SCHOOL DIRECTORS

1.2 Second Reading – Proposed Revision to “Weapons & Dangerous Objects”

The administration recommended approval of the proposed revision to this section of Policy 3200 to more clearly define weapons and dangerous objects. Director Barclift suggested a change in **Safety Measures**, subsection e): the last sentence, changing “to” to “with”.

DIRECTOR SHIRLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED REVISION TO THE "WEAPONS & DANGEROUS OBJECTS" SECTION OF POLICY 3200, AS AMENDED. DIRECTOR BARCLIFT SECONDED THE MOTION. FIVE AYES; MOTION CARRIED.

1.3 Second Reading, Proposed Revision to Policy 2255, High School Alternative Learning Experience Programs, Avanti High School

It was noted that the recommended revision will align our policy with new Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 392-121-182.

DIRECTOR BARCLIFT MOVED TO APPROVE THE REVISION TO POLICY 2255 AS RECOMMENDED. DIRECTOR PARVINEN SECONDED THE MOTION. FOUR AYES, ONE NO; MOTION CARRIED.

ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

Superintendent Lahmann noted an ongoing conversation he has had with Joy Walton about moving to connect with our community through distance or digital learning, from our high schools or from home, particularly for home schooling partnerships. State apportionment is ultimately available, and new students are expected to be generated. It becomes an outreach to the community, and provides a valuable service, one which will actually generate some additional revenue. It will also serve as a tool in our drop out prevention program. Joy indicated she would like to be involved in establishing this program and that she might like to work part time for awhile. Joy requested a leave of absence from her position with Avanti High School in order to accept a half-time position as Parent Partnership On-Line Learning Administrator.

Director Shirley noted his disappointment, because he thought this would be a step in getting electronic parent access across the District. Vice President Nafziger suggested this step will fit together well in the next steps for Avanti's future.

DIRECTOR BARCLIFT MOVED TO APPROVE JOY WALTON'S LEAVE OF ABSENCE AS PRINCIPAL OF AVANTI HIGH SCHOOL AND HER APPOINTMENT AS LEARNING ADMINISTRATOR FOR PARENT PARTNERSHIP ONLINE. DIRECTOR SHIRLEY SECONDED THE MOTION. FIVE AYES; MOTION CARRIED.

DIRECTOR PARVINEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE OLYMPIA SCHOOL DISTRICT/OLYMPIA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION CONTRACT FOR THE CONTRACT YEARS SEPTEMBER 1, 2005, THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2008. VICE PRESIDENT NAFZIGER SECONDED THE MOTION. FIVE AYES; MOTION CARRIED.

EXECUTIVE SESSION/ACTION AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board recessed to Executive Session at 10:34pm for discussion of personnel matters.

DIRECTOR PARVINEN MOVED TO APPROVE ITEMS 2.3 AND 3.2 AS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA. PRESIDENT LEHMAN SECONDED THE MOTION. FOUR AYES; MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

President