

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
OLYMPIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 111
October 11, 2004**

The regular meeting of the Olympia School District Board of Directors was called to order by President John McGee at 7:02 p.m., Monday, October 11, 2004, at the Knox Administrative Center, 1113 Legion Way SE, Olympia, Washington 98501. All in attendance were Vice President Michelle Parvinen, Directors Russ Lehman and Rich Nafziger, Student Representative Joe Anderson, and Assistant Superintendent Ken Benny. Director Carolyn Barclift was unable to attend. Superintendent Bill Lahmann was absent due to illness.

The pledge of allegiance was collectively led by students from Capital High School and Olympia High School.

VICE PRESIDENT PARVINEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2004. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE ANDERSON SECONDED THE MOTION. FIVE AYES; MOTION CARRIED.

Four individuals in the audience desired to address the Board on agenda item 1.1.

There was no community comment.

ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT UP BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Director Lehman stated that he would like a discussion of graduation requirements at Capital High School, and would bring it forth later in the agenda.

Director Nafziger requested that copies of the 2002-07 Strategic Plan be made available for discussion at the Board Retreat.

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

Consent Agenda

1 SCHOOL DIRECTORS

1.1 Board Meeting Schedule

- Monday, October 18, 2004, 6:30 pm, **Board Study Session**, Knox Administrative Center, 1113 Legion Way SE, Olympia, Washington 98501.
- Monday, October 25, 2004, 7:00 pm, **Regular Board Meeting**, Lincoln Elementary School, 213 21st Avenue SE, Olympia, Washington 98501.
- Tuesday, October 26, 2004, 9:30 am, **Board Retreat**, location TBD.
- Monday, November 8, 2004, 7:00 pm, **Regular Board Meeting**, Knox Administrative Center, 1113 Legion Way SE, Olympia, Washington 98501.
- Monday, November 22, 2004, 7:00 pm, **Regular Board Meeting**, Knox Administrative Center, 1113 Legion Way SE, Olympia, Washington 98501.

2 CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

2.1 Certificated Personnel Report

The Board approved rescinding one leave of absence six increases in contract and three new contracts. *ALL OFFERS FOR NEW CONTRACTS ARE CONTINGENT UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF ALL BACKGROUND CHECKS REQUIRED BY STATE LAW AND DISTRICT POLICY.*

2.2 Executive Session

No executive session was required for the extant meeting.

3 CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

3.1 Classified Personnel Report

The Board approved the Classified Personnel Report dated October 11, 2004. *ALL OFFERS FOR EMPLOYMENT ARE CONTINGENT UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF ALL BACKGROUND CHECKS REQUIRED BY STATE LAW AND DISTRICT POLICY.*

4 PUPILS & SCHOOL PROGRAMS

4.1 Instructional Materials

The Board approved the purchase of the instructional materials recommended by the Instructional Materials Committee, previously submitted to the Board for its review.

4.2 Inter-agency Agreement with Griffin School District

The Board approved the Memorandum of Agreement for the Provision of Education Services for Students with Disabilities, for the 2004-05 school year, with Griffin School District.

6 BUILDINGS & GROUNDS—NEW CONSTRUCTION

6.1 Final Acceptance Knox Administrative Center Improvements,

The Board approved final acceptance of the Knox Administrative Center improvement project.

8 FINANCES

8.1 Approval of Vouchers

The Board approved the following expenditures: Associated Student Body Fund Voucher Nos. 26142 through 26196, in the total amount of \$44,640.49; Capital Projects Voucher Nos. 7695 through 7717, in the total amount of \$592,566.06; General Fund Warrant Nos. 15153 through 15239, in the total amount of \$1,095,243.88; and, General Fund Voucher Nos. 130682 through 130879, in the total amount of \$364,132.57.

8.2 Facility Use Agreement – Olympia Bible Baptist Church

The Board approved a one-year facility use agreement with Olympia Bible Baptist Church for use of McLane Elementary School for Sunday worship services.

8.3 Notice of Public Hearing and Surplus Property Sale

The Board approved the publishing of a notice of public hearing, to be held November 8th in conjunction with a Regular Board Meeting, to consider the sale of two surplus properties in Olympia: the old Madison Elementary School site at 812 Central Street, and the 6.0 acre site at the corner of 9th Avenue SW and Fern Street.

Regular Agenda

1 SCHOOL DIRECTORS

1.1 High School Prom Information

Information was presented by Assistant Superintendent Ken Benny related to requests by Olympia High School and Capital High School students to hold their Proms outside Thurston County.

Director Nafziger suggested that this item may not be one that falls within the Board's domain, and that he didn't see much value being added by the Board getting into it. Director Lehman concurred, adding that he saw this as an administrative decision and not one properly before the Board. Vice President Parvinen indicated her agreement with that position.

President McGee did not agree, stating that he considered the Board to be the "court of last resort" and, as such, he would like to consider what the students have to say.

Assistant Superintendent Ken Benny stated that Superintendent Lahmann had met with some of the students and administration and was very impressed with the manner in which the students presented their position. He reported on an informal email survey that involved parents of both high schools, with 15% in favor of allowing students to travel outside Thurston County and 85% opposed at Capital High School, and with 55% in favor and 45% opposed at Olympia High School. The three main themes of their responses were safety, equitable access for all who wish to participate, and support for local businesses.

Assistant Superintendent Crawford reported that our insurer was not favorable toward this event being held non-locally; though it is done in other districts, it introduces significant liability issues. In response to a question from Director Lehman, Mr. Crawford agreed that while we do transport students to other District events significantly remote from Olympia, typically those are different types of events.

Cameron Hebb, ASB President at Olympia High School – Clearly we feel very strongly about this issue, with CHS wishing to go to Tacoma and OHS wishing to go to Matlock, and we probably wouldn't be raising it at all if there were locations available locally that would adequately accommodate the events. We've worked out some requirements that would help with safety, such as having students attend a safety meeting, requiring a signed permission slip from parents, and featuring driving safety clips on our school news networks. As for the transportation issue and the restriction on hiring charter buses, we are working on the idea of themed buses to make the prospect of riding on school buses more appealing.

Jesse Lee, Capital High School – We realize that the drive to Tacoma and back on a Saturday night does present safety issues, but we will do as much as we can to inform students. We believe the drive to Tacoma would not be an issue, as we have arranged for our pictures to be taken in the afternoon on the glass bridge that connects the History Museum to the Glass Museum, then most would have dinner in Tacoma; so, the only problem for us would be coming back at night. Our safety proposals include a key check, supervised by the adult chaperones, with a breathalyzer also available. He stated that although they do understand the District's concerns, it is noted that students are encouraged to attend sports functions that are even further out of County than the proposed Prom location, with no safety guidelines or special permissions attached. It was also noted that over 90% of seniors are over 18 by Prom date.

President McGee noted that a police officer would be required to be present in order to administer a breathalyzer.

Lisetta Cook, Capital High School – Ms. Cook reminded the Board that both high schools have a Grad Night in Tacoma, where they are there all night, returning at 6:00 am the next morning; and that event has not been questioned. She stated that the schools had investigated all sites in the local area; the only place that might be adequate was Indian Summer, and the costs required by the facility were way beyond affordable. We realize there are huge liabilities, but believe the District liability could be limited by some of the measures we have suggested. In terms of accessibility, we believe we have fully addressed that issue as well, and that accessibility would be more limited if we had to hold the event at a smaller location and restrict the number of tickets to be sold.

PRESIDENT MCGEE MOVED TO DIRECT THE ADMINISTRATION TO WORK WITH THE STUDENTS AT THE TWO HIGH SCHOOLS TO ALLOW THEIR PROMS TO BE HELD OUTSIDE THURSTON COUNTY, SUBJECT TO THE GUIDELINES THAT HAVE BEEN PROPOSED, AND WITH THE STIPULATION THAT A POLICE OFFICER SHALL BE PRESENT AT BOTH EVENTS. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE ANDERSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

President McGee called a recess at 7:44 pm to consider the appropriateness of Student Representative Anderson's right to second the motion currently on the table. The meeting reconvened 8:01 pm, with a determination that precedent had been established to allow Mr. Anderson's second to prevail.

President McGee stated that he had discussed this with his family, all products of the Olympia School District, and they brought up the point that the more serious activities would occur after the students returned to Olympia, traveling to and from "after" parties. He acknowledged that tragedy can strike at any time, but remarked that it was hard for him to see why we wouldn't give the students the chance to prove themselves.

Vice President Parvinen pointed out that she was very impressed with the work the students had done; however, but she believed it was important to consider the line where the Board would overrule or direct the administration. Director Nafziger agreed that the students make a compelling case, particularly with their point that students do attend events outside the County. He stated that he was convinced, however, that it was not the Board's decision. Director Lehman agreed: they did a good job and made a number of good arguments. He stated that he still believes this was not properly before the Board and he would have to yield to the administration—this is their job. Student Representative Anderson stated that the proposal is well thought out, and they have closely examined the issue of there not being a great venue in Olympia, and they have considered and comprehensively dealt with the issues raised by the administration. President McGee stated his contention that an issue involving nearly 10% of our student body is one the Board has the proper authority to direct.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER DISCUSSION, PRESIDENT MCGEE CALLED FOR A VOTE ON THE MOTION: TWO AYES, 3 NAYS, MOTION FAILED.

4 PUPILS & PROGRAMS

4.1 Annual School Improvement Planning Process

Ken Benny, Assistant Superintendent for K-12 Teaching and Learning, presented information on the Olympia School District's Comprehensive School Improvement Planning Process. He informed the Board that every school is required to have a Comprehensive School Improvement Plan.

Director Nafziger noted that there doesn't seem to be continuity in the goals set by the schools. That is, some are heavily defined by numericals, some are not at all defined that way. Assistant Superintendent Ken Benny responded that the administration encourages the schools to define the methods which will best suit their goals.

Director Nafziger asked if a copy of last year's SIPs could be made available.

8 FINANCE

8.1 Enrollment Update

Jim Crawford, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Support Services, provided the Board with an update on enrollment figures based on October 1, 2004, numbers.

Director Lehman asked when the enrollment numbers would stabilize; and Mr. Crawford stated that the January figures should give us our closest "real number" for the school year. Currently our overload numbers are still very high; as enrollment declines we should also see a decline in overload.

ITEMS TO BE BROUGHT UP BY PERSONS PRESENT

Director Lehman stated that he is working with a group of parents, including a representative from every elementary school, in order to retain the outdoor school program at Cispus. He stated he was cautiously optimistic about their success.

Director Lehman also stated that he had heard from a number of Capital High School parents who were concerned about the change in graduation requirements, and wondered why it had happened and whether it was necessary. Assistant Superintendent Benny stated that the administration would be providing an overview, and considering possible options. Although there isn't a choice in the change, we may have a little flexibility in the way we work it. The information will be provided to the Board soon.

Director Lehman asked for a cost estimate to provide laptops for the Board, including network provisions in the Board Room. He stated that the Olympia City Council has gone that route as a means of easily accessing pertinent files and eliminating some of the volumes of paper generated.

Director Lehman indicated his ongoing concern about Parliamentary procedure, particularly in light of the question of our Student Representative's status on the Board, and suggested that we may need to amend our policy to be more specific once clarification is achieved.

No further Board member comments were offered.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Policy Updates
- Board Email Communications – Retreat?
- Graduation Requirements, including Physical Education Credits

No executive session was required at this time.

President McGee declared the meeting adjourned at 9:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

President