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**Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of  
OLYMPIA SCHOOL DISTRICT 111  
November 13, 2006**

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

President Lehman led the pledge of allegiance.

**DIRECTOR SHIRLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF OCTOBER 23, 2006. VICE PRESIDENT NAFZIGER SECONDED THE MOTION. THREE AYES, TWO ABSTENTIONS; MOTION CARRIED.**

One audience member was identified to speak about an agenda item.

**COMMUNITY COMMENT**

**Dave Christiansen – Math** – He said changing the math curriculum assumes the traditional math curriculum is not working for all students, and he believes test scores show our students do very well. He questioned the assessment as being sided to constructivist math, with inadequate time comparing curricula and no data being analyzed, in making a decision that will affect hundred of thousands of kids, now and in the future. Parents feel they are being left out of the process. Alternative curriculum should be utilized for those students who aren't succeeding.

**Beth Flynn – Math** – as a member of OlyPARM, she would like an opportunity to present their data to the review team, as each side of the issue has the right to present their information; they were denied that right at recent meetings and assume District staff directed the restriction of a member's comments because she might present information that contradicted District data. The CMP pilot didn't keep up with the school, the district or the state pass rates, and no data has been presented to prove CMP will close the achievement gap. She asked how CMP would help the 27% who are not passing the WASL without hindering the 73% who are succeeding with traditional math. She said the proof is that each year the District's 10<sup>th</sup> grade math WASL pass rate increases and is well above the state pass rate.

**Laurie Niewolny – Math.** She said she is concerned the curriculum review committee may be taking risks with her children's education, as they continue to consider a curriculum that many districts are turning away from. She added that it would appear the district is seeking to change a curriculum for all students in order to meet the needs of a minority of students. She suggested that supplementing the current curriculum for those students who need assistance would be a better solution. She also noted her shock to learn that one of the alternatives on the table was the discontinuation of geometry and algebra tracks in middle school.

Matt McCauley stated that in order to provide a complete review, everything was on the table for consideration, but it was not a recommendation of either the committee or K-12 Teaching and Learning to discontinue geometry and algebra. He also stated that although they have come to no conclusions, it is likely that if we were to adopt another approach in mathematics, we would have two approaches in mathematics at middle school, one of which would be to maintain a more traditional approach, aligning with high school math.

**Lisa Mallott – Math.** She said she is familiar with Trailblazers and is not very pleased with it, as it contains gaps and does not provide enough instruction in basic skills. She noted that it also moves very slowly, allowing the kids to become bored. Parents find they must try to fill in the gaps over the summer in order to prepare their students transitioning into middle school. She also noted that more piloting of constructionist math was being done, even though the decision was made to delay the adoption. She also questioned the hiring of a facilitator to work with the math review team.

In response to a question, Matt McCauley said the review team had formed two sub groups, one to look at data and identify schools with scores as good as Olympia's or better. Having created a list of such schools and identifying the curriculums they are using, a group will be making visitations to those schools, looking at results utilizing both constructionist and traditional math.

**Martin McCallum** said he wished to thank the District for their part in the success of his daughter and for the opportunities she had in high school. He recommended the Board continue their important relationship with New Market Vocational Skills Center, connecting high school courses with career and technical education opportunities and to practice what they've learned with local employers.

**Kaylee Evans – Math.** She said the goal and measurement of the school district is to increase WASL scores and asked why this is not the focus of our math adoption. She said CMP has been tried and failed, and asked why we are continuing to consider a program that does not succeed. She noted that CMP has indeed been tried in California, and not only was it not successful, but California education funds cannot be used to purchase CMP materials. She said changes need to start in elementary school with Trailblazers, as she had to teach her children over the summer the skills being missed by skipping sixth grade math. She suggested the district should spend time mapping 5<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum to middle school and consider pre-algebra textbooks, as well. She also suggested that district administrators should not have a vote in the adoption process.

**Des McGamern – Math.** Stated he, too, is very concerned about the process. All are probably not wrong in their thinking. He said it is his understanding that currently there are four district staff members attending the math committee, and all are voting members of the committee, leaving him a bit confused about the potential conflict of interest in such an important issue.

President Lehman said there are actually more than four district staff on the committee, and he doesn't believe it's a conflict and, in fact, it's their responsibility. Staff is hired because of their expertise. Superintendent Lahmann agreed, stating that we hire staff for their skill, expertise and knowledge and no intention to prohibit them from fully participating in the process.

## CONSENT AGENDA

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

### **1 SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

#### **1.1 Board Meeting Schedule**

- Monday, November 13, 7:00 pm, **Regular Board Meeting**, Knox Center
- Monday, November 20, 6:30 pm, **Study Session**, Knox Center
- Monday, November 27, 7:00 pm, **Regular Board Meeting**, Jefferson MS
- Monday, December 4, 6:30 pm, **Joint Meeting with Griffin Board**, at Griffin
- Monday, December 11, 7:00 pm, **Regular Board Meeting**, Knox Center
- Monday, January 8, 7:00 pm, **Regular Board Meeting**, Knox Center
- Monday, January 22, 7:00 pm, **Regular Board Meeting**, McLane ES

## **2 CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

### **2.1 Certificated Personnel Report**

The Board approved one resignation, one release from contract, one leave of absence and one new contract:

#### **RESIGNATION**

**Stemwell, John** – Elementary Teacher. Resignation, effective September 30, 2006.

#### **RELEASE FROM CONTRACT**

**Johnson, Erin** – Health and Fitness at Olympia High School. Requests to be released from her one-year .20 FTE contract effective the second semester of the 2006-07 school year.

#### **LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**Johnson, Erin** – Health and Fitness at Olympia High School. Requests a .20 FTE leave of absence from her .80 FTE continuing contract. (Ms. Johnson currently has a .80 FTE continuing contract and a .20 FTE one-year contract, which she is requesting a release from to reduce her FTE to .60 the second semester.)

#### **NEW CONTRACT**

**Cacciari-Roy, Marissa** – English Language Learners Instructor. Request a one-year .30 FTE contract effective the 2006-07 school year, beginning November 1, 2006.

## **3 CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL**

### **3.1 Classified Personnel Report**

The Board approved the Classified Personnel Report dated November 13, 2006.

## **4 PUPILS & PROGRAMS**

### **4.1 Approval of Instructional Materials**

The Board acknowledged the instructional materials request.

### **4.2 Overnight Field Trips**

The Board approved the following overnight field trips:

**OHS** – Albuquerque, NM; DECA Western Region Leadership Conference; LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS; 8 students; 1 advisor; November 16-18, 2006.

**OHS** – Bellevue, WA; DECA State Career Development Conference; WORKSHOPS, COMPETITIONS, ACTIVITIES; 25 students, one teacher/advisor, one parent chaperone; March 8-10, 2007.

**OHS** – Orlando, FL; DECA International Career Development Conference; WORKSHOPS, COMPETITIONS, ACTIVITIES; 10 students, one teacher/advisor, one parent chaperone; April 26-May 2, 2007.

## **6 BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – NEW CONSTRUCTION**

### **6.1 Puget Sound Energy Electrical Easement – Olympia High School Portables**

The Board approved an easement to install new electrical service lines and equipment within an existing easement located at Olympia High School.

## **8 FINANCES**

### **8.1 Approval of Vouchers**

The Board approved the following: cancellation of listed warrants totaling \$289,921.98; Associated Student Body Voucher Nos. 28675 through 28769, in the total amount of \$108,958.02; Capital Projects Nos. 8942 through 8979, in the total amount of \$1,888,840.94; and, General Fund Voucher Nos. 137123 through 137318, in the total amount of \$784,991.36.

### **8.2 Financial Reports – August and September 2006**

The Board approved the August and September 2006 Revenue & Expenditure Reports for the Associated Student Body, Capital Projects, and General Funds.

## REGULAR AGENDA

### 1 SCHOOL DIRECTORS

#### 1.1 Superintendent's Vision & Goals

Superintendent Bill Lahmann presented his Mission, Vision and Goals for the District for the next one to five years, including specific activities related to the stated goals to move the District forward.

#### 1.2 Strategic Planning Process

President Russ Lehman outlined the process he, Vice President Nafziger and Superintendent Lahmann will propose to the Board for a renewed strategic planning effort for the District, to serve as the framework for the Board and the District.

Vice President Nafziger asked that a deliberate effort be made to receive community input, utilizing any variety of tools available, such as site councils, for specific input and for a more open-ended approach.

### 8 FINANCES

#### 8.1 2007-2012 Capital Facilities Plan & Impact Fees

Bob Wolpert, Director of Facilities and Operations, presented the final draft of the 2007-2012 Capital Facilities Plan (CFP), including providing in-depth information regarding school impact fees. He also provided the Board with an update on current projects. He will return for Board approval at the next Board meeting.

**Bob Jacobs – Impact Fees.** As in past years, Mr. Jacobs asked the Board to consider charging the full impact fee to builders, so builders will no longer be subsidized by the homeowners. He said he has asked in past years for an explanation as to why builders receive this subsidy in the form of discounted impact fees. He added that there is no evidence to support the theory that increased impact fees would drive up housing costs, nor is it likely that future levies would be threatened by lack of support from builders.

#### 8.2 Fiscal Year 2005-06 Close Report

Jim Crawford, Assistant Superintendent, Fiscal & Operations, reported to the Board on the close of the 2005-06 fiscal year including an update on the final revenues, expenditures and ending fund balance.

**Maribeth Duffy – Math.** Mrs. Duffy asked several questions regarding, 1) the cost of the facilitator for the math review process adoption budget, 2) budget allocation for supplemental materials for CMP, when CMP was earlier promoted as a “stand alone” curriculum, 3) would the CMP2 books be paperback or hardback and, if paperback, are there funds budgeted to replace them within two to three years, 4) are adequate funds budgeted for the critical teacher training required for CMP, and, 5) does the District currently have a contract or other financial obligation with the CMP publisher, or any publisher?

Vice President Nafziger said extensive training was considered in the budget process, particularly with regard to adoption of math curriculum. Director Barclift noted that there was clearly no contract with a publisher until the Board had approved the curriculum. President Lehman added that any decision on curriculum would be separate and apart from budget, as curriculum is a core function of education.

### **8.3 Budget Process & Outlook for 2007-08**

Jim Crawford, Assistant Superintendent for Fiscal and Operations, updated the Board on the budget outlook for 2007-08 and 2008-09 and provided an outline of a proposed process for development of the District's 2007-08 budget. The proposal will include development of options for budget reductions for 2007-08 school year, and an expedited timeline for budget consideration, with a goal of Board adoption of the budget in June.

Director Shirley asked how BAG members were appointed, and was informed there are a couple of avenues: each school appoints a representative, as does each bargaining unit, and each Board member can appoint an "at large" member.

President Lehman suggested that the Board spend some time on the budget process in the next few weeks, in order to match it to strategic planning efforts. Director Barclift suggested the Board receive budget materials for consideration, rather than schedule another meeting. She also asked that study session topics be noted on calendars. Vice President Nafziger suggested a Board member be tasked to follow the budget more closely; Director Barclift volunteered to represent the Board for budget oversight if it didn't require attendance at every BAG (Budget Advisory Group) meeting, and was accepted to undertake that task.

President Lehman requested an update on professional development for the next Board meeting.

The Board recessed to Executive Session at 10:40 pm and reconvened at 11:10 pm, with no action taken and immediate adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

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Bill Lahmann, Superintendent

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Russ Lehman, President