

Olympia School District

Cabinet Notes

February 6, 2014

Board Agenda Review for Feb. 10 at Knox: Entertainment Explosion presentation by Dick C.; National Board Certifications by Paul Rae and Teresa Bond; Math Adoption Update by Debbi H. and Math Adoption Committee members; Kindergarten Planning by Jennifer P. and Nancy F. The meeting will then adjourn and the board will begin a study session on the Highly Capable Program led by Linda Heade.

Board Agenda Review for Feb. 24 at Olympia H.S.: Focus on Olympia High School by Matt Grant; Highly Capable Recommendations by Linda Heade; Legislative and Budget Update by Jennifer P.; Levy Final Report by Jennifer P. and others involved with the levy; Highly Capable Data/Demographics presentation by Alice Burman.

Upcoming Study Sessions and events: Study sessions ahead are: Intervention Programs at elementary schools on March 3; Optional Programs on March 17. The Have a Heart for Kids Breakfast is coming up on Feb. 28. The TOGETHER! Champions for Kids Dinner will take place March 24. Our district's Champions for Kids 2014 nominee is Donna McPeak from Capital High School. Dick C., Chris Woods and others will be present at the dinner to support Donna.

Joint meeting with City Council: Each year the OSD holds a joint meeting with the Olympia City Council. The date for this year's meeting is TBA. When we do meet, likely topics will include school resource officers, the growth around Centennial Elementary and a construction outlook.

WaKIDS Update: We have WaKIDS at Garfield. Teachers have expressed concerned over excessive time demands around evaluating students. Nancy F. is touching base with the state to see how other districts are handling this challenge.

Open .5 Principal Update: Bob Hodges, Principal at Garfield, has announced he would like to work half-time next year to transition to retirement the following year. Dick C. and Nancy F. are now exploring options for how to fill the other half-time position next year so Bob can assist with the transition for one year.

Knox Staff Update: Cabinet discussed topics for the Knox meeting next Tuesday, Feb. 11. Topics will include levy update (Dick); Knox room space changes and future outlook (Dick); March 1 Kindergarten event (Rebecca); safety message (Jennifer); Legislative update (Dick); Peter Pan play invitation (Dick).

Special Ed at ORLA: Cabinet engaged in a discussion around Special Ed services at ORLA. They determined we will not make any changes to current practice.

Strategic Plan Goals: Dick C. recently asked Cabinet members to identify areas where their teams have made progress on the Strategic Plan. Cabinet provided him with that information over the past week. Cabinet will look over the draft list one more time this week. Once completed, Dick C. will share it with the Board, send to staff and share with members of the community who helped form the Strategic Plan.

Other: Some Kindergarten teachers have expressed an interest in having time to conference with parents at the beginning of the school year. Cabinet discussed the options available within the 180 day requirement, what the process might be for making a change and what other issues might come into play, such as transportation. It will also be important to see how the Legislature handles the 180 day requirement this year. Cabinet will keep the issue on the table and explore options.

Other 2.0: The district's attorney will attend the GA meeting in March. Dick C. is collecting questions from staff to provide to her in advance. She will answer those questions at the meeting.