

BOARD BRIEFING..... February 20, 2009

Yakima Public Schools District Number 7

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the Yakima Public Schools met February 20, 2009, in the Central Services Professional Library, opening with the Pledge of Allegiance. A brief summary of the meeting follows.

Approved – Yakima Valley Technical Skills Center (YV-TECH) Phase II Construction Project Value Engineering – Scott Izutsu, Assistant Superintendent of Business Support Services, introduced Dennis Dean of KDF Architects to provide KDF’s recommendations for the value engineering study. Mr. Dean reviewed each of the cost reduction items accepted by KDF for a total projected savings of \$93,000. The entire value engineering report is available by contacting Scott Izutsu at 509-573-7040.

January 2009 Budget Status Report – Scott Izutsu presented the January 2009 Budget Status Report, reviewing the General Fund Balance, revenues, expenditures, reserved and unreserved funds with comparison by year and cash flow projections. Potential impacts to the budget from the state’s pending budget reductions were discussed. Mr. Izutsu plans to view OSPI’s K-20 video conference on Tuesday, February 24, regarding basic education funding.

Approved – Financials, January 2009 – Approval of financials are typically part of the monthly consent agenda at the board’s business meeting. However, due to mid-winter break, the February business meeting was too early for approval of the January 2009 financials and they were moved to this Friday meeting.

Presentation/Discussion – Report EL 1000.2.3-I Financial Condition and Activities, January 2009 – Scott Izutsu provided Report EL 1000.2.3-I Financial Condition and Activities, January 2009. A survey form will be distributed to the board for rating Report EL 1000.2.3-I and approval will be scheduled for a future meeting.

Presentation of 2009-10 Budget Broad Development Parameters – Scott Izutsu reviewed the past budget development parameters, indicating they still fit the development needs for this year. The parameters, listed in random order, serve to guide the discussion, analysis, and development of the district’s general fund budget. Faced with fluctuating revenues and increased state and federal expectations in student achievement, formulating budget recommendations is increasingly difficult. Mr. Izutsu believes there is flexibility in the parameters that allows for the uncertainty of the times in terms of state funding. Discussion followed.

Issues of Board Interest –

- Vicki Dwight, YEA president, reported there has been positive feedback from teachers regarding changes to the 8th grade transition. She asked what the next steps are for input from folks about YSD’s budget development. Discussion followed regarding the budget development approach and pending state reductions. Deputy Superintendent Irion indicated the superintendent’s cabinet will discuss mechanisms that will be available for input and report back to the board. He added that during the budget development process there are two opportunities offered to the public for input at business meetings.
- Mary Beth Wright, Community Relations Director, stated she was pleased to announce that only one week following approval of a May facilities bond issue, Paul Larson has agreed to chair the Citizen’s Committee. Jim Berg and Barbara Greenberg will co-chair the Davis effort and a chair for Eisenhower will be announced soon.