

BOARD BUSINESS BRIEFING ..February 23, 2010

Yakima Public Schools District Number 7

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the Yakima Public Schools met February 23, 2010, at Central Services Conference Rooms A and B, for their monthly business meeting, opening with the Pledge of Allegiance. A brief summary of the meeting follows.

Acknowledgment of Accomplishments/Recognitions – Names listed on Page 2.

- National Board Certified Teachers - The Board of Directors acknowledged teachers who received National Board Certification.
- National PTA Month – In honor of National PTA Month, the board recognized Yakima City Council PTA Officers and PTA/PTO/PTSA and Booster Club Presidents/Co-Presidents.

REPORTS

Members of the Board – Walt Ranta attended the WSSDA Legislative Conference with other board members and administrators from the state to hear reports on legislative activities and share concerns with representatives. Martha Rice and 24 representatives from our state joined approximately 900 attendees in Washington, D.C., January 31-February 2, for the Annual Federal Relations Network (FRN) Conference for federal advocacy.

Superintendent Update – Dr. Beraza reported that a district delegation will visit legislative representatives in Olympia on March 2. The district is working diligently on applications for the School Improvement Grant (SIG) for four schools identified as Tier I schools.

BOARD POLICY ACTIVITY

Comments from the Public on Agenda Items – One teacher expressed concern regarding the School Improvement Grant (SIG) process. The board responded that the models require principal movement; it is not a reflection on the quality of current principals. One teacher expressed appreciation for the budget process and chance for input and asked that certain district groups be part of the decisions that would impact them.

Approved: Reports/Board Reports –

- Report 1000.2.3 Financial Condition and Activities – November 2009
- Report 1000.2.6 Public Access to Facilities
- Report 1000.2.7 Emergency Superintendent Succession
- Board Report 1000.3.0 Global Governance Commitment
- Board Report 1000.3.1 Governing Style
- Board Report 1000.3.2 Board Job Description
- Board Report 1000.3.3 Agenda Planning
- Board Report 1000.4.4 Monitoring Superintendent Performance

First Reading of Board Policies –

Policy 1000.3.1 Governing Style – Item 8 was revised to reflect the board's actual practice that any board member may request an evaluation of the board's process and performance of a meeting.

Policy 1000.4.4 Monitoring Superintendent Performance – Item 9 was revised to update the monitoring frequency for Report 1000.2.3 and Report 1000.2.4.

OTHER

Consent Agenda – Standard monthly business items were approved: Minutes, Notification of Approval of Warrants, Financials, and Personnel Actions.

Calendar Committee Recommendation: 2010-11 School Calendar – Steve Cole, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, reviewed the calendar committee's process and collaborative effort. Two drafts were recommended, due to the legislature's uncertainty on whether a Learning Improvement Day (LID) will be funded. The legislature's decision will determine which version will be presented for approval at the March business meeting.

Approved: Resolution 08.09.10 Support of Section 1003(g) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act School Improvement Grants

– President Ybarra reported that the board had indepth discussion on SIG grants at their February 19 meeting. They agreed to put a resolution forward supporting the concepts of the SIG application the district is submitting.

Approved: Board Attendance at the National School Boards Association’s 2010 Annual Conference in Chicago, Illinois, April 10-12, 2010

– This conference enables board colleagues and education experts from across the country to come together for high-quality sessions and networking related to current education and economic challenges. Ms. Rice serves as Regional Representative on NSBA’s Policies, Beliefs and Resolutions Committee and will incorporate this work with the Chicago travel.

Second Opportunity for Comments from the Public – Topics included:

- Encouragement to settle for fair and equitable contracts;
- One school’s process to save district dollars by using community volunteers to administer the DIBELS test to students;
- Possible discontinuation of the district’s new program to place failing middle school students in alternative programs;
- Technology services related to virus problems at Davis High School;
- The YEA President’s trip to Olympia to share education-related concerns with legislative representatives; and
- An upcoming statewide recognition of teachers and teacher aides on KYVE.

Dr. Beraza asked for patience regarding technology. The Technology Department has applied for E-rate funding to help provide advances and is working toward making wireless available one building at a time.

RECOGNITIONS

National Board Certified Teachers

Darla Biever, Whitney Elementary
Terry Cooper, Davis High School
Rebecca Hoover, Davis High School
Stephanie Peyser, Robertson Elementary
Justin Wright, Wilson Middle School

Aida Caltenco, Resource Center
Sonya Duncan, Whitney Elementary
Christina Meeks, Ridgeview Elementary
Kenneth Ritter, Eisenhower High School

National PTA Month

Teri Walton, Yakima City Council PTA President
D’Arcy Rowe, Yakima City Council PTA Treasurer

Don Rowe, Yakima City Council PTA Vice President
Kim Griffith, Yakima City Council PTA Secretary

Dee Jenkins, Adams PTO President
Wanda Jones, Barge-Lincoln Booster Club President
Patric Smith, Discovery Family Connections President
Janice Matske, Garfield Booster Club President
Joy Haughton, Gilbert PTA Co-President
Florissia Sartain, Gilbert PTA Co-President
Chris Winmill, Hoover PTA President
Margarita Sager, M.L. King, Jr., PTA President
Jeff Cook, McClure PTA Co-President
Kristin McLavey, McClure PTA Co-President
Hillary Bossert, McKinley PTA President
Heather VanTassell, Nob Hill PTSA Co-President
Loretta Franz, Nob Hill PTSA Co-President
Roberta Fann, Ridgeview PTA President
Angie Duncan, Roosevelt Booster Club President
Elsa Gonzalez, Robertson PTA Co-President
Jennifer Suhm, Robertson PTA Co-President
Pam Merillat, Whitney Booster Club President
Amy Karau, Franklin PTSA President
Eric Franz, Lewis & Clark PTSA President
Dean Compton, Washington PTSA President
Wally Kaufer, Wilson PTSA President
Susan Paolella, Davis PTSA Co-President
Marisol Summers, Davis PTSA Co-President