

BOARD BRIEFING..... January 16, 2009

Yakima Public Schools District Number 7

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the Yakima Public Schools met January 16, 2009, in the Central Services Professional Library, opening with the Pledge of Allegiance. A brief summary of the meeting follows.

2008 Summer Extended Learning Opportunity (SELO) - Cece Mahre, Associate Superintendent, reported that the revamped district-wide SELO program was consolidated to fewer sites. The cost per student was reduced to \$380 versus \$927 in 2007. Data was collected in attendance, student achievement, surveys and teacher feedback. There was increased attendance and increased math and reading achievement. At the high school level, 385 credits were earned. Detailed data was shared with the board, as well as what worked for SELO, what might be improved, and recommendation for next year's planning.

DeVry University Course Offerings – Jack Irion, Deputy Superintendent, reported on YSD's recent partnership with DeVry University. He provided details of DeVry's PASSPORT2COLLEGE program, explaining students can take online courses through the school system and earn transferable university-level credits that could qualify them for an AA when they graduate. There is no expense to the district or to the students who must be enrolled in YSD and have junior or senior credit status. Phase I began January 8, with a DeVry professor traveling from Seattle to Yakima to work with enrollees.

Governor's Budget Information/Impact – Scott Izutsu, Asst. Supt. of Business Support Services, reviewed estimated funding reductions from OSPI's worksheet based on the Governor's budget which identifies a total impact of \$5,842,151 to the district over the next two years. He shared a proposed plan to reduce I-728 and levy programs, beginning this year and in 2009-10, in an effort to reduce the impact of state reductions. Superintendent Soria emphasized these are precautionary steps that give the most flexibility, noting they only address lost revenue and not costs that increase every year. President Ybarra agreed the district will be impacted and must be proactive.

December 2008 Budget Status Report – Scott Izutsu reviewed financial information as of December 31, provided each month prior to the business meeting. Approximately \$108,000 in expenses was related to inclement weather, including repairs and snow removal. Some repairs were temporary to get systems up more quickly so these must be dealt with, and there will be additional costs related to building repairs for failing systems due to the age of buildings.

Presentation/Discussion EL Report 1000.2.3-I Financial Condition and Activities, December 2008 – Scott Izutsu presented the monitoring report as related to Policy Governance. The report is tied to the monthly Budget Status Report provided in the board's business meeting materials. The status report format has been revised to include cross references to EL Report 1000.2.3-I. Mr. Izutsu indicated the report shows compliance to the policy. President Ybarra indicated the rating survey will be sent to the board so the report can be approved January 20.

Facilities Bond Discussion – Mary Beth Wright, Community Relations Director, reported on the 2008 Voter Survey conducted by CFM Research for the YSD Citizens Committee, summarizing bond information and what voters say about the district. Superintendent Soria followed with an overview of district facilities, including review of the previous recommendation of bond projects and associated costs for the schools yet to be addressed: 5 elementary schools, 2 high schools, 1 alternative school and Central Services. The current 4-year levy collection falls off in 2011. Discussion about future bond proposals and timelines followed.