

BOARD BRIEFING..... October 16, 2009

Yakima Public Schools District Number 7

Board of Directors

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

Proposed High School Math Curriculum Adoption – Cece Mahre, Associate Superintendent, Mary Masten, Director of Secondary Education, and members of the mathematics adoption team were present. Cece Mahre began by outlining the team’s four outcome targets: collaboration between schools, materials endorsed by OSPI, sequential curriculum and commonality across the district. Both high schools have worked collaboratively on this curriculum adoption. Middle schools just recently joined the process and are on board with vertical alignment of Algebra with the high schools. The Holt Mathematics Series curriculum offers multiple ways of learning including interventions, online resources that provide instant feedback, and multilingual options. Teacher training and orientation can be accomplished in one day and after the initial orientation, training and inservice can be handled within departments. The target date for having Holt in all high school math classes is December 1. This new math curriculum has a high degree of support from OSPI, district administrators, teachers, parents, and students.

Pre-Approval Discussion on Board Ratings –

Report 1000.2.1 EL Treatment of Students and Their Parents(s)/Guardians(s) – President Ybarra reviewed the survey ratings and related comments. In response, Superintendent Beraza acknowledged that the superintendent’s cabinet and ESD 105 have been involved in determining ways to measure compliance and offer evidence without overextending district resources.

Report 1000.2.2 EL Working Environment of Staff – President Ybarra reviewed the survey ratings and related comment.

Issues of Board Interest –

- Superintendent Beraza shared information received from a meeting with Yakima Valley superintendents at ESD 105. A worksheet estimating the severe financial impact of Initiative 1033 was distributed. The board will take a position against Initiative 1033 at the Tuesday, October 20, business meeting.
- Copies of the Quarterly Report of Conversions for Policies and Procedures to Operational Procedures were provided for the board in their packets.
- The YV-TECH Open House has been rescheduled from October 21 to October 22.