

BOARD BRIEFING..... October 3, 2008

Yakima Public Schools District Number 7

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the Yakima Public Schools met October 3, 2008, in the Central Services Professional Library, opening with the Pledge of Allegiance. A brief summary of the meeting follows.

Presentation – Report 1000.2.8-I Compensation and Benefits – The report, prepared by Human Resources, provided the district’s interpretation and evidence of compliance for Executive Limitation Policy 1000.2.8 *Compensation and Benefits*. Discussion with the board followed. Superintendent Soria clarified the reports are a work in progress and asked for board input. The report generates two additional agenda items for future board meetings: 1) discussion and board rating; and, 2) approval.

Discussion – Policy 1000.4.0-I Global Governance-Management Connection – Policy 1000.4.0-I and Policy 1000.4.1-I are two of the Board/Superintendent Linkage policies to be reviewed by the board. President Ybarra read Policy 1000.4.0, indicating the board has operated for some time under the principles incorporated in the policy. Discussion followed. It was agreed that board members should share with each other when they have asked for information from the district, if they believe it would be of interest to the entire board. The next step is the board’s rating of the policy, which will be done through the use of a web survey tool.

Discussion – Policy 1000.4.1-I Unity of Control – President Ybarra reported Policy 1000.4.1-I is closely related to Policy 1000.4.0-I and addresses the board requesting information from staff members. After rating the policy and final discussion, the board can revise the policy if they believe that is warranted.

Approved – Yakima Valley Technical Skills Center (YV-TECH) Constructability Review Report – Scott Izutsu, Assistant Superintendent of Business Support Services, reported the Constructability Review Report is a requirement from OSPI as part of the YV-TECH construction project. A portion of the constructability report was reviewed at the meeting. Heery International, Inc., the project management firm for the project, reviewed KDF Architecture’s construction documents and provided feedback. The report has clarification statements, prevents change orders in the future, and keeps costs down in the process.

Issues of Board Interest –

- The Superintendent Search was discussed. A superintendent search survey will be posted on the district website to gather staff and community input. The focus group meeting schedule was reviewed and adjusted to better accommodate district staff members and the community. The board will attend the focus groups on October 22 and 23 as their availability allows.
- The state auditor’s office completed an audit of the state’s ten largest districts and developed commonalities. The audit report will be a valuable reference for our district.
- YSD was part of the state’s travel audit recently; results will be released November 12.