

# **BOARD BRIEFING..... September 11, 2009**

Yakima Public Schools District Number 7

Board of Directors

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The Board of Directors of the Yakima Public Schools met September 11, 2009, in the Central Services Professional Library, opening with the Pledge of Allegiance. A brief summary of the meeting follows.

**Board Professional Development Discussion** – The board reviewed the feedback from their rating survey ‘Board Professional Development Topics.’ Following discussion, it was agreed to concentrate board professional development on the three top-rated topics: Teacher Quality, National Standards, and CORE 24.

**Community Linkages Planning** – The board reviewed results from their rating survey to begin determining the question that would help lead discussions by community groups at this year’s Community Linkages. Mary Beth Wright, Community Relations Director, asked that the board members suggest new names for the groups this year. It was agreed to schedule one Linkage before the New Year and the bulk afterward.

**Issues of Board Interest** –

- Steve Cole, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, provided information regarding Conflict of Interest in response to an inquiry from the board at the September 4 board meeting. Handouts included Board Policy 1610 Conflicts of Interest, RCW 42.23.040 Remote Interests, and RCW 42.23.040 Interest in Contracts Prohibited – Exceptions. It was noted a wide pool of community members may serve on a board; however, if a member has financial interest such as a spouse who is a YSD employee, they should not vote on a collective bargaining agreement of that employee or influence related discussion. At the time of a vote on the agreement, the board member would abstain from the vote.
- Vicki Dwight, YEA President, expressed appreciation for the ratification of the YEA/YSD contract.