

QUILLAYUTE VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 402
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, February 27, 2007,
6:00 P.M.

Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dave Dickson called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance at 6:03 PM. Present were Rick Gale, Tina Bergstrom, Dave Dickson, Superintendent Frank Walter, and recording secretary Julie Knobel. Bill Rohde joined the meeting a few minutes later.

II. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES

Rick Gale moved to adopt the meeting minutes of February 13, 2007. Tina Bergstrom seconded, and the motion carried.

IV. APPROVE AGENDA

Tina Bergstrom moved to adopt the agenda. Rick Gale seconded, and the motion carried.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

The bills and payroll for the month of February is large because it includes the monthly Insight School of Washington (ISW) allocation, and the semi-annual Washington Schools Risk Management Pool payment. It also includes two months of Ferrell gas bills.

Tina Bergstrom moved to adopt the consent agenda. Rick Gale seconded, and the motion carried.

A. Personnel Actions

1. Hiring of:

- Rod Enos, Forks High School Assistant Track Coach
- Rita Peters, Forks Elementary School Food Service Assistant Cook

2. Resignation of:

- Layla Iranshad, Evening ESL portion of her work day

B. Approval of:

- Suzanne Johansen, Personal Services contract for Music Lessons
- Stephanie Hofland, 2007 American School Counselor Association Annual Conference, Denver, Colorado, June 23-26, 2007

C. Bills and Payroll

January payroll and General Fund vouchers no. 60226 through 60362 totaling \$381,614.12; ASB Fund vouchers No. 8552 through 8576, totaling \$6,391.36; and Trust and Agency Fund voucher no. 6 through 8 totaling \$312.42.

VI. REPORTS

A. Financial Report

1. January Ending Fund Cash Balance

Superintendent Walter reported that the accounts payable this month is \$381,000. The beginning cash balance in January was \$393,410, the district received \$942,039 in revenues, and spent \$1,112,836 in expenditures. The month ending cash balance was \$222,613. The cash balance decreased by \$170,000 in January, and will decrease more in February. These fluctuations in the district's cash flow are the reason why the district is trying to establish a minimum cash balance of 5% of the annual budget in cash reserves.

Jan Haugen, Diana Reaume, and Superintendent Walter met with Brian Lewis from the Educational Service District (ESD) to do the mid-year financial review. The district will be seeking budget extensions in the capital projects fund, and the debt service fund this year.

2. Budget Status report

Superintendent Walter reported that the district is in good shape in relation to the general fund balance. Revenues for the year are at 39% of the budgeted amount, and expenditures are at 41%. Dave Dickson asked why the district would need to do a budget extension in the capital projects fund. Superintendent Walter reported that it was due to the Siemens Project financing. The Siemens project has been receiving a positive response, especially from the transportation department. The district is receiving a \$31,000 rebate from the Public Utility District as an incentive for doing the energy-saving Siemens project. The project will create dramatic time savings for the maintenance department.

B. Legislative Report

Dave Dickson reported that the Washington State School Directors Association (WSSDA) has renewed its request to the state legislature to examine the funding of schools in Washington State. WSSDA requested that the legislature look at the possible revenue sources for education, as well as examining the current funding formulas including the basic education formula, and the transportation formula.

Dave Dickson reported that the state legislature is still considering what to do with the current WASL graduation requirements, especially in Math. They are considering one option to move back the requirement until 2011, but they would require students who haven't passed the WASL to take math their senior year.

Dave Dickson reported that there are meetings being held between the Department of Natural Resources, the Washington Environmental Council, the City of Forks, and Quillayute Valley School district regarding the implementation of the settlement from last year. The Department of Natural Resources is considering land transfers to block up the department's land and improve accessibility.

Superintendent Walter reported that Jacob Jackson, the director of the North Olympic Peninsula Skills Center (NOPSC) closely tracks the state legislation that pertains to skill centers. Currently, the state is considering a bill that would increase the funding for skills center students, to eliminate the current penalty to school districts for participating.

C. Board Member Reports

Rick Gale reported that the girls' basketball team was at the state tournament.

Bill Rohde reported that the Spartan Showcase was well attended, and that the students were enthusiastic and proud of the work they were presenting. Tina Bergstrom and Superintendent Walter both concurred.

Dave Dickson reported that he had attended the ISW conference call, and felt the Insight staff was working to improve their program. Tina Bergstrom asked specifically what they were doing. Dave Dickson responded that they were dropping courses from their catalog, and scaling back the work on other courses that required too much time to complete. Insight is continuing to have discussion about being able to serve part-time students, and offering summer school. ISW received the decision from the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) regarding the complaint against them. Superintendent Walter explained what the complaint was. Bill Rohde asked what kind of liability QVSD had in this regard. Superintendent Walter reported that Insight has hired and is paying for a qualified and respected attorney on this matter.

Tina Bergstrom asked about what had happened with the stakeholders' surveys. Dave Dickson responded that he had prepared a summary report of the surveys, which contained names of personnel in it, and that the board would discuss them in executive session. He stated that they did not have anything prepared for regular session.

D. Superintendent's Report

1. Quarterly Meeting with the Department of Natural Resources

Superintendent Walter attended the quarterly meeting with other trust beneficiaries and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). DNR reported that they are projecting to harvest 113 million board feet (MBF)

in fiscal year 2008. If they meet this projection, this will be the highest harvest since the mid 1980s. DNR also announced that they will be hiring 6 new people, five of whom will be working in Forks. They are also considering other additional positions. The DNR, Forks Community Hospital (FCH), and Superintendent Walter agreed to coordinate hiring efforts, so that spouses of employment candidates could also find employment in Forks. Increases in harvest, and professional jobs in Forks will have positive affects on the economic situations of families in our school district. Timber trust revenues do not go into the district's general fund; they are paid into the debt service fund, which offsets property taxes.

2. **Read Across America**

Superintendent Walter reported that QVSD would be participating in the annual Read Across America event on March 1st from 6-8 PM at the Forks Elementary School. This year is the 50th anniversary of The Cat in the Hat, by Dr. Seuss.

3. **Title VII Indian Education Art Contest and Parent Committee Meeting, March 6, 2007 at 6:00 PM in the Student Services Building**

Superintendent Walter reported that the Department of Indian Education was holding a national native art contest, and that native students in our area are working on entries.

3. **Quillayute Valley Scholarship Auction March 17-18, 2007, and other events**

On March 19th, Sue Eastman will be coming to Forks to do a presentation to district staff, and other service providers in our community on suicide prevention. She will be presenting in Sequim earlier that day. The Department of Social and Human Services is hosting an educational summit on raising educational attainment. The guest speaker will be Mr. Esparza who orchestrated a remarkable turn around at Granger School District. The Quillayute Valley Scholarship Auction will be held March 17th and 18th. The WSSDA small school conference is being held in Yakima on March 5-6, 2007.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. High School Day and Graduation Requirements

Superintendent Walter presented a memo regarding the High School Day and graduation requirements. The memo had columns comparing the current high school requirements, what the high school requirements will be if the board does not take action, Insight School of Washington's graduation requirements, and a proposed list of requirements. Dave Dickson asked if the proposed changes would change the current staff mix. Superintendent Walter responded that it would necessitate a shift in the high school staff. Legislation the state is currently considering would also have a bearing on those decisions. Superintendent Walter asked the board how they would like to move forward, what additional information they would like, and what presentations they would like to see. Tina Bergstrom asked that sample schedules be brought to the board, which would also give some indication of the staff mix needed. Tina Bergstrom also asked for the board to contact the districts Ray Marshall referenced in his presentation as high performing districts. She asked to discuss the options for getting input from the community, possibly through letters or surveys. She also wanted to see the board make a list of pros and cons of changing to the six period day. Tina Bergstrom expressed concern about adequate prep time for teachers, and possibly no increase in elective courses offered. Dave Dickson was concerned that students could still only fail two classes and be able to graduate, and that the shorter periods would not allow enough time for students to do internships. Superintendent Walter commented that a student's high school transcript is the basis for their resume as they leave high school, and that each period of a school day be spent on credit bearing activities. Superintendent Walter stated that there needed to be some urgency in making a decision, as decisions on staffing and notifications to staff must be done by the middle of May. The board unanimously decided to discuss a draft of a survey to the public via the phone the following week.

B. Resolution for Continued Membership in the North Olympic Peninsula Skills Center

Bill Rohde asked what the current status of the Auto Tech renovations were. Superintendent Walter responded that they are underway. Rick Gale moved to approve the resolution for continued membership in the North Olympic Peninsula Skills Center. Tina Bergstrom seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Bond Proposal Committee List

Superintendent Walter submitted a list of names to the board as potential candidates for the Bond Proposal Committee. He asked the board to read through the list and add additional names to it. Superintendent Walter stated the hope that members of the committee would be willing to work on the vision and plans for the bond, and to generate excitement to carry through to the election campaign. Tina Bergstrom, Dave Dickson, and Bill Rohde

each made suggestions for candidates. Bill Rohde asked when the first proposed meeting was going to be. Superintendent Walter responded that it would be held in late March.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Ron Sanchez commented on the discussion regarding the 6 period day. He suggested that if the board makes a change at the high school, they should also consider making the same change at the middle school. He also felt that making the change should not have a significant effect on the amount of homework a student would have, it would only change the speed at which they cover the material. He commented that AP classes count for core classes. Tina Bergstrom responded that the current problem is that students don't have any choices to be able to take AP classes. Ron Sanchez stated that he was glad to see the board looking at this topic, and hoped to see the board seek a broad mix of volunteers from the community to work on this issue.

Cathy Johnson stated that she was curious to know the effects on tardies and absences of having a four period day. Mr. Marshall responded that they had not looked at that. Cathy Johnson asked if we have gotten a feel from the staff on which direction they think we should go. Mr. Marshall responded that he did not want to speak for the staff, but his sense was that staff members were going both ways. Mr Marshall felt that this decision should be made by looking at data and making an educated decision. Cathy Johnson stated that she thought that the slide presentation that was given to the board was very good, and that it should be shown to more people. She felt that a public forum on this issue would be the best way to get public input. She stated that she felt the community would be more supportive of the decision if they had buy in.

Tony Dias stated that communication is a big problem with our district, board, and public. Tony Dias stated that he would also like to see a public forum, and to advertise it well. Tony Dias asked how the public would be notified about the suicide prevention seminar, and the seminar on raising educational attainment. Superintendent Walter responded that the suicide prevention seminar is intended for school district staff and other service providers in our district. It will be held in the Forks Middle School Library. The seminar on raising educational attainment is being put on by the Department of Social and Human Services (DSHS) , and would be held at the Department of Natural Resources. Tina Bergstrom stated that it is also targeted at school district staff and providers of social services in our area. She said that the seminar came about as the DSHS has been looking at how children in foster care do not perform as well in school as their counterparts do. Tony Dias also stated that students have approached him with concerns that Forks High School will not have an annual this year. Superintendent Walter and Mr. Marshall responded that they were not aware of that.

Jeff McGinley stated that he appreciates the discussion the board is having about the high school day. He also stated that he would like to see a workshop on the topic, and possibly see the presentation Mr. Marshall gave again. He would like to see a description of what we are trying to accomplish by adjusting the schedule. Jeff McGinley stated that he had been told by high school students that they do not do the pledge of allegiance. Dave Dickson, Rick Gale, and Tina Bergstrom responded that it was not a board level decision. Mr. Marshall responded that announcements and the pledge of allegiance had been moved to advisory, which is between 1st and 2nd period, so it is up to each advisory teacher. Jeff McGinley requested to speak to the board in executive session regarding a personnel matter. The board retired to executive session at 8:05. The board returned to regular session at 8:18.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board immediately retired to executive session at 8:18. The board returned to regular session at 9:00 PM.

XI. WRAP UP

The next regular session will be held on March 13, 2007, at 6:00 P.M. in the administration board room.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by general consensus at 9:01 P.M.

Board Secretary

Board Chairman

Approved at the regular board meeting of March 13, 2007
Signatures on file