

QUILLAYUTE VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 402
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, March 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 6:00 PM. Present were Tina Bergstrom, Dave Dickson, Bill Rohde, Rick Gale, Superintendent Frank Walter, and recording secretary Julie Knobel.

II. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES

Bill Rohde moved to adopt the meeting minutes of March 13, 2007. Rick Gale 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

Superintendent Walter reported that Donna Kimball has been a teacher at the Elementary School for the past 25 years, and the Diane Cowles has been the lead instructor for Home School + for the past 12 years. Both are great teachers whose efforts have been much appreciated. Bill Rohde moved to adopt the consent agenda. Tina Bergstrom seconded, and the motion carried.

A. Personnel Actions

1. Retirement of:

- Donna Kimball, Forks Elementary School
Teacher effective June 15, 2007

B. Approval of:

- Leave of Absence for Diane Cowles, 2007-2008
- Linda Boyd, out-of state travel to "Developing Curriculum for Writing Workshops" Excelsior Springs, MO, August 5-6, 2007

C. Bills and Payroll

March payroll and General Fund vouchers no. 60363 through 60497 totaling \$334,473.07; ASB Fund vouchers No. 8577 through 8600, totaling \$15,560.46; and Trust and Agency Fund voucher no. 9 through 11 totaling \$436.22.

VI. REPORTS

A. Financial Report

1. February Ending Fund Cash Balance

Superintendent Walter reported that the district had a General Fund cash balance of \$98,688 at the end of February.

2. Budget Status report

February is the mid point of the fiscal year, and we have currently received 46.4% of budgeted revenues. So far this year, we have spent 49.23% of our budgeted expenditures. The Education Service District (ESD) recommends that school districts carry a 5% reserve to provide cash flow for the months where revenues lag behind expenditures.

3. House Budget Proposal

The State Senate will release their proposed budget on Wednesday, and so the OSPI video conference regarding the state's budget will not take place until this Friday. The Governor, and the House have released their proposed budgets, and they are very similar. The house budget proposes a slightly higher basic education funding rate for Kindergarten through third grade (K-3) teachers (up to 53.56 teachers per 1000 students from 53.2). The Governor proposed a cost of living increase of 3.4% for certificated instructional staff, and the House proposed an increase of 3.7%. It is likely that the Senate will also propose a 3.7% cost of living increase. Basic Education apportionment funds do not include grant or title funding for Special Education, Title 1, or the Bilingual programs. These programs do not receive an equivalent increase, so the

result is that these funds do not go as far. Both the Governor and House proposed budgets recommended increasing the I-728 funds from \$375 per student to \$450 per student. This would have a significant positive impact on our district's revenues.

B. Board Member Reports

Rick Gale reported that the Middle School Wrestling team won their championship, and performed well at the league tournament. He commended Mr. Marshall for hiring Brian Porter as the Middle School Wrestling Coach, and reported that Brian is an excellent coach. Rick Gale expressed gratitude to Patti Fouts for the work she does at the Middle School as the athletic director.

Julia Giles reported that she would be attending a conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico regarding Service-Based Learning. There will be four other students attending the conference, and Ellen Matheny and Kathy Hartman will be chaperoning the trip.

Maegan Leppell reported that the Fastpitch team had lost their game that day 4-3 by a very good play by the opposing team's second base player. She asked that the board listen to athletes in regards to staffing of coaching positions.

C. Superintendent's Report

1. Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act Extension
Superintendent Walter reported that the Senate Appropriations Committee passed a five-year extension of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act. This amendment to the Emergency Supplemental Bill will have to pass the Senate and the House to extend funding of the Act.
2. USFS Drug Detection Dog Visit
Officer Christine Fairbanks, and the Forest Service dog Radar visited Forks Middle and High Schools on March 19th, and did a search of two classrooms and student lockers. Superintendent Walter reported that the district intends to continue having periodic visits by the drug dogs, and expressed appreciation to the Forest Service.
3. Yearbook Status Report
Superintendent Walter reported that Mike Archer of Walsworth publishing met with students, staff, and parents regarding the yearbook. Showandah Terrill has begun to work with students during ASB class, and before school on Monday and Wednesday mornings. The students are working on Advertisement sales for the yearbook, and have made some deposits. The students have contacted community members and the newspapers for more pictures. The students currently have 50 pages under construction. Superintendent Walter reported that the current time frame for receiving the yearbook would be this fall. Tina Bergstrom asked about purchasing autograph pages for the students at \$1.25 per page. Bill Rohde asked if it would be appropriate for ASB to pay for the autograph pages. Dave Dickson asked to find out when the deadline is to order autograph pages, how many annuals have been sold, and how much it would cost.
4. DNR Focus Group Debrief
Superintendent Walter reported that he attended a DNR Focus Group at the DNR Building here in Forks. Doug Southerland, Commissioner of Public Lands, briefly attended the meeting, along with junior taxing districts, environmental groups, and DNR employees. The focus groups have been assembled to help the DNR develop the Olympic Experimental State Forest Land Plan, and resolve questions from the settlement between DNR, and the Washington Environmental Council (WEC). The next focus group meeting will be held at the DNR in Forks on April 17th.
5. Suicide Prevention Workshop Debrief
Superintendent Walter reported that Sue Eastman State Director of Suicide and Self-harm Prevention presented at a workshop in Forks last Monday. The workshop started the dialogue with staff and service-providers about prevention.
6. Bond Committee Debrief
Superintendent Walter reported that 27 people attended the Bond Committee meeting on Monday, March 26. Dave Dickson stated that the meeting was general, and that the attendees wanted to get to the meat of the issues. Lisa Johnson, the architect from DLR Group, has gone through this process with many other communities, and she got a beginning list of priorities from our community out of this meeting.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. High School Day and Graduation Requirements

The board discussed the sample schedules comparing the 4 period day and the 6 period day. Dave Dickson asked if there was any new legislation from the state with implications for graduation requirements. Superintendent Walter responded that the legislature is still considering legislation that would push back the requirement that students pass the Math Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) in order to graduate and legislation that would require math during the junior and senior year of high school for students who had not passed the WASL. Julia Giles and Maegan Leppell expressed that they felt like more work could be done to make the 4 period day successful, and that they would not be able to complete lab work in a 60 minute class period. Tina Bergstrom asked about the timeline for making a decision. Bill Rohde said that he would like to see all of the information that has been presented to board put together with proposed schedules and the necessary staffing. Rick Gale asked how soon the board needed to make a decision. Ray Marshall responded that teacher job fairs will be starting in early April, and that the best quality teachers are hired first, so we would want to have an idea of our hiring needs in the next two weeks. He also stated that we needed to be working on next year's high school schedule right away, so that we can have students schedules finalized before summer vacation. Bill Rohde asked Superintendent Walter what the recommendation of the leadership team was. Superintendent Walter responded that there are many issues at play in this discussion, including graduation requirement, percentages of core classes, and elective course offerings. Tina Bergstrom asked Diana Reaume if she felt it would be beneficial to wait a year to implement a change. Diana Reaume responded that, in the experience she had in another school, the district spent a year deciding whether to make the change, and then spent another year developing staff to make the change happen after the decision was made. Diana Reaume deferred to Ray Marshall as to how much time he and the high school staff would need to transition to the new schedule. Ray Marshall responded that the high school is in the middle of the School Improvement Process, and are working on their plan which is due at the end of April. Completing that plan, and trying to change the schedule at the same time would be a rush. Tina Bergstrom moved to establish a 6 period day at Forks High School, effective for the 2008-2009 school year. Bill Rohde seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. 1st Reading of Board Policy 2255 "Alternative Learning Experience Programs"

Superintendent Walter explained that the board policy presented to the board needed additional changes to be made before it was ready to be approved. The policy would cover all alternative learning experiences in QVSD, including Insight School of Washington, Forks Alternative School, and Home School Plus. The policy will not cover running start, or the North Olympic Peninsula Skills Center. The policy will be adapted to include the other programs, and brought back to the board for another 1st reading.

B. Resolution 5-06/07 "In support of fair and equitable state funding for schools"

Superintendent Walter explained that the resolution addresses the inequitable funding system at the state level, which does not fund schools equitably based on any criteria. The current system is based on grandfathered pay scales which existed prior to the current funding systems development. QVSD would have received and additional \$542,414 if the proposed amendments to SB 5135, and HB 1540 had been in effect this year. Bill Rohde moved to adopt the resolution. Rick Gale seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Tony Dias reported that he felt information was missing from his previous public information request regarding the high school yearbook. He asked about board policy 2311 regarding the Director of Curriculum, and the Instructional committee. Superintendent Walter reported that Penny Winn and Diana Reaume are currently heading up a Math Task Force, looking at the math curriculum across the district. Tony Dias stated that he thinks the district is out of compliance with Title IX, and feels like there is not equality between teams and coaches. He delivered another public disclosure request regarding the budgets for all extra-curricular activities since 2003. He stated that he felt it wasn't right that the boys soccer team was not able to play on the stadium field right now.

Barb Dias stated that she attended the meeting with the yearbook publisher. She stated she thought it would be unfair to pay for the autograph pages out of ASB funds. She stated that many students have not yet purchased the yearbook because they are unsure if one will be produced.

Cathy Johnson stated that she thought that the peers of Maegan Leppell and Julia Giles should be proud of the way that they are representing the student body to the board. She stated she was glad the board has given the district staff time to

prepare to change to a six period day. She asked how the six period day will affect VHS classes. Superintendent Walter responded that students from across the country attend VHS classes with a variety of schedules, and that it isn't a problem.

Scott Justus stated that in order to be competitive in sports with other schools, we needed to have opportunities for weight training throughout the school day. He stated that he felt we were out of compliance with Title IX requirements, and the audit 3 or 4 years ago determined that we are in violation. He felt that the problem is unequal facilities.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board retired to executive session at 8:13 PM to hear a coach's grievance appeal. Individuals went in to the appeal hearing to testify. The second coach's grievance appeal began at 9:18 PM, and individuals were also called on to testify at the hearing.

XI. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The board returned to open session at 12:15 AM. Dave Dickson asked for a vote to uphold the decision of Superintendent Walter in the grievance appeal of Coach Andrea Perkins-Peppers. The vote was 1 yes, 2 no, with 1 abstention. The appeal was granted. Dave Dickson asked for a vote to uphold the grievance appeal of Coach Rob King. The vote was unanimously yes. The appeal was denied.

XII. WRAP UP

The next regular session will be held on April 10, 2007, at 6:00 P.M. in the administration board room.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:17 PM.

Board Secretary

Board Chairman

Approved at the regular board meeting April 10, 2007. Signatures on File.