

QUILLAYUTE VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 402
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2006
6:00 P.M.
Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice-Chairperson Rick Gale called the meeting to order at 6:05 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Rick Gale, Sharon Penn, Tina Bergstrom, Nina Lau, Superintendent Frank Walter and Recording Secretary, Debbie Hull. Bill Rohde arrived at 6:06 P.M. and chaired the remainder of the meeting.

II. ADOPT AGENDA

Rick Gale moved to adopt the agenda. Sharon Penn seconded and the motion carried.

III. APPROVE MINUTES

Sharon Penn moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 21, 2006. Tina Bergstrom seconded and the motion carried.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Sharon Penn moved to approve the consent agenda and Tina Bergstrom seconded.

Karen Lehman, Student Services Director, and Superintendent Walter both expressed appreciation for Judy Sullivan's many years of service and phenomenal job as district nurse. Mrs. Lehman also commented on the admirable job the resigning ECEAP Family Educators have done providing services to the ECEAP population.

Superintendent Walter also expressed appreciation for retiring staff Bob Enos and Barb O'Sullivan. Mr. Enos has served as high school PE instructor, athletic director and had various coaching assignments throughout the years. Mrs. O'Sullivan brought her original 1971 teaching certificate chronicling her years at Forks Elementary School for his final signature. Bill Rohde stated that all will be missed and wished them the best of luck in future endeavors.

The motion to approve the consent agenda was carried unanimously.

A. Personnel Actions

1. Retirement of:

- Bob Enos, FHS Physical Education Instructor/Co-Athletic Director/Assistant Football Coach/Assistant Boys Basketball Coach, effective July 1, 2006
- Judy Sullivan, District Nurse, effective June 16, 2006
- Barb O'Sullivan, FES Teacher, effective June 30, 2006

2. Resignation of:

- Nancy Sprague, ECEAP Family Educator, effective August 31, 2006
- Laura Kesey-Farrell, ECEAP Family Educator, effective August 31, 2006
- Tanya Fraker, FHS Head Volleyball Coach, effective March 20, 2006

3. Hiring of:

- Linda Scarlett, FES Attendance Secretary, effective April 11, 2006

B. Change of Status: Cecil Earley Resignation, effective September 6, 2005

C. Approval of Vouchers

D. Approval of:

- Change of Regular May Board of Directors' meetings to May 9 and 23, 2006
- Grant of Easement to the City of Forks for Sidewalks and Utilities

V. REPORTS

A. Leadership Report

1. Building and Grounds

Bill Henderson, Maintenance Supervisor, reviewed the condition of the heating systems in the middle and high schools. The system is operating 32 years past its life expectancy and is in constant need of repair. The compressor malfunctioned during the 10th grade WASL and diverted heat to the middle school. It has since been replaced. Finding replacement parts for the system is increasingly difficult as they are no longer being made. There are times that the boiler is shut down a little earlier in an effort to save diesel expense. The high school math/science building is especially difficult as all pipes are under cement, and are failing. The maintenance department tries to catch problems early but Mr. Henderson expressed the urgency of determining if major repairs should be undertaken or if a new facility will be built. He asked that all understand any lack of heat is not intentional, but the aging system has many problems.

Bill Rohde thanked the maintenance crew for their efforts to keep staff and students comfortable and warm.

Superintendent Walter stated that Mr. Henderson and his crew spend an enormous amount of time keeping the heating systems patched together and running, including coming in several times throughout the night when the weather drops below freezing.

Mr. Henderson also mentioned the outdated electrical system in the old high school building. Several people have lost computer files due to electrical problems.

Mr. Henderson also reported on the condition of the football field. The soccer program is currently using Tillicum Park because the field is in poor condition since football. There is need for a new drainage system as the existing system was compacted when the field was crowned. The advantages of artificial turf, which include low maintenance and greater community use, were discussed. The stadium also has some dry rot that will be looked at this summer.

The board members again stated that the maintenance crew does a great job and expressed their thanks.

B. Financial Report

1. March Ending Fund Cash Balance

Superintendent Walter reported that the March ending fund cash balance was \$25,304.84. He acknowledged staff's efforts to reduce expenses, receipt of property tax revenue, the sale of one of the rental houses and the claiming of grant expenses through the end of the year as reasons the fund balance was not negative, as previously forecast. Due to these factors, it was not necessary to initiate an interfund loan. Mr. Walter stated that with continued good stewardship and the proceeds from the sale of the remaining rental houses, a loan should not be necessary, but funds will be tight.

2. April Enrollment

Superintendent Walter reported the district's April enrollment at 1185.45 FTEs.

C. Legislative Report

Superintendent Walter reported that the State has included in their budget funds for promoting academic success. This is funding to assist the Class of 2008 with the WASL.

D. Board Reports

Tina Bergstrom stated that she had heard from some teachers that staff morale is poor. In an effort to confirm or deny the statement, she suggested distributing an OSPI survey to staff. Donna Moulton, Forks Middle School (FMS) Instructor, stated that the middle school staff had taken this survey during the self-study process. She felt it had some strengths, however, cautioned that during a period of potential staff or program cuts, there will always be some level of discomfort among staff. The board will review the survey to check its pertinence to issues.

Ms. Bergstrom also asked about grants. Her understanding was that Bruce Thomas, former Director of Operations, and Irene Smith, former Forks Elementary School (FES) counselor, had written many grants. She questioned how that function was being completed with their absence. Superintendent Walter is currently in discussion with Patti Fouts, FMS Assistant Principal, to create a team to attend grant writing training. He explained that the district

needs to seek grants that align with district goals, not the opposite. Some grants require matching contributions from the district. Mr. Walter added that Sherry Schaaf has written and received many grants including, Washington Virtual Classroom Consortium, Rayonier and Environmental Protection.

Ms. Bergstrom addressed Student Services Director Karen Lehman's, presentation in a prior board meeting, which stated that a disproportionate percentage of Native American students have Individualized Education Programs (IEP). She is concerned about this and would like to pursue the causes. Mrs. Lehman will research and prepare a presentation, possibly in July.

E. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Walter reported that the FES Principal opening has closed. There are eleven candidates, representing a wide range of experience. Screening of applications will take place Wednesday, April 12th, from which final candidates will be selected for interview. The goal is to bring a recommendation for hire to the May 9th board meeting.

1. 2006 WSSDA Annual Conference

Superintendent Walter informed the board of the upcoming 2006 Washington State School Directors Association (WSSDA) Annual Conference in November. If there are plans to attend, it must be included in the 2006-2007 budget. After some discussion, the board determined to include the expenditure, as there are two new members of the board that could greatly benefit from information presented at the conference. When the cost of registration is available, the board will determine whether or not to attend.

2. WSSDA Call for Proposals

Superintendent Walter also reported that WSSDA has distributed a Call for Proposals. If the district has an issue to present at the conference, the application must be completed by June 2, 2006.

3. Initiative 728 Public Meeting, April 18, 2006

The annual meeting for public input regarding the expenditure of Initiative 728 Student Achievement funds will be held on Tuesday, April 18, 2006, prior to the Budget Advisory Committee meeting.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of 2006-2007 District Calendar

Sharon Penn moved to approve the draft of the 2006-2007 District Calendar. Tina Bergstrom seconded and the motion carried.

VII. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- Feasibility of Bond for Replacement of Old High School, Stadium and Athletic Field
- Special Levy Consideration

Superintendent Walter and the board discussed the options of running a bond for replacement of the old high school, stadium and/or athletic field versus a major building and systems overhaul, as well as the possibility of running a special purpose levy for technology. The board agreed by general consensus to begin the process of checking the feasibility of a bond.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Donna Moulton stated that Superintendent Walter has done an excellent job of educating certificated staff on budget issues at building faculty meetings, however rumors are flying in the community that this or that program are being cut. She asked if interested staff could meet with Mr. Walter and someone from the budget advisory committee to be prepared with informed, intelligent answers to help with rumor control and to receive feedback on the issues. Superintendent Walter replied that staff should meet with their building administrators regarding these issues.

Bill Rohde stated that basically all programs that are funded are being examined. Nothing has been cut at this time; building a budget is a process. Superintendent Walter added that this is the "between" time when all things are being discussed and the fact that they are under discussion causes people to assume they are being cut.

Diane Gaydeski stated that as a community member on the budget advisory committee, she understood the original purpose of the committee was to constructively network and gather multiple opinions. She felt the committee began their work too late in the budget process and that too much teaching of fiscal matters to the committee members is taking place with little actual work accomplished. She stated that she felt it was a leadership problem. At the last meeting a list of potential cuts was distributed to the committee members that she felt should have been published in the community. She felt the committee should have been focusing on basic education at every meeting rather than repairing boilers.

Chon Clayton suggested that coaches look for solutions in the athletic expenditures and gave some suggestions for cost savings in that area.

Tony Dias stated that a rumor states that Forks High School is non-accredited and graduating seniors will not be accepted at colleges. Superintendent Walter stated that the high school is in the renewal process and a site visit is scheduled for next fall. He also stated that accreditation is not taken away and graduating seniors will not be penalized while in the renewal process.

Martin Dillon, FHS vocational instructor, stated that over the last three years under previous principal/vocational directors there has not been a lot of communication with the vocational instructors regarding vocational budgets. Vocational budgets have been frozen at various times along with the general budget. He expressed concern that Carl Perkins Vocational Grant money has not yet been received and the school year will be over soon. He added that the vocational director needs to have training as voc teachers and students are directly affected.

Cathy Johnson stated that she hoped the events of last July and August would not be repeated as she felt classified staff was blind-sided by the RIFs. She stated that all staff wants to be involved in the process.

Debbie Hull stated that although it is understandable that members of the budget committee would like to forge ahead with possible solutions, teaching of fiscal matters is necessary to equip members to make informed decisions. She had worked at the district for many years before really grasping the complexity of school finances. She also stated that the list of potential program cutbacks was created for scrutiny by leadership and budget advisory committee members, not as a final list of cuts.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

X. WRAP UP

The next regular session will be held on April 25, 2006. The Initiative 728 Public Hearing will take place at 6:00 on Tuesday, April 18, 2006, immediately prior to the budget advisory committee meeting.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by general consensus at 9:54 P.M.

Board Secretary

Board Chairman

Approved by the Board April 25, 2006