

FERNDAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Ferndale, Washington

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 30, 2007, REGULAR BOARD MEETING

I CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Bernie Thomas in the administration office conference room at 1:30 p.m.

Members present were Bernie Thomas, Stuart McKay, Norm Robertson, and Lee Anne Riddle. John Hruby was absent and excused from the meeting.

Present from the administration were Superintendent Roger Lehnert, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services Elvis Dellinger, Executive Director for Business and Support Services Mark Deebach, Executive Director for Educational Services Jim Gibson, Director of Classified Personnel Diane Beaman, Director of Special Projects Aaron Kombol and Director of Curriculum and Instruction Cynthia Sicilia.

There were three persons present in the audience.

II COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Lehnert acknowledged the generosity of the community in donating school supplies and money to the school supply drive and the hard work of the FCCs in putting it all together. One hundred fifty-three families were served.

Ms. Riddle added that WAHA, Operation School Bell and other agencies were on hand to provide families with information. Operation School Bell provides vouchers for clothing and shoes to families. Ms. Riddle had also brought 25 boxes of books which she had purchased from the district's surplus sale. Families were free to take books they were interested in.

Mr. Thomas thanked Ms. Riddle for all her work on this project.

A. Review of WSSDA's Standing Legislative Positions

Ms. Riddle, legislative representative, presented the list of legislative positions developed by Washington State School Directors' Association. Board members will review these, prioritize them and then provide that information to Ms. Riddle in the next couple of weeks. She will present the recommendations at the WSSDA Legislative Conference in September.

II COMMUNICATIONS continued:

B. Culminating Project Report

Dr. Lehnert introduced Ferndale High School Principal Dawn Fairchild who reported to the board on the culminating project. Ms. Fairchild reported that what makes students successful in the culminating project is their student advisors. Advisors need one on one time with students which has been a challenge in the past.

Ms. Fairchild is proposing a late start to the school day a few times per year which would be set aside for this one on one meeting time. Classes would begin at 8:35 a.m. instead of 7:50 am. The day would be on a schedule much like it would be on for a school assembly schedule.

C. EHJR 4204 Report

Dr. Lehnert, Ms. Riddle and Ms. Fairchild provided information about EHJR 4204, the bill that would provide a simple majority of voters could authorize local school district levies. Dr. Lehnert reported they have been meeting with others regarding organizing a grass roots effort to get information out to the public regarding 4204. Ms. Fairchild said an information flyer was developed that will be distributed to principals and used during open house, PTO and other events. The group that is forming will also talk with union groups, call voters and write letters to legislators.

EHJR 4204 will be on the November voters' ballot.

The board will consider a resolution regarding EHJR 4204 at its September 2007 meeting.

III CONSENT AGENDA

\*\* *Mr. Norm Robertson moved to approve the consent agenda.*

*The motion carried unanimously.*

A. Approved Minutes

Approved the minutes of the July 13, 2007, special board meeting, July 27, 2007, regular board meeting, and August 3, 2007, special board meeting, as attached hereto and made a part of the minutes.

III CONSENT AGENDA continued:

B. Approved Voucher Transmittals

Approved voucher transmittals as follows:

General Fund vouchers #221544 through #221707 in the amount of \$192,909.38; Manual warrant #221543 in the amount of \$581.67; General Fund Payroll Warrants #221279 through #221542 dated July 31, 2007, in the amount of \$1,041,100.39; and electronic deposits in the amount of \$2,004,258.05; Capital Projects Fund vouchers #6220 through #6235 in the amount of \$604,929.99; Manual warrants #6207 and #6217 in the amount of \$83,435.35; and A.S.B. Fund vouchers #19493 through #19501 in the amount of \$39,260.52.

C. Approved the Hiring of Certificated Personnel for the 2007/2008 School Year

Approved the hiring of certificated personnel for the 2007/2008 school year as indicated on the list attached hereto and made a part of the minutes. These positions are contained in the staffing sheets which the Board approved at the May 2007 board meeting.

D. Approved Supplemental and Personal Service Contracts for the 2007/2008 School Year

Approved supplemental and personal service contracts 2007/2008 school year as indicated on the list attached hereto and made a part of the minutes. These positions are contained in the staffing sheets which the Board approved at the May 2007 board meeting.

E. Accepted Resignations

Accepted the following retirement and resignations:

1. Ms. Janell Massey, career specialist at Ferndale High School, a resignation from her position effective the end of the 2006/2007 school year.
2. Ms. Andrea Ruchert, primary teacher at Mountain View Elementary School, a resignation from her position effective the end of the 2006/2007 school year.

III CONSENT AGENDA continued:

F. Approved Leaves of Absence

Approved leave of absences for

1. Ms. Kimberly Hawes, first grade teacher at Eagleridge Elementary School, a maternity leave, effective the beginning of the 2007/2008 school year through approximately September 21, 2007.
2. Ms. Amy O'Neal Nysten, core teacher at Vista Middle School, a maternity leave, effective the beginning of the 2007/2008 school year through approximately November 12, 2007.
3. Ms. Holly Priestman, fourth grade teacher at Eagleridge Elementary School, a medical leave, followed by maternity leave, effective the beginning of the 2007/2008 school year through approximately November 21, 2007.
4. Ms. Vera Pavlyuk, para-educator, a personal leave of absence for the 2007-08 school year.

G. Authorize Travel

Authorize travel for the following:

1. Mr. Robert Keller, technician, to attend the Building Cisco Multilayer Switched Networks course in Irvine, California, August 19-24, 2007. Estimated expense to the district of \$1,670 will be paid by the technology budget.
2. Mr. John Fairbairn, principal of Eagleridge Elementary School, to attend the preschool project director's meeting in Washington, D.C., September 12 and 13, 2007. Estimated expense to the district of \$1,350 will be paid by the preschool grant budget.
3. Advisor Mike Smith, a chaperone and five Ferndale High school students to attend the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, October 22-27, 2007. Estimated expense to the district of \$3,000 will be paid by the vocational budget.

#### IV CURRICULUM AND PUPIL PERSONNEL

##### A. AYP Report

Director of Curriculum and Instruction Cynthia Sicilia provided a report to the board on AYP. She said that by the year 2014 all students are expected to be passing at 100%. She reviewed the various benchmarks by grade levels (K-5, 6-8, 9-12) that the district's students must meet.

Ms. Sicilia reported there were four schools that received a finding this year. They are Mountain View Elementary, Eagleridge Elementary, Vista Middle and Horizon Middle schools. Schools receive findings when tested subgroups do not meet the standard in a certain category. There are 111 categories in all.

#### V PERSONNEL

No Items

#### VI BUSINESS

##### A. Financial Statements

Mr. Deebach reviewed financial statements for the period ending July 30, 2007, as attached hereto and made a part of the minutes. He apologized to the board for the skewed results that the forecast model provided. He uses this model to calculate the results. It has been corrected. So, in light of that, the fund balance for 2006-07 will not be at the anticipated \$2 million.

Mr. Deebach reported he is also seeking a company to manage L&I claims. He estimates that contracting the service out will save the district about \$34,000 per year. The cost to the district per year for the service is \$13,000.

##### B. Established Traffic Safety Education Fees for 2007-08

Mr. Deebach presented recommended traffic safety fees to the board. In order to offset the increased costs of staffing and fuel, the district is recommending an increase to the traffic safety fees. This is based on the same number of participants as 2006-07. Increasing fees to \$325 for non-low-income students and \$200 for low-income students will allow us to be able to run the program without a subsidy from local dollars.

VI BUSINESS continued:

\*\* *Stuart McKay moved to establish a fee of \$325 for non low-income students and \$200 for low-income students as the traffic safety education fees for 2007-08.*

*The motion carried unanimously.*

VII BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

A. Bond Projects Update

Mr. Craig Calkins, project manager, provided a written report on the status of the district's bond projects. He also presented a Powerpoint presentation of visuals for the board in regard to North Bellingham Elementary School, new elementary school and Ferndale High School.

Mr. Kombol noted there are three portables onsite at North Bellingham Elementary School. They will not be operational by the time school starts, but crews are working diligently to get them installed and ready for use.

B. Technology Projects Update

Mr. Aaron Kombol, director of special projects, provided a written report on the status of the district's technology projects.

VIII GENERAL

No Items

The board recessed at 4:00 p.m.

IX EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 4:00 p.m. the board convened into executive session for approximately one hour for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. Mr. Thomas announced that no action would be taken during the session, however action would be taken following the session.

At 4:54 p.m. the board reconvened into open session.

V PERSONNEL

- A. Ratify the contract between Ferndale School District and Ferndale Education Association

No action was taken on this item. It will be placed on a future agenda.

The board adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

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Board President

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Board Secretary