

EDMONDS SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 15
SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
Tuesday, October 7, 2008

REGULAR MEETING START TIME – 6:30 p.m. - Boardroom

The regular meeting was called to order by President Paine. Members present: Paine, McMurray, Shields, Phillips, and Noble.

Student advisers present: Jeannette Sepulveda and Nerissa Taeza.

FLAG SALUTE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA and MINUTES (5 minutes for agenda, minutes, consent agenda)

1. Agenda

It was moved by Director Shields and seconded by Director Phillips to approve the agenda. All aye.

2. September 23, Regular Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Director Phillips and seconded by Director Shields to approve the September 23, 2008, regular meeting minutes. All aye.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Director McMurray and seconded by Director Shields to approve the consent agenda. All aye.

1. Approve Personnel Actions

2. Approve Bills

Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing office required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified by RCW 42.24.090 have been recorded and the listing made available to the Board.

General Fund Warrant Nos. 26190-26250, 200941-200945, 50044-50047 and 10277-10662 for a total of \$1,167,979.03. Capital Fund Warrant Nos. 37-75 for a total of \$5,336,261.66. ASB Fund Warrant Nos. 2029-2095 for a total of \$107,009.12. Transportation Vehicle Fund Warrant No. 5 for a total of \$97,009.85.

3. Single reading, approve recommendation to sole source justification Q0805GF for TransACT.

4. Single reading, approve Memorandum of Understanding regarding sick leave and vacation conversion medical reimbursement plan (VEBA), Professional Technical Employees.

5. Single reading, approve acceptance of public works contract, 2004 Levy field improvements at Hazelwood, Oak Heights, and Beverly Elementary Schools, Resolution #08-43.

6. Single reading, approve field trips:

- a. Oak Heights 6th grades to outdoor education program, Camp Orkila, June 10-12, 2009.
- b. Meadowdale High School Journalism classes to CSPA Journalism Conference, Columbia University, NY, November 1-4, 2008.
- c. Seaview 6th grades to outdoor education program, Camp Killoqua, May 4-6, 2009.
- d. Mountlake Terrace High concert orchestra to String Festival, University of Idaho, April 10-11, 2009.
- e. Edmonds Woodway High orchestra to Fall Retreat, Camp Killoqua, November 6-8, 2008.
- f. Mountlake Terrace High *Hawkeye* staff to National Scholastic Press Association Journalism conventions in St. Louis and Phoenix, November 13-16, 2008 and April 16-19, 2009.

- g. Edmonds Woodway High family, Career, and Community Leaders group to National Cluster meeting, Dallas, TX, November 20-23, 2008.

CELEBRATION (5 minutes)

The School Board will recognize individuals and groups that have contributed to the children and staff of the District. Nominees can be an employee, a parent, or a community member that have supported students and staff in exceptional ways.

The following was recognized at this Board meeting:

-Dianna White, Edmonds Elementary Parent

The nomination for Dianna White, recognized her leadership and commitment in facilitating the multiple campus improvements around Edmonds Elementary School including a large playground, walking track, and outdoor seating area and also acknowledged her work regarding the fundraising, design, and permits for the improvements.

REPORTS

1. Student Calendar Art recognition – Debbie Jakala
Debbie Jakala and Jennifer Aaby honored the students whose artwork was selected for this year's calendar and parent handbook. Students were presented certificates as their artwork was displayed on the screen. It was noted by Ms. Jakala that showcasing the student artwork continues to be very important. She also recognized staff and applauded the visual and performing arts program of the district.
2. Summer School report – Sue Venable
Assistant Superintendent Sue Venable provided the Board with a report on Elementary and Secondary Summer School. She reviewed the program offerings, tuition, location, enrollment, budget, scholarship availability, transportation, and food service components of program. Discussion continued on the instructional focus, the budget reductions for next year, progress reports to quantify results, assessments, and student to teacher ratios. Ms. Venable also noted that the program does use volunteers and administrative interns. Board members offered suggestions to look at ways to fund the program for next year including community and parent group contributions.
3. School Calendar report – Debby Carter
Assistant Superintendent Debby Carter outlined the work being done to evaluate a different calendar structure for professional development activities for staff, not using the five-day waiver process that is currently in place. She reported on the interest in having a structure that allows for blocks of time for professional development and building/individual/department activities, without students in the classroom. Evaluation continues on ways to restore the five waiver days back into the regular calendar and still provide a consistent structure that is meaningful for professional development. Ms. Carter acknowledged that more time is needed to develop this structure with varying groups weighing in on the conversations. The Board suggested that parents be included as part of the discussion as the student calendar greatly affects households. It was confirmed that the bargaining process is part of the calendar development and that the District's Labor Management Group will continue their conversations around this topic.
4. Split Classes report – Debby Carter
Assistant Superintendent Debby Carter outlined the number of split classrooms at each elementary school and did a comparison of the last three years. Split classes by grade level, the number of schools impacted, and totals by schools were also discussed. It was confirmed that Madrona and Maplewood were not included in the counts. The dialogue continued around the new math

curriculum and level of support provided to teachers that teach split classes and the other supports in place for teachers of split classrooms. The Teaching and Learning Department is evaluating ways to streamline the new math program.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (2 minutes each)

1. Second reading, approve revisions to Policy #8315 and regulation 8315R1 – Accommodating students with Life Threatening Conditions.
It was moved by Director Shields and seconded by Director Phillips to approve revisions to Policy #8315 and administrative regulation #8315R1 – Accommodating students with Life Threatening Conditions. All aye.
2. *Second reading, approve revisions to Policy #1245, Board Member Resignation and Replacement.*
It was moved by Director Noble and seconded by Director Shields to approve revisions to Policy #1245, Board Member Resignation and Replacement. All aye.

NEW BUSINESS (2 minutes each)

1. Single reading, approve Snohomish County/Edmonds School District Interlocal Agreement regarding Terrace Park play area, Resolution #08-44. It was moved by Director Shields and seconded by Director McMurray to approve Resolution #08-44, Snohomish County/Edmonds School District Interlocal Agreement regarding Terrace Park play area. Brian Harding responded to Board questions with regard to the grant dollars, location of play area, and the establishment of cooperative agreements with other local governmental agencies. All aye.
2. Single reading, approve revision of application of facility use rates to PTAs and similar parent organizations formed to support school activities, Policy Regulation 9200R1.
After discussion related to hourly rates, scheduling fees, feedback from a variety of meetings, and legal counsel input, it was moved by Director McMurray and seconded by Director Noble to postpone action on regulation 9200R1. As needed, Board members on an individual basis will schedule appointments with Ms. Miller to review implementation of the administrative procedures that clarifies community use of district buildings. All aye.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 minutes each)

The “public comments” item on the agenda is an opportunity for citizens to address the School Board. Items brought forward during this portion of the agenda will not be acted upon by the Board at this time, but may be addressed during the Superintendent Comments’ section of the agenda. Questions may also be referred to the superintendent or superintendent’s staff for examination and later response.

The Board encourages public comments; ***please limit comments to three minutes.*** The Board President may interrupt or terminate an individual’s statement when it is too lengthy, personally directed, or concerning a legal matter.

Steve Schermer presented several questions to the Board related to the dismantling of the 7th & 8th grades at Terrace Park. He asked the Board to consider all the options before making a final decision.

Darcie Thompson shared her opinions regarding options the Board should consider in moving the 7th & 8th grades from Terrace Park to another school. She asked that they evaluate the possibility of keeping the group of students together and forming a highly capable program at a building, possibly at Brier Terrace Middle.

Michelle Toshima described the learning environment for highly capable students at Terrace Park in the 7th & 8th grades. She recommends keeping the students together as a cluster of learners and in an environment that matches their learning style.

Diane Cavanaugh, as co-chair of the Special Education PTA Committee of the Edmonds School District, provided the Board with a brochure that outlined the focus of the Committee. Their goal is to work with families and educators to improve programs at both the individual school and at the district level. The brochure reflects the committee's mission, contact information, dates of general meetings, and the benefits of participation. Ms. Cavanaugh also noted that she had met with new Transportation Director, Craig Christensen, and that the consolidation of special education transportation services by pairing schools was going well. The committee's long term focus will be on inclusion and development of long term goals.

Rick Jorgensen, expressed confusion regarding the new language in the Facility Use procedures and suggested that the Board continue further discussion before implementation. He shared his concern regarding the fear of intimidation he hears from district employees about their reluctance to express their feelings or opinions to the administrative staff. He encouraged the Board to reach out to employees of the district, obtain input, and look at ways to address the problem.

Steve Hoppe is a parent of a student at Madrona Nongraded School. He shared his concern for the implementation of the new math curriculum and the many issues around the new program as it relates to the placement of students in it. Additionally, he feels that many of the students at Madrona are bored, being held back, and are receiving repeated math material. He stated that the new math program is not a benefit to gifted children, even though it may be a well-intended program, but with unintended consequences.

Andy Tan reiterated what Mr. Hoppe expressed regarding the math program at Madrona.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (10 minutes)

All Board members congratulated and applauded the students whose artwork was selected for the district calendar. They thanked the citizens that brought forward their questions, concerns, and ideas. Board members acknowledged listening to the issues, evaluating the options, consideration of comments, and making difficult decisions while experiencing financial constraints. They all acknowledged the community members for advocating for children.

Director Phillips acknowledged two students from EHRC that were being interviewed on the radio relevant to political issues.

Director Noble appreciated hearing about the Special Education Committee and their work with transportation. He attended an OSPI sponsored conference related to the State of the State budget and the overall funding crisis with next years predicted deficit, particularly how it impacts school funding. He attended the CPC Boundaries subcommittee last night and heard discussion related to keeping the middle school component of the Highly Capable together.

Director Paine recognized the comments made regarding the new math program at Madrona and encouraged continued dialogue with Teaching and Learning on how the components of the new curriculum are being rolled out. She appreciated hearing an update on the Special Education Committee. She stated that the concept of keeping the middle school highly capable program together is being evaluated. Ms. Paine acknowledged Mr. Jorgensen's comments about the culture of the district and stated that it is a delicate issue to address.

SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS (5 minutes)

Superintendent Brossoit's comments included:

- expressed appreciation for the parents of TP middle school students not wanting the program dismantled.
- acknowledged that CPC is working on the recommendation and will have it for the Board at an upcoming meeting.
- stated that Ken Limon is conducting a meeting on Wednesday night with Terrace Park families related to the

7th & 8th grade proposal.

-acknowledged the financial pressures and decisions that need to be made by the district as well as the economic uncertainty facing the state and national level.

-thanked Diane Cavanaugh for her leadership in forming the Special Education PTSA Committee.

-confirmed he is open to discussing issues and concerns related to District matters and he has an open door policy that will continue as he interacts with others respectfully.

-appreciation to Mr. Hoppe for bringing forward the issues he is observing related to the new math curriculum at Madrona and encouraged him to attend meetings with Assistant Superintendent Tony Byrd to work through the concerns.

DISCUSSION TOPIC

1. WSSDA Legislative Priorities & NW ESD 189 Legislative Priorities

The Board reviewed the Northwest ESD 189 legislative priorities for the upcoming session reported on by Director Phillips. The two regional priorities included the support for full funding and the recognition of collective bargaining impacts.

Director Phillips attended the WSSDA Legislative Assembly and provided the other members with information from the State Superintendent, the Full Funding Coalition, and the State Board of Education. Additional information from the Assembly includes information on pupil transportation and school construction study update.

2. Continued discussion on the 1000 Policies

Board members continued their discussion and review of the 1000 policies.

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

1. Tuesday, Oct. 14, 6:00 p.m., Public Hearing – Evergreen Elementary consolidation.
2. Tuesday, Oct. 21, 6:30 p.m., Regular Board meeting and Public Hearing on Performance Audit.
3. Tuesday, Nov. 4, 6:30 p.m. Regular Board meeting.
4. Wednesday, Nov. 12, 6:00 p.m. Public Hearing – 2nd for Woodway Elementary consolidation.
5. Tuesday, Nov. 18, 6:30 p.m., Regular School Board meeting.
6. Tuesday, Dec. 2, 6:30 p.m., Regular Board meeting.
7. Tuesday, Dec. 9, 6:00 p.m. Public Hearing – 2nd Evergreen Elementary consolidation.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Susan Paine, Board President

Nick Brossoit, Board Secretary/Superintendent

JoAnn Kerns, Recording Secretary

STUDENT ADVISERS FOR 2008-09

Alan Adzhiyev – THS

Stacy Rhynard – LHS

Jessica Scott – EWH

Jeannette Sepulveda – EWH

Nerissa Taeza – LHS

EDMONDS SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gary Noble

Term expires: Dec. 2011

Director District #3

Ann McMurray, Vice President
Susan Paine, President
Pat Shields
Susan Phillips, Legislative Rep.

Term expires: Dec. 2009
Term expires: Dec. 2011
Term expires: Dec. 2011
Term expires: Dec. 2009

Director District #2
Director District #1
Director District #5
Director District #4