
School Board of Directors - Regular Board Meeting
March 26, 2015
302 N. Church St. Montesano
Minutes

Regular Board Meeting: Call to Order 5:30 pm. Steve Poler called the meeting to order and a quorum was established with the following board members in attendance; Caleb Backholm, Steve Poler, Chris Thomas and Mike Lawr.
Board Member(s) Absent: None

Flag Salute: Steve Poler led the flag salute.

Approval of Meeting Agenda: A motion was passed to approve the agenda as presented; motion carried

Public Comment: There was no public comment at this time.

Bond Refunding Presentation: Superintendent Winter introduced Trevor Carlson, with Piper Jaffray who provided a presentation on bond refinancing. Mr. Carlson shared how a bond refinancing opportunity can provide a savings to tax payers. Rates have decreased dramatically since the district's bond issuance in 2007 and according to the data provided by Mr. Carlson, the timing is right to re-finance. The presentation included reports showing various graphs with interest rate history, the district's bonds original issuance information, outstanding voted debt profile, principal outstanding balance and final maturity dates.

Board discussion included clarification on the dates and schedule of events. Bond legal counsel will draft the resolution and the board would adopt the resolution in April if they chose to move forward with the suggested schedule. Next step is for the board to determine the net savings target goal. Examples given ranged from 3 – 5%. Additional discussions included; call dates in relation to replacing the old bonds with new bonds, credit rating established by the state as a guarantee, impact of the Federal rate changing as it drives the treasury market and costs involved to re-finance. Mr. Carlson concluded his presentation at 6:00 pm and the board continued discussion to include:
Next steps in the process: Superintendent Winter provided options for the board to proceed in reviewing the data provided by Mr. Carlson and discussing the target savings goals at next month's meetings. Board opened a discussion to proceed to choose the percentage, take action and move to the next steps in the process. A motion was passed to set the floor minimum percentage at 5%, the motion was seconded; all voted yes, motion carried. Superintendent Winter stated he will contact the district's bond counsel to set up the resolution.

Business Operations Report:

Business Manager, Sheila Baker provided the board with their Monthly Budget Status Reports in their board packets. She shared that the District's audit report was released today and can be viewed on the Auditor's website. An email with this information was sent to the board today. She further shared that the audit was a good audit, no findings. She received many compliments on a job well done.

~~Her budget report also included information on the two new vans that were purchased and the board would see the vouchers in the consent agenda.~~ In addition, the audit costs so far have totaled \$13,100. There may be another small bill after the exit meeting. Lastly, she shared that the state budget may be available tomorrow which will then give the district the opportunity to begin looking closer at the expenditures/revenues and evaluate all the pending projects. A reminder to the board that the fund balance for February and March typically drops and will go up again in April and May with tax collection.

Consent Agenda:

Minutes – Feb 26, 2015

Payroll & Benefits	No.6612264 - 612302	\$884,824.93
General Fund	No.612323, 612357-612449,612450	\$217,893.80
ASB	No.612321-612322, 612325-612356,612451	\$ 16,027.38
Capital Project	No.612324	\$ 10,357.75

A motion was passed to approve the consent agenda as presented; motion carried.

Personnel Report: No discussion

Name:	Position:	Description:
Krista Kersker	SPED Para/Simpson	Recommendation to Hire
Sadie Timblin	Sped Para/MHS	Resignation: March 10, 2015

A motion was passed to approve the personnel report as presented; motion carried.

Business Action/Discussion Items:

Resolution 400-15, Jr/Sr High School Carpet Project Completion: This resolution is a requirement to close out the project. A motion was passed to approve Resolution 400-15 as presented; motion carried.

Kelsey Foundation Donation for Business Week in the amount of \$8,200.00: A motion was passed to approved the donation received from the Kelsey Foundation for the Jr/Sr High School’s Business Week Program; motion carried.

2015-16 School Calendar: Superintendent Winter shared that the administrators and the teachers union worked on the calendar which is then voted by the staff. Two options are typically drafted and the calendar presented to the board is the MEA voted approved calendar. The difference in the two calendar options were the training days. Clarification on weather days in the calendar was discussed and why weather days are not placed at the end of school year. This decision is based on an effort to make the semester days as equal as possible for the jr/sr high school.

A motion was passed to approve the 2015-2016 calendar as presented; motion carried.

Achievement Index – Discussion – Board Member, Dick Stone provided an additional piece of assessment data that he obtained from Bob Hughes with the State Board of Education. The graph he shared showed the state average on the percent of students meeting standard vs. the percent of students in living in proverty. The data reflected all the schools in the state for the years 2011, 2012, 2013. Comments made included the accuracy of the data as most schools in the

state have a separate middle school and high school and Montesano is combined.

District Turf Donation Discussion; Board Chair Steve Poler shared with the board the progress with the field turf project to include communications with prospective contractors. To date, the project has raised about \$700,000. It is estimated to cost approximately \$950,000. Chair Poler believes there is a good chance the project can raise the additional funds needed over the next few months. At this time, he presented to the board an option for the board to get involved, and allow the district to provide funds to support the project. Discussions included; current maintenance costs at \$12,500 per year and benefits of proceeding with project now to be able to use the field in the fall.

Superintendent Winter responded to previous comments regarding the funds the district might provide and would that impact other projects that district would like to do or needs to do. The project list includes; jr/sr high school drop off area, weight room and security to name a few. Board member Stone discussed the priorities and wish list and if we should get involved. Chair Poler clarified that the district would not be putting in 250,000. to make up the difference. He was only suggesting to support it in some way, as it had not been addressed to the board until now. Chair Poler further clarified that the number he and Superintendent Winter had previously discussed was about was \$50,000- \$100,000. Superintendent Winter also stated he would provide a project list for next month's meeting for review. The Board can then decide how much if any they would like to provide for the turf project.

Chair Poler also shared that they are reviewing some safety concerns about turf. He has an email that he will forward to Superintendent Winter and board.

Board Member Mike Lawr stated he supports the district getting involved and would suggest providing \$150,000. Board Member Stone requested to see the engineer's report, and Superintendent Winter responded that he would provide it. Last comment/discussion included the cost of watering the field – annual dollar amount is approximately \$2,500., which includes summer watering to prepare the field for fall sports.

Public Comment: Dan Thomas, teacher and parent complemented the success of the Drill Team and expressed his appreciation to the district for their support.

Kelly Daniels, parent, spoke on behalf of a group of parents who have been discussing options about baseball facilities. She asked for direction and next steps in speaking with the City of Montesano to take over Vessy Park. Ideas included a long term lease agreement and the school could then take over the maintenance and responsibility, have it donated or assume it for a fee. Comments included lack of fields in Montesano, issues with maintaining the fields, and the options to have a ball park that the school would have control over. The board discussed the options and reviewed the maintenance issues. Pros and cons were discussed on the public's access to fields and maintaining the condition of the fields. In closing, Superintendent Winter suggested to have the group of parents and community get together first and meet to discuss the options and strategies before going directly to the city.

Superintendent's Report:

- ~ Reminder May 11th is filing date for re-election of board members
- ~ APP annual report – Asset Preservation Plan document for Simpson School was provided for the board to review and it will be part of the strategic plan to include all buildings
- ~ Superintendent will be attending the Drill competition tomorrow (state competition)
- ~ Math team –advances to state, going to Ellensburg after spring break
- ~ State Testing has begun and continues over the next few weeks

Board Comments:

Board Member Backholm commented on the baseball discussion; interested in looking into ideas and would like to see a better field.

Board Member Thomas stated he attended a town hall for education on Friday. Topics included testing in schools, concerns about legislative bills, tying test scores to teacher evaluations and smarter balance assessment. He is interested in our experience with it; are we having problems? Superintendent Winter responded that Smarter Balance started this year. The district piloted it last year and the district is working on how to overcome the challenges and get better; the question remains if the tests are doing their job.

Board Member Stone commented on the schools infrastructure to handle the tests. There are concerns from other schools. Additional comments included; senate bill 4958, testing scores and teacher performance, EOC, Smarter Balance, grad requirements and other options. Board Member Stone also stated he will be re-running for election and he reminding the board members that PDC forms are due April 15.

WSSDA regional meeting is next Tuesday – Board Members Stone and Thomas will be attending. Chair Poler indicated he may go.

Board Member Lawr thanked the fellow board members for his eight years of service on the board. Communication is much better he stated and believes the school is going in the right direction.

Chair Poler stated he sat in on the exit audit conference. Positive comments were shared; especially for the administrators and they highlighted the work done with Shawn Brown; very impressive.

Adjournment 7:31 pm: There being no further business, a motion was passed to adjourn the meeting; motion carried.

Board Chair

Board Secretary