

Wenatchee School District No. 246
Wenatchee, Washington
Minutes of April 08, 2008 Regular Board Meeting

<u>Board</u> Jesús Hernández, President Chuck Largent, Vice President Laura Jaecks Kevin Gilbert Walter S. Newman	<u>Staff</u> Brian Fiones, Superintendent
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REGULAR MEETING

Jesús Hernández opened the regular board meeting at the Central Office at 7:00 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. CONSENT AGENDA

Jesús Hernández asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.

MOTION MADE:

SECONDED & APPROVED: UNANIMOUSLY

1) **MINUTES** of the March 25th WHS Counseling Workshop & Regular Board Meeting

2) **PERSONNEL REPORT:**

PREPARED BY: Steve Cole, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources

3) **PAYROLL/VOUCHERS:**

DATE OF PAYROLL: MONTH/YEAR	AMOUNT:
	\$ None

2008 VOUCHERS

Date: April 8, 2008	VOUCHER REGISTER #	AMOUNT TOTAL
2008 FUND		
General Fund:	22880-23169	\$614,981.41
Capital Projects		
ASB Fund:	2686-2747	\$64,370.74

4) **CONTRACTS:**

Date	New or Renewal or Revision	Agency	Purpose	Amount	Effective Dates	Staff Person Responsible for Contract	Approved by Les?	PO Required?
03/18/08	New	Central Washington Hospital	Occupational health services for WSD employees.	Billed when services needed.	2007/2008	Steve Cole	Yes	No
				9700 14 7086 000 3020				

5) **SURPLUS REPORT: On File**

II. RECOGNITION AWARDS: Mike Franza was recognized for his work in bringing together Wenatchee School District and Washington State Special Olympics in a function that involved more than 40 of our students and a lot of high school volunteers. Bill Southern and John Borgioni presented Mr. Franza with gifts from the Special Olympics Young Athletes Program along with an exchange of gratitude. A short clip was shown of the activity. The board asked how they could support the program. Mr. Borgioni and Mr. Southern gave a brief history and explained how they are putting together a partnership between WSD, Wenatchee Valley College, Wenatchee Parks and Rec and Special Olympics to bring this program to our community every year to get more young athletes involved.

III. CITIZENS COMMENTS: None

IV. ASB REPORT: WHS Treasurer, Phil Bugert, reported to the board that they are currently working on the possibility of making the lunch periods longer by ironing out some of the obstacles and coming up with ideas and solutions in conjunction with the administration, such as activities for students during that time. They will update the board on their progress at the next board meeting.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

Procedure #2161P SPECIAL ED & RELATED SERVICES: Special Ed Director Colleen Obergh presented Procedure #2161P to the board. She explained that we replaced the old procedure with the updated WSSDA #2161P because there were so many areas that needed to be changed to bring it in compliance with the state WAC standards and the document is a 28 page document, so replacing it made more sense. The new language gives the district more options to place the students in individual need areas instead of just using the discretionary scoring methods we use now. Students will have more options before being diagnosed as a Special Ed student. Response to intervention is changing in the new procedure. Ms. Obergh also offered a workshop for the board on the Special Education program. She also said in past years they have been more involved in Special Olympic but at that time there were many active parents. The board thanked her for her presentation.

VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS:

Superintendent Fones presented two Board Discussion Topics:

1. Community Phone/Mail Survey Report

Mr. Fones provided the Survey Report for everyone to follow in the discussion.

- Section 1 - Community Satisfaction of School District
- Section 2 - Community Perception of Last Bond Measure
- Section 3 - Demographics

Mr. Fones said after studying the survey results he saw the main area of focus to be open communication to our community and the general public to get our true message out and clear up misconceptions. The discussion continued to include ideas:

- Staff person whose job PR and communication
- Newspaper - regular column
- Radio regular question answer segment
- More community involvement, presentations to clubs
- Rotate Board Meetings to schools to connect more with staff and parents
- Interaction with PTA and parent clubs
- Board member take a school or schools and be the liaison communication person
- Connect with the Senior Center – 2000 members
- Check with other districts, to see what they do
- Expand our newsletters to neighborhoods, not just parents
- Publish more information about how we manage our budget, perception is erroneous, we do very well in that area
- Set up a Key Communication Program
- Spanish involvement in survey and communication means
- See the need to get more avenues to get our key messages out into the community
- Involve churches in our community

Mr. Fones compared the phone survey results with the written responses and they discussed the reasons for some discrepancies between the two. Discussion followed on information from pages 7,8 & 9: District Grade- A through F. They also discussed results on page 11: Community Satisfaction with WSD: Ratings the district received. Mr. Fones also pointed out that the phone surveys are more random and mail in surveys are more negative and what that tells us. These results will fall over into the Levy Planning, which is next on the agenda, and the board will meet with the Facility Committee to hear their recommendations when they get to that point.

2. 2009 Levy Planning

Superintendent Fones outlined the 2009 Replacement Levy Considerations and the Election Dates for the board. Brief discussion followed considering various dates. All agreed that the February date would be too early after winter break to give enough time to do a thorough job of communicating our message out to the public.

February 3, 2009

March 10, 2009

April 28, 2009

May 19, 2009

Filing date for election is 45 days prior to the election date.

Mr. Fones suggested to the board, three areas to start with.

- 1) Levy Years: 2, 3 or 4-year levy?
- 2) Committee Representation
- 3) Study Phase to determine District needs, assessed property values, etc.

They discussed the 2, 3 and 4-year levies. All agreed the 2-year levy is too short, no sooner are you finished and then having to start all over again. Mr. Fones gave a brief history of the other options and the WSD levy history to date. He explained that for a four-year levy we must plan ahead of time and factor in the budget for long term needs. A lot of time and evaluation should go into this process. All board members agreed they did not want to jump into any decisions without thorough evaluation of all options.

Mr. Fones gave the board an outline of the 2009 Replacement Levy Planning Timeline (Based on a February election date. Dates can be pushed out with later election date.) Mr. Fones covered each area on the timeline and asked the board members to email him a list of ideas and names of people they would like to see serve on the Levy Committee. He also said that Les Vandervort, Chief Financial Officer would have all the projections and budget options at the next board meeting. He explained that our all day kindergarten, art specialists, extra counselors were all provided by the last levy and anything else had to come out of reserves and reminded everyone we will need to make sure we have the budget capacity before adding anything else to our plate. Mr. Fones emphasized that it is critical that a budget be in place.

There was a discussion of having both the Bond and Levy on the same ballot. Mr. Fones said he didn't think the district has ever run them together before. There are several challenges to this possibility and advantages to it also. Getting it all over with at once would be the main advantage. But one is a majority and the other is a super majority needed to pass. This would be an area of further discussion before a decision can be made. Below is the timeline Mr. Fones recommended:

April/May/June 2008

Levy Committee representatives identified:

Possible Representation:

- Superintendent, School Board Member (2), Chairperson(s), Business Manager, Principal Representatives (3), WenEA President & Reps.(3), Classified Representatives (3), PTA Representatives (3), Treasurer, (others: business, community, student)
- Levy Campaign Committee Chair Positions and members identified.

Areas:

- Fundraising
- Publicity
- Voter Registration/Contact
- Etc.

Complete Financial Information on the school districts levy capacity and the projected amounts on the levy for 2009-2012 with cost per thousand for property assessments.

Meeting Calendar established for Levy Committee and campaign.

May/June 2008

School Board determines the districts needs for the Levy.

August/September 2008

Levy amount determined and fact sheets on how money will be used.

Voter demographics researched and organized.

Phone calling plan developed.

Levy "Theme" adopted.

October/November 2008

Levy Resolution approved by school board (October – 1st meeting)

Budget finalized.

Yard signs/other graphics finalized and approved.

Yard signs ordered.

Fundraising letters mailed (October – 2nd week)

December 2008

Fact sheets, mailings, brochures, newspaper and radio ads completed.

Newspaper and radio ads reservations finalized.

Yard signs completed.

Site telephone plans finalized.
Campaign mailings printed.

January 2009

Yard signs distributed.
Newspaper/radio ads ready to start.
Mailings sent out.
Phone calling.
Final week of Newspaper/Radio Ads/Reader Boards.
Final week of phone calling if needed.

ELECTION - February 3rd , 2009 (Timeline dates change with election date)

VII. PRESIDENTS REPORT:

Communication: A board member received an email about Washington's grounds to a board member; Mr. Fones contacted Bryan Visscher for follow-up. Mr. Visscher responded quickly and contacted the Dept. of Ecology.

- President Jesús Hernández reported on attending the NSBA Annual Conference in Orlando Florida. The board members shared their experiences about the keynote speakers and the individual sessions they attended. Keynote speakers included:
 1. Sidney Poitier
 2. Sandra Day O'Connor
 3. Garrison Keillor
 4. Jim Lehrer

Discussion about some disappointed in the conference that there weren't any sessions on how to engage parents in your district or finance sessions or how to pass a bond or levy in your district.

- Mr. DeJong reported that they expect to get the results from NWREL Surveys by the end of April. They are making an attempt to get more participation from the district employees.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- WSSDA Regional Meeting here at D.O. on April 16th at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is signed up to attend.
- Appalachian Meeting on April 17th 3 p.m.– Walter Newman will attend it with Mr. Fones and Chuck Largent.
- Agenda Review changed to April 22nd at 8 a.m.
- Workshop on April 22nd at 6 pm with dinner for board at 5:30 pm.
- Heavy agenda on April 22nd will include Levy planning, I-728 mandatory budget money approval, budget planning for coming year, which may run over to a couple more meetings.
- Interviews for finalist for WestSide H.S. Principal, - Laura Jaecks and Chuck Largent will participate in the final interviews on the 23rd at 11 a.m.
- WenEA meeting on April 24th at the Foothills Portable – Walter Newman will attend with Jesús Hernández.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Entered at 8:30 p.m., President Jesús Hernández read the following statement: The school Board will now enter into executive session in accordance with board policy 1410 and RCW 42.30.110 Section E to review the performance of a staff member. The meeting is expected to last 30 minutes. The school board will be taking action in an open meeting following the executive session.

Executive Session ended and entered an open meeting status at 9:00 p.m.

Executive Session Action Statement:

MOTION MADE: To accept Assistant Superintendent's Steve Cole's recommendation to discharge Nestor Mora from employment with the Wenatchee School District.

SECONDED & PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

X. MEETING ADJOURNED:

Jesús Hernández adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

President

Superintendent