

Ferndale School District No. 502
School Board Regular Meeting January 31, 2017
Generated by Tammy Bengen

Members present

Kevin Erickson, Hugh Foulke, Andrew McLaurin, Lee Anne Riddle, Candice Wilson

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Information: 1.01 Call To Order

Dr. Erickson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed audience members. The meeting was held at Vista Middle School Library located at 6051 Vista Drive, Ferndale, Washington. There were approximately 20 second grade students from Cascadia Elementary School and another 75 audience members.

Present from the administration were Superintendent Linda Quinn, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Support Services Mark Deebach, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching & Learning Scott Brittain, Executive Director for Human Resources Paul Douglas, Executive Director for Student Services Jill Iwasaki, and Executive Director for Teaching and Learning Mark Hall.

2. COMMUNICATIONS

Information: 2.01 Meet and Greet

A board member was available from 6:30-7:00 p.m. to meet and greet audience members.

Information: 2.02 Recited Pledge of Allegiance

At this time, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Information: 2.03 Recognition of the School Board for its Service

January is School Board Appreciation Month. Dr. Quinn led the district in recognizing our seven board members. She said we want to let our board members know in a public way how much we appreciate their service. They do their work for our children.

Bev Dooley's Music Class from Cascadia Elementary School performed a song and dance for the board. Also, an appreciation video was presented to the board. It included "thank yous" to the school board from Ferndale Schools students and staff.

Information: 2.04 Recognized Employees Who Are Retiring or Resigning from the District

Dr. Erickson recognized each of the administrators listed below who then presented Apple Awards to staff who are retiring or resigning from the school district.

1. Executive Director for Student Services Jill Iwasaki presented an Apple Award to Native American Community Coordinator and Graduation Coach Rudy Vendiola. Mr. Vendiola has been with the district since 1999, most recently assigned to Horizon Middle School. She said Rudy is the voice, heart and soul of our Native Program. He is the liaison to parentS, students and the tribe. He's a teacher and a tennis coach. She said she is excited for him as he moves to an associate dean position at Lummi Nation.

Mr. Vendiola recognized Alvaro Vicentes and Matt Warbus by "blanketing them." He said they have stood with him for the past 18 years of work in the district. Then, Mr. Vendiola called upon his son, who was present, to sing the canoe family blessing song.

2. Vista Middle School Principal Heather Leighton and Horizon Middle School Principal Faye Britt presented an Apple Award to Music Teacher Celeste Larson. Celeste was hired by the district in 1978. Along her tenure, she taught music at Beach, Central, Custer, Mountain View and North Bellingham Elementary schools, and Horizon and Vista Middle schools. Dr. Britt said that since 1978, Celeste has taught at almost every school in the district. She advocates for students. Ms. Leighton said she remembered having Ms. Larson as a teacher when she was in Ferndale Schools. She thanked Ms. Larson for the 30 years she devoted not only to the district, but to our children. She touched a lot of lives.

3. District Receptionist Tanya Carter was not able to attend the meting. Tanya has worked for the district since 2002. Her award will be sent to her.

Information: 2.05 Public Comment

Dr. Erickson announced that the school board made a decision to have public comment at the beginning of its meetings, but not at the end of the meetings. He stated the other ways that the public can communicate with the school board. Also, he said the board will be changing its agenda to be more student focused.

Dr. Erickson recognized audience members who may have comments.

Ferndale High School Student Bruce Brockett spoke about the Spanish offerings at the high school. He asked the board to offer support for fifth year Spanish. It's important to students to have the opportunity to learn at the college level while still in the high school environment. He hopes the board will continue the program.

Ferndale High School Student Jordan Fassett spoke about the Spanish offerings at the high school. She is in fourth year Spanish and requested that fifth year Spanish be offered. She knows many student who want to take a fifth year of Spanish. She pointed out that the district is funding 30 electives that have low class sizes. She said the Spanish course teaches values of immersing oneself into a new culture. She said she has organized a petition for students to sign. She said students and parents are writing concerns about the program to the school's principal.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Lee Anne Riddle moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Action (Consent): 3.01 Approved Minutes

Approved the minutes of the December 13, 2016 regular board meeting as attached hereto and made a part of the minutes.

Action (Consent): 3.02 Authorized Vouchers

Authorized Vouchers:

GENERAL FUND

Vouchers 265100-265201, 265216-265355, 265352-265455, 265494 & 265496 in the amount of \$962,818.88

GENERAL FUND PAYROLL

Warrants 506233-506276 dated December 30, 2016 in the amount of \$1,270,158.78; and electronic deposits in the amount of \$2,665,432.46 for a total of \$3,935,591.24.

CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND

Voucher 265456 in the amount of \$581.48

A.S.B. FUND

Vouchers 265202-265214, 265336-265351, 265457-265491 & 265495 in the amount of \$107,142.04

PPT FUND

Vouchers 265215 & 265492-265493 in the amount of \$350.00

Action (Consent): 3.03 Approved Hiring of Personnel

Approved the hiring of personnel, per the list attached hereto and made a part of the minutes.

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Action (Consent): 3.04 Authorized Personal Services and Supplemental Contracts
Approved Personal and Supplemental contracts for January 2017, per the list attached hereto and made a part of the minutes.

Action (Consent): 3.05 Accepted Resignations and Retirements
Approved resignations and retirements, per the list attached hereto and made a part of the minutes.

Action (Consent): 3.06 Authorized Leave of Absences
Approved leave of absences, per the list attached hereto and made a part of the minutes.

Action (Consent): 3.07 Adopted Resolution No. 1-2017 Canceling Warrants
Adopted Resolution No. 1-2017 canceling General Fund warrant numbered 264797, as attached hereto and made part of the minutes.

Action (Consent): 3.08 Accepted December 2016 Fund Balance Financial Statements
Accepted the Fund Balance Financial Statements for the period ending December 31, 2016, as attached hereto and made part of the minutes.

Action (Consent): 3.09 Authorized Travel
Authorized the following travel:

1. Native American Student Advisor Ashley Hunt, SOAR Teacher Shannon Iwasaki and eight Ferndale High School students to go on a college tour March 13-16, 2017. They will visit the University of Washington, Washington State University, Eastern Washington University and Central Washington University. Estimated expenses in the amount of \$6000 will be paid by a grant from the American Indian College Fund.
2. Ferndale High School DECA Advisor Jeff Wood, two chaperones and 20 DECA students to attend the SCDC DECA Conference in Bellevue, Washington March 2-4, 2017. Estimated expenses of \$6,500 will be paid by students, ASB/DECA account and CTE budgets.
3. Ferndale High School Teachers Tony Torretta, Mitch Davis and Nicole Perry; a chaperone and 30 students to attend the 212/360 Leadership Conference in Grand Mound, Washington February 10-12, 2017. Estimated expenses of \$5,370 will be paid by students, ASB/FFA account and CTE budgets.
4. Ferndale High School Teacher Tom Diimmel, two chaperones and 24 students to attend the WCTSMAs annual Sports Medicine Symposium and Competition in Tacoma, Washington April 13-15, 2017. Estimated expenses of \$3,545 will be paid by students, ASB and CTE budgets.
5. Ferndale High School Teachers Tim Richard, David Peters and Michelle Stern to attend the ASCD Conference March 25-27, 2017 in Anaheim, California. Estimated expenses of \$4,500 will be paid by the Title 1 budget.

6. Superintendent Linda Quinn to attend the Schools of the Future Leadership Symposium March 16 and 17, 2017 in New York, New York. There will be no expense to the district.

4. TEACHING AND LEARNING

Information: 4.01 Presentation of Custer School Improvement Plan

Mr. Fairbairn presented Custer Elementary's School Improvement Plan noting how it fits in the district's improvement plan. The goal is to prepare students for graduation and beyond. The school is focused on the ABCs.

Attendance: Three groups are working on attendance—Attendance Committee, Sunshine Committee and Assembly Committee. We are creating a warm and inviting culture. Our goal is to increase average daily attendance to 95% and reduce chronic absenteeism to 10.8%. Attendance strategies: one thing that is most important is their relationship with their teacher. Teachers make personal connections. We want families to want to be at Custer. Family interviews are held for new students. Facebook has become a great communication tool for Custer. We were able to conference with 97.9% of families. As of end of December we are at 95.3% ADA. Chronic Absenteeism is at 13.9%.

Behavior: Custer has a PBIS Team that works on systems. Custer supports students when behavior issues occur. Disruptive behavior is down over 5%. Attention seeking behavior went from 58.3% to 46.6%. Strategies: this year we used a universal screening tool. We give kids a lot of attention.

Course Completion: this is the result of great learning. Custer is focused on reading and math. They are doing an aggressive writing project pilot. It is focused on the Lucy Calkins units of study.

Two keys to success: all staff are part of our SIP team, everyone knows what we are doing, and our progress is shared at meetings, and on our walls so every one—parents, students, staff—can chart our progress.

5. HUMAN RESOURCES

Information: 5.01 No Items

No items

6. BUSINESS

Discussion: 6.01 Information Regarding Lummi Island Citizens Group - Parks and Recreation Taxing District

Assistant Superintendent for Business & Support Services Mark Deebach shared information regarding a group of private citizens on Lummi Island who are organizing to create a Parks and Recreation taxing district. They have approached the school district to ask about our level of interest in exploring a partnership with them. Their idea is very early in the planning stages and they are planning to move forward with or without our support. They are considering a November ballot measure and would most likely request funding through an accompanying tax measure at the same time.

They have expressed interest in developing a mutually beneficial relationship and have no expectations or specific requests for what that would look like. They are simply asking if we would be interested in exploring this type of relationship. It was the consensus of the board to pursue a relationship with this group.

7. SUPPORT SERVICES

Information: 7.01 No Items

8. GENERAL

Information: 8.01 Adopt School Board Policy No. 3116 Students in Foster Care (first reading)

Executive Director for Student Services Jill Iwasaki presented School Board Policy No. 3116 Students in Foster Care for first reading by the board.

The proposed policy is based on WSSDA's version. The policy includes the new requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). ESSA seeks to mitigate barriers caused by mobility both in and out of the foster care system and from home placement to home placement.

Significantly, "students awaiting foster placement" has been deleted from the definition of homeless youth in the McKinney-Vento Act. ESSA has instead provided new rights to students in foster care under Title I, Part A. Given the ESSA changes and existing state law that requires districts to address excessive absences of such students, to expedite transfer of their records, and to facilitate their on-time grade level progression, a new policy focused solely on students in foster care was developed.

The policy will be scheduled for final consideration by the board at its February regular meeting.

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Information: 8.02 Student School Board Members Reports

Student School Board Members Ben Bagley and Jeremy Knapp reported to the board.

Jeremy Knapp provided a report on Windward High School's Community Conversation on keeping school's safe. Some of the key points were to: stop normalizing hate speech, discussing what we can do about it, safety training support, and crating a support group throughout the district.

Ben Bagley reported that students have high morales. Mr. Gardner is pushing to get students through classes this semester. We have bulletin boards around the school that convey anti-bullying, anti-hate speech and be kind. The student body is posting them. He said he shared Ferndale's facilities survey with students. He said he is in the Spanish program. He said we need to not only have students meet standards, but also prepare students for what lies beyond that.

Information: 8.03 School Board and Superintendent Sharing

At this time, the superintendent and school board members shared informational items.

Dr. Erickson said the legislative session is beginning. He urged those present to contact their legislators. Ms. Riddle said a vote is coming up tomorrow related to the levy cliff bill. Legislators need to hear from us. She encouraged audience members to be engaged and support public education.

Action: 8.04 Reorganization of the School Board for 2017

Annually, the school board elects a president and vice president. This matter was rescheduled from the December 2016 board meeting.

Dr. Erickson opened nominations for the office of vice president.

Candice Wilson nominated Lee Anne Riddle for the office of vice president. No other nominations were received. Nominations were closed.

Candice Wilson moved to appoint Lee Anne Riddle as vice president of the school board for 2017. Dr. Erickson took a roll call vote. The motion passed 5-0.

Dr. Erickson opened nominations for the office of president.

Andrew McLaurin nominated Kevin Erickson for the office of president. No other nominations were received. Nominations were closed.

Andrew McLaurin moved to appoint Kevin Erickson as president of the school board for 2017. Dr. Erickson took a roll call vote. The motion passed 5-0.

Information: 8.05 Public Comment

Dr. Erickson recognized audience members who may have comments. No comments were received.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Information: 9.01

At 8:54 p.m., the board convened into an Executive Session for approximately 30 minutes to discuss a personnel matter, performance of an employee. Dr. Erickson announced that no action would be taken during or following the session.

At 9:20 p.m., the board reconvened into open session and immediately adjourned.

Board President

Board Secretary

DRAFT