

West Valley School District No. 208

Regular School Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, Sept 12, 2023

After being advertised as required by law, the Board of Directors of West Valley School District No. 208 met in Regular Session on Tuesday, Sept 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Valley High School Library, 9800 Zier Road, Yakima, WA 98908, and Via YouTube Livestream:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p6oQfRN0mAY>.

Board of Directors present: President Michael Thorner, Dave Jaeger, Mike Meyer, and Mark Mochel.

Administrative Staff present: Superintendent Dr. Peter Finch, Executive Director of Innovation Jed Watters, Recording Secretary Melissa Holmes, and Recording Secretary Samantha Anderson.

Call to Order: At 7:00 p.m., President Michael Thorner called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance: Michael Thorner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Michael Thorner motioned to excuse Mark Strong from the meeting. MC 3-0

Changes to the Agenda: Michael Thorner requested that agenda items 9c 1,2,3 be moved to agenda items 12e 18,19,20.

Oath of Office: Senior Magnus Fulton and junior Ava Ferguson were sworn in as new student representatives by Dr. Finch.

Communications:

- A. Response to Public Comment - Dr. Peter Finch thanked the Sunrise Rotary for their support of scholarships for seniors.
- B. OSPI Child Nutrition Administrative Review is completed every four years. West Valley met all criteria with some technical assistance.

Program Presentation: Jed Watters Innovation Center

Executive Director for Innovation, Jed Watters presented a review of accomplishments from the 2022-2023 school year as well as new goals for the 2023-2024 school year. Last year, competitive grants were utilized to purchase equipment for various pathway programs. Professional development for CTE teachers will be a focus this year. School-to-work connections will continue to be prioritized.

Public Comment of Non-Discussion Agenda Items: At 7:47 p.m., President Michael Thorner opened the meeting to visitors for public comment. A community member shared that the high school PTSA is organizing a candidate forum that will be held in October. Another community member thanked Mr. Watters for his presentation and said that his student had benefited greatly from Jamie Zeller's Financial Algebra 2 class.

With no further requests, President Thorner closed the public forum at 7:49 p.m.

Approval of Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes

1. August 22, 2023 Board Meeting

B. Approval of Payroll

2. Payroll August 2023

C. Approval of Policy Additions/Revisions -Non-Substantive Changes - First Reading

Michael Thorner motioned to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. MC 4-0

Discussion Items:

Dr. Finch reviewed the memo provided to the Board regarding several Policy Additions and Revisions provided by WSSDA. Mr. Thorner asked the administration to update Policy 3207 Prohibition of Harrassment, Intimidation, and Bullying to cross reference with Policy 5161. Mr. Thorner asked the administration to provide further review to the following policies: Policy 5050 Contracts and 6220 Bid or Request for Proposal Requirements. Mark Mochel asked for further review of Policy 6700 Nutrition Health and Physical Education.

Public Comment of Discussion Items: At 8:20 p.m., President Michael Thorner opened the meeting for public comment. Two West Valley elementary educators from Cottonwood, Heidi Mochel and Cathy Warren, shared their concerns regarding student attendance and the need for an emphasis on positive attendance policy in the District.

With no further requests, President Thorner closed the public forum at 8:29 p.m.

Action Items:

A. Approval of Travel Requests

1. HS XC Meet-Runners Soul XC Fest

Mike Meyer motioned to approve travel requests. MC 4-0

B. Resolution #23-09-732 Career and Technical Education Program Approval

Michael Thorner motioned to approve the Resolution, with date corrected. MC 4-0

C. Approval of Teamsters Collective Bargaining Agreement

Dave Jaeger motioned to approve the Teamsters Collective Bargaining Agreement. MC 4-0

D. Approval of JH Gym Bleacher Project

Mike Meyer motioned to approve the JH Gym Bleacher Project. MC 4-0

E. Approval of Policy Additions/Revisions - First Reading

1. Policy 1610 - Conflicts of Interest

2. Policy 2121 - Substance Abuse Program
3. Policy 2190- Highly Capable Programs
4. Policy 2230 (NEW) - Transition to Kindergarten Program
5. Policy 3207 - Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying
6. Policy 3231 - Student Records
7. Policy 3520 - Student Fee's, Fines, or Charges
8. Policy 4001 - Public Information Program
9. Policy 5010 - Nondiscrimination and Affirmative Action
10. Policy 5050 - Contracts
11. Policy 6020 - System of Funds and Accounts
12. Policy 6217 (NEW) - Electronic Funds Transfer
13. Policy 6220 - Bid or Request for Proposal Requirements
14. Policy 6530 - Insurance
15. Policy 6550 - (NEW) - Capitalization Threshold for Leases and Subscriptions
16. Policy 6605 - Student Safety, Walking, Biking, and Riding Buses
17. Policy 6700 - Nutrition Health and Physical Education

Michael Thorner motioned to approve the Policy Additions/Revisions of E:1-9, E:11-16 MC 4-0

Michael Thorner motioned to approve E:10. Motion Declined 4-0

Michael Thorner motioned to approve E: 17. Motion Declined 3-1

Items Arising: The School Board asked the administration to review student attendance policies and consider incorporating positive attendance ideas and/or consulting with other districts who are seeing results.

Dr. Finch shared the opportunity for Board participation in the Core Planning Team for Strategic Planning that will meet four times throughout the school year. Dr. Finch shared that there will be an opportunity for staff and community participation in the Strategic Planning process on Wed, Oct. 18. Dave Jaegar expressed interest in serving on the team.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Finch shared about the successful All-District Welcome Back and upcoming Technology Open House. Both events organized by Minerva Pardo, Family Engagement Coordinator and support staff from the Family Engagement Department.

Board Reports/Board Development: Mark Mochel said he appreciates the opportunity to be a judge on an upcoming contest organized by Magilene Benedicto from the Child Nutrition Department. Mike Meyer asked about other school districts that sent debit cards to families for food security. Dr. Finch will get more information and report back on this.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Dr. Peter Finch, Superintendent

Michael Thorner, President