

## West Valley School District No. 208

### Regular School Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, January 28, 2020

After having been advertised as required by law, the Board of Directors of West Valley School District No. 208 met in Regular Session on Tuesday, January 28, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. in the library of West Valley High School, 9800 Zier Road, Yakima, WA 98908.

**Board of Directors** present: President Mike Meyer, Dave Jaeger, Mark Strong, Melissa Robertson, Michael Thorner, and Student Representatives Grant Picket and Madisyn Ross.

**Administrative Staff** present: Superintendent Mike Brophy, Assistant Superintendent Peter Finch, Assistant Superintendent Angela Von Essen, Futures and Innovations Director Chris Nesmith, Finance Director Sheilah Wood, Communications Director Anjerie Nemrow and Recording Secretary Stephanie Smith.

**Call to Order:** At 7:03 p.m., President Mike Meyer called the meeting to order.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted at the beginning of the Study Session.

**Changes to the Agenda:** 1) Modify date on Action Item A5: Change the departure date to February 12, 2020. 2) Add Discussion Item 9A #5: 2020 Bond and Levy Rates. 3) Add a recess following the public comment non-discussion/agenda items for Board recognition.

#### **Communications:**

**Staff Recognition** - Mike Brophy and Board President Mike Meyer presented the following staff members and District parents with a recognition pin for their work done during the AIR/AASA visit: Renee Berger, Edwin Johnson, Erika Dailey, Mary Ellis, Jenna Leaverton, Devina Khan, Bradley Liebrecht, Jedediah Watters, Joshua McKimmy, Kevin Brennan, Chance Dolezal, Jeff Weeks, Elizabeth Chicken, Keely Teske, Janae Iverson, Danita Worley, Jaime Whittum, Megan Antles, Lynn Ruff, Brian Van Dyke, Kim Seal, Sara Ditto, and Katie Wyckoff.

**Board of Directors Recognition** - January is the Washington State School Board recognition month. Dr. Brophy explained that for the first time, West Valley was chosen as one of the fifteen Distinguished Boards in the state of Washington. Barb Smith-Gilbert was also recognized for her service on the Board during the 2018-2019 school year.

**CBRE/HEERY Monthly Construction Report** - Rob Gross gave a PowerPoint presentation updating the Board on the 2019 Capital Bond Program. The PowerPoint detailed the following topics: program goals, December 2019 month in review, highlights, drone footage, website information and updates, and a "look ahead in January 2020".

**High School Student Report:** Grant and Madisyn reported on several activities at the High School, including the Father-Daughter Dance, basketball and swim activities, upcoming pep assembly, and the start of the second semester.

#### **Introduction of Visitors/Public Comment Non-Discussion/Agenda Items:**

Visitors present were: Jill Armstrong, Peter Marinace, Rob Gross, Kim Via, Ryan Mathews, Brandi Van De Brake, Steve Ashbrooks, Heidi Sutton, Anna Shay, Robert Knudsen, Kristin Johnson, Brandy Schwartz, Eva Lust, Jamie Mathews, Barb Smith Gilbert, Katy Hanses, Kelly Groth and Amy Knautz.

At 7:23 p.m., Mike Meyer opened the meeting to comments, questions, and/or concerns from the audience.

Jamie Mathews, a District parent, expressed her gratitude for the changes made at the Freshman Campus, which included locking the front doors and the addition of signs on the bathroom doors. However, she requested that basketball practices be held after elementary school hours to ensure a high school student

and an elementary student are not in the restroom at the same time. She also requested that the JROTC students practice at the Fire Station.

Barb Smith-Gilbert expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to serve on the Board and the work the Board is doing.

Anna Shay, a District parent, commented on her gratitude for keeping the front doors at the Freshman Campus locked. She requested basketball practice starts after 3:30 p.m., and the JROTC students practice at the Fire Station.

Eva Lust, principal of Summitview Elementary school, clarified that the JROTC students are not practicing at the Freshman Campus daily and only during bad weather. Otherwise, they usually practice outside. The students need a space to practice, and she fully supports their program.

Kelly Groth, a District parent, asked that the comments made about the basketball players be removed. She finds the previous remarks about students and athletes extremely offensive. She also pointed out that the basketball team's schedule varies; they are not practicing every day at 3:30 p.m. at the Freshman Campus. She also has a High School daughter who volunteers in Apple Valley classrooms. If the comments about high school students continue to be allowed, she will not allow her daughter to volunteer any longer.

Jill Armstrong, a District parent, stated her son is in the JROTC program, and he is not a child molester, as suggested in previous meetings. She stated the JROTC students need a place to practice and offered to chaperone the JROTC students if needed.

Michael Meyer closed the public forum at 7:38 p.m.

At 7:38 p.m., President Meyer declared a break to last (15) fifteen minutes to enjoy refreshments.

The Board reconvened their meeting at 7:53 p.m.

#### **Approval of Consent Agenda:**

##### **A. Approval of Minutes**

1. January 14, 2020 Study Session
2. January 14, 2020 Regular Minutes

##### **B. Approval of Vouchers and Payroll**

1. General Fund - Check # 229342-229476; 229497-229607; 229652-229769
2. Capital Projects Fund - Check # 229489-229496; 229623-229627; 229787-229788
3. ASB Fund - Check #229477-229488; 229608-229622; 229770-229786
4. Payroll-January 2020
5. Procurement Card Detail
6. Capital Projects Fund - Project Expenditure Reports
7. Capital Projects Fund Balance Recap Report

##### **C. Financial Reports**

1. December 2019 Financial Reports
2. December 2019 Budget Status Report

##### **D. Capital Projects Fund-Project Expenditure Reports**

##### **E. Capital Projects Fund-Balance Recap Report**

##### **F. Approval of Employment Contracts**

1. Employment Overview
2. Calhoon, Robert Volunteer Wrestling Coach @ West Valley High School

3. Connel, Gordon Bus Driver @ Transportation
4. DeSanto, Shayla Server @ Child Nutrition
5. Fogler, Samuel Volunteer Wrestling Coach @ West Valley High School
6. Gonzalez, Elizabeth Temporary Paraprofessional-Transitional Kinder @ Wide Hollow
7. Lawrence, Justin Assistant Track & Field Coach (Jumps) @ West Valley High School
8. Macias, Maria (Irene) Temporary School Nurse @ Cottonwood Elementary
9. Venable, Silvia Paraprofessional (SPED) @ West Valley Middle School
10. Wilkerson, Alyssa Transition to Kindergarten Teacher @ Wide Hollow Elementary

**G. Approval of Leave Requests**

1. Brockway, Beverlee December 6, 2019 - January 6, 2020 Leave of Absence
2. Bolin, Teena December 20, 2019 - Est. January 31, 2020 Leave of Absence
3. Christison, Gabriela January 6, 2020 - Est. May 1, 2020 Leave of Absence
4. Evans, Doug January 3, 2020 - Est. January 21, 2020 Leave of Absence
5. Lee, Han Na (Hannah) Est. April 22, 2020 - August 2020 Leave of Absence
6. Strunk, Brooke Est. March 16, 2020 - Yr. End 2020 Leave of Absence

Mike Meyer made the motion to approve the consent agenda, as presented. MC 5-0.

**Discussion Items:**

**Innovations and Futures** - Chris Nesmith, Director of Innovations and Futures, gave a PowerPoint presentation updating the Board on Career Pathways, Perkins grant, and HB 1599. He also provided a summary of the state and federal rules. Chris addressed comments and questions from the Board.

**Finance** - Sheilah Wood, Director of Finance, provided a handout to the Board with a summary and explanation of the District's revenues and expenditures. She also gave a brief overview of the finance department's responsibilities. Sheilah addressed comments and questions from the Board.

**Motor Pool** - Angela Von Essen provided background information in regards to the transportation department's request to purchase two Ford Expeditions to add to their fleet for student athletics and activities. These vehicles will be used to start replacing the older Suburbans.

**Capital Projects Update and Recommendations** - Angela Von Essen provided a list and a brief explanation of several large projects throughout the District that will need to be addressed. There is approximately \$1,077,000 in the Capital Projects Fund (CPF) for non-bond related projects. We've maintained a balance of \$1M in the Capital Projects Fund for emergency repairs since the only funding sources in the CPF are facility use revenue and interest earnings. A resolution will be presented to the Board in February, requesting authorization to transfer \$1,000,000 from the General Fund to the CPF.

**2020 Bond and Levy Rates** - Angela Von Essen made the Board aware of some differences in the Levy tax rate as compared to the rate advertised during the 2019 bond campaign. She stated the County Treasurer would be mailing the 2020 tax statements to West Valley taxpayers next week. Angela passed out a memorandum to the Board, explaining in detail the differences in the rates. She explained that during the 2019 bond campaign, a Levy tax rate of \$1.50 was communicated to the West Valley taxpayers. The actual levy tax rate to appear on the 2020 tax statements will be \$1.77, a difference of \$0.27/\$1,000. Angela listed the following factors that contributed to the difference:

- 1) In 2018, the Legislators mandated a Levy tax rate limit of \$1.50/\$1,000 for the 2019 calendar year, and the following year raised the limit to \$2.50/1,000 for the 2020 calendar year.
- 2) The Board approved Resolution 17-11-665, authorizing the approximate Levy rate of \$1.50/\$1,000 and an amount up to \$5,965,626.
- 3) In November of each year, the District is required to certify the Levy and Bond tax amounts with the County Assessor. The District uses the Board approved budget to certify the Levy and Bond amounts annually, which is similar to other districts in the State.
- 4) The County Assessor used the District's certified amount of \$5,965,626 from its approved 2019-20 Budget, which created a tax rate of \$1.77 ( $\$5,965,626 \times 1,000 / 3,390,229,903$ ). It is not the

Assessor's responsibility to check the rate unless it is higher than the legislatively imposed limit of \$2.50/1,000.

In the future, the District will obtain the County Assessor's assessed valuation for the following year to calculate the new tax amounts. The Board will approve a resolution, indicating the new tax amounts to be certified with the County Assessor.

The Board directed the administration to present a resolution at the February 11, 2020 Board meeting, requiring the additional tax revenue collected in 2020 to be held in reserves for use in 2021, and the 2021 tax amount will be reduced by the additional 2020 tax collection. The Board also requested that a statement be provided to the public, informing them of the error and the plan of corrective action.

### **Public Comments Re: Discussion Items**

At 9:12 p.m., Mike Meyer opened the meeting to comments, questions, and/or concerns from the audience.

With no comments/questions or concerns from the audience, Michael Meyer closed the public forum at 9:12 p.m.

### **Action Items:**

#### **A. Approval of Travel Requests**

1. Kristin Johnson, Northern Peak Summer Leadership Camp, Chewelah, WA-August 3-8, 2020.
2. B McMurry / J Iverson / R powers / E Chicken / T Whitfield / N Fletcher / K Cook / M DeLeon / J Raphoon, Character Strong Training, Portland, OR-February 05-06, 2020.
3. Tom Robinson, Washington State DECA Competition, Bellevue, WA-March 5-7, 2020.
4. Chris Nesmith / Russ Tuman, AASA Redefining Ready Initiative, Baldwin, NY-March 31-April 06, 2020.
5. 1SG (R) Jeff Parks / Martha Torrico, JROTC Service Championship Air Rifle Match, Camp Perry, OH-February 13-17, 2020.
6. Ryan Scott / Dan Eyman / Edwin Johnson, Glazier Football Clinic, Las Vegas, NV-February 05-09, 2020.
7. Michael Brophy, Spring Meeting of Futures Institute, Phoenix, AZ-April 24-29, 2020.
8. Minerva Pardo / Jesenia Larios, AASA National Summit on Early Learning, Las Vegas, NV-March 24-25, 2020.
9. Bob Altshuler, Girls Wrestling Regionals, Othello, WA-February 14-15, 2020.
10. Bob Altshuler, Girls Wrestling State, Tacoma, WA-February 20-22, 2020.

Mike Meyer made the motion to approve travel requests as presented, including the modified date on travel request #5 to February 12, 2020, as the departure date. MC 5-0.

#### **B. Approval of Policy Additions/Revision(s) First Reading**

1. Policy 3115 Students Experiencing Homelessness
2. Policy 3207 Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying
3. Delete Policy 3240-Covered in Policy 3241
4. Policy 3241 Student Discipline renamed and revised
5. Policy 3120 Enrollment
6. Policy 3231 Student Records
7. Policy 3520 Student Fines
8. Policy 2418, Waiver of HS Graduation Requirements
9. Policy 4210 Regulation of Dangerous Weapons on School Premises
10. Policy 4215 Use of Tobacco, Nicotine Products and Delivery Devices
11. Policy 3245 Students and Telecommunication Devices

Michael Thorner asked that Policy 4210 be updated to include "district contracted security" under the "exceptions" section of the Policy.

Michael Thorner moved to approve the first reading of policies listed with an amendment to Policy 4210, as discussed. MC 5-0.

### C. Approval of Motor Pool Purchase

Michael Thorner moved to approve the purchase of the motor pool vehicles as requested. MC 5-0.

**Items Arising:** Dave Jaeger addressed the issue of the JROTC students using the Fire Station. After contacting the Fire Station, we learned it wasn't an option due to lack of storage and room availability on a daily basis.

Dave Jaeger stated the Board requested a financial report from the District. The financial report is scheduled to be discussed at the March 24, 2020 Board meeting. Dave said he would like to see it earlier, if possible.

Michael Thorner asked if the elementary school mascots are being changed. Since there are community pride and history affected in this process, he would like to be debriefed prior to any changes.

### Administrative Reports:

- A. Administrative Reports
- B. Enrollment Report
- C. Safety Report
- D. Travel Log Report

**Superintendent's Report:** Dr. Brophy's report was included in the Board packet. The report included important dates, School Board meetings, and Study Session topics.

As requested by Dr. Brophy, Peter Finch provided a brief update on the Grade Configuration committee. Peter stated there has been an overwhelming need to consider a grade K-5 configuration and its pros and cons. Peter said the Grade Configuration committee meeting on January 30, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. in the High School library.

Mike Brophy provided the Board with data regarding the District's current 7<sup>th</sup> graders (class of 2025). He explained the data shown, and the information will be provided at the next Grade Configuration meeting on January 30, 2020.

### District Committee Reports:

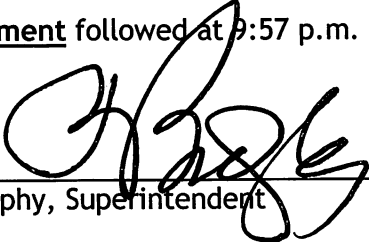
**Bond Oversight Committee (BOC)** - Peter Marinace gave an update on the BOC meeting held on Tuesday, January 21, 2020. Peter also thanked Tim Critchlow for the HVAC rooftop information, stating it was helpful information to have in supporting the District's decision to proceed with rooftop units.

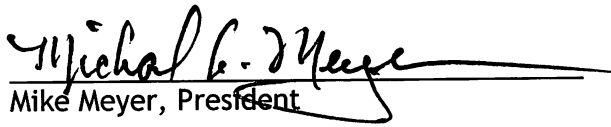
**Long-Range Facilities Committee** - Ryan Mathews stated the Committee encourages the grade configuration discussion, noting it is an educational model and not a capacity issue.

### Board Reports/Board Development:

None were noted.

**Adjournment** followed at 9:57 p.m.

  
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Mike Brophy, Superintendent

  
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Mike Meyer, President