

WEST VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 208

Board of Directors Study Session Meeting Minutes May 3, 2017

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- I. Call to Order
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Having been advertised as required by law, the Board of Directors of West Valley School District No. 208 met for a Study Session on Wednesday, May 3, 2017, in room 1245 of the West Valley High School, 9800 Zier Road, Yakima WA 98908.

Those present for the study session were: President Michael Thorner, Mike Meyer, Dave Jaeger, Jeffrey Smith, Superintendent Mike Brophy, Assistant Superintendent Peter Finch, Dawn Williams, and Recording Secretary Debbie Chronister.

Call to order: At 6:30 a.m. President Michael Thorner called the meeting to order.

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

President Thorner reported that Mike Carey had informed him that he would not be here today.

Changes to the Agenda: There were no changes to the agenda.

Communications: There were no new communications.

Study Session/Special Meeting:

The purpose of meeting/items discussed: Board Goal – Study on Contact Time
Peter Finch referred to the file included in the Board's packet. He explained that with the revision of state law, West Valley has been able to increase student contact time at the elementary level by 15 hours per year which equates to 2.5 days of instruction. Professional Development is now done in June and August limiting absence of the teacher in the classroom. Dr. Finch talked about West Valley's Jump Start providing extra instruction to minimize the "summer slide". Board members also discussed the number of school assemblies and their impact.

Superintendent's Goal Review of West Valley Virtual Academy

Mike Brophy presented an update on the West Valley Virtual Academy. Summer School will be offered through Academy courses. Other districts are using the online school as well. Board members discussed the staff/duty structure and management of the academy.

Dr. Brophy presented a proposal to expand learning opportunities for elementary students. Selected third and fourth grade students would ride the secondary bus schedule arriving an hour early to receive a world language course or targeted assistance where needed. The Board also discussed the Highly Capable Committee doing a comprehensive look at the whole program noting that this proposal is an interim step of moving forward.

President Thorner stated administration would like some direction on posting the Assistant Principal/Athletic Director position. After discussion, Jeffrey Smith, Dave Jaeger, and Mike Meyer were in favor of moving forward on this. Michael Thorner understood the need of the position, but not comfortable moving forward because of where West Valley is in the budget process. President Thorner, on behalf of Mike Carey, relayed that Mr. Carey is not in favor of moving forward. It was agreed that the position could be posted at this time.

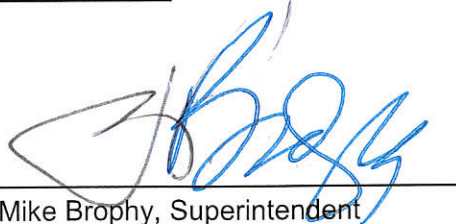
Board members returned their discussion to the PAL Program. Dawn Williams answered their questions and it was noted that Dr. Brophy will oversee the selection of students. President Thorner offered some suggestions for the letter to the parents.

Items Arising: Dave Jaeger and Jeffrey Smith volunteered to serve on the PAL Committee.

Michael Thorner expressed uneasiness of the timing for deploying Chromebooks to 3rd and 4th graders. Dr. Brophy said that the plan at this time is that the Chromebooks for 3rd and 4th graders would not go home, but would be used at school for 1:1 instruction with an emphasis on math. This covered one concern of President Thorner. He requested this topic to be a discussion item at a future meeting. Dr. Brophy reported that IT Director, Jeremy Cox, will be at the next meeting.

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

Adjournment was declared at 8:06 a.m.



Mike Brophy, Superintendent



Michael Thorner President