

West Valley School District No. 208

Regular School Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, November 9, 2021

After being advertised as required by law, the Board of Directors of West Valley School District No. 208 met in Regular Session on Tuesday, November 9, 2021, in the West Valley Junior High, auditorium, 7505 Zier Road, Yakima, WA 98908, and Via Zoom Webinar ID# **837 2726 7854**.

Board of Directors present: President Mark Strong, Dave Jaeger, and Mark Mochel. Michael Thorner attended via Zoom.

Administrative Staff present: Superintendent Dr. Peter Finch, Assistant Superintendent Joe Connolly, Assistant Superintendent Stacey Drake, Human Resource Director Jerry Holsten, Executive Director of Innovation Jed Watters, Communications Director Amy Forrest, Mid-Level Principal Richard Pryor, Student/Family/Community Engagement Coordinator Minerva Pardo, and Recording Secretary Stephanie Smith.

Meeting attendees requesting to speak during public comment: Barbara Borton, Cathy Jameson, and Chris Cory.

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

Pledge of Allegiance: Mark Strong led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Changes to the Agenda: Dr. Peter Finch switched the order of agenda Item #7 and Item #6.

Dave Jaeger motioned to excuse Mike Meyer from tonight's meeting. MC 3-0. Due to technical difficulties, Mr. Thorner's vote was not heard or recorded.

Communications: There was no communication to report.

Host School Presentation/Program: Mid-Level Campus Principal Richard Pryor shared information about the transition process at the Mid-Level campus and expressed his gratitude for the staff and students.

Amber Stiles-Gill shared information about reading support at all grades. Students shared the positive impact that this support has made in their lives. Amber also shared information about the After-School clubs and activities that are funded by federal Title IV funds.

Ruth Veselka shared information about the advisory class for all grades and the importance of social-emotional foundations for both students and staff.

Tiffany Williams shared information about the Leadership class and the work that students have done to unify the Mid-Level Campus. Student leaders presented information about the activities they have organized to promote a positive culture.

School Board members expressed their appreciation for the student presenters as well as all of the staff members at the Mid-Level Campus for their support of our students during this challenging time of COVID-19.

Public Comment of Non-Discussion Agenda Items: At 7:33 p.m., President Mark Strong opened the meeting to visitors for public comment.

Barbara Borton expressed her concerns regarding COVID-19 protocols for extra-curricular activities, specifically sports programs.

Cathy Jameson and Chris Cory thanked our high school students and staff for a memorable and meaningful Veteran's Day Assembly that was held on Tuesday morning. The community members mentioned the contributions of our students from the JROTC program, our Drama students, our Band students, and our Choir students. They also mentioned how the entire student body was respectful and how many students stayed after the assembly to shake hands with the numerous veterans who attended the assembly. There were over 50 veterans who attended the assembly including a veteran from WWII who will turn 100 years old next week.

John Borton expressed concern about the procedures for public comment, stating two minutes for each speaker is not enough time.

With no further requests, President Strong closed the public forum at 7:45 p.m.

Discussion Items:

A. Resolution #21-11-734 Replacement Educational Programs and Operation Levy Board members said that they appreciated the work of Joe Connolly to develop the levy resolution that will maintain the targeted tax rate at \$1.50 per thousand. The four-year levy will be presented to voters in February. Ballots will be mailed in January.

Public Comment of Discussion Items: At 7:47 p.m., President Mark Strong opened the meeting to visitors for public comment.

Michael Moore spoke in favor of the resolution and emphasized that this will be a replacement levy and the targeted tax rate will remain the same as the past.

With no further requests, President Strong closed the public forum at 7:50 p.m.

Action Items

- A. Approval of Minutes
 - 1. October 26, 2021 Regular Meeting

Mark Strong requested that the following correction be made to the second Public Comment of Discussion Items: At 7:52 p.m., President Mark Strong opened the meeting to visitors for public comment, and with none, Mr. Strong closed the public forum at 7:53 p.m.

Dave Jaeger motioned to approve the minutes, with the corrections indicated above. MC 4-0

- B. Approval of Travel Requests
 - 1. Jason Timm & Juan Arias/HS Girls Soccer - State Competition, Puyallup, WA- November 19-20, 2021.

Mark Mochel motioned to approve the travel request, as presented. MC 4-0.

C. Approval of Policy Addition(s)/Revision(s) SECOND READING

1. 3200 Freedom of Expression
2. 3411 Accommodating Students with Seizure Disorders or Epilepsy (NEW POLICY)

Dave Jaeger motioned to approve the SECOND Reading of policies 3200 & 3411, as presented. MC 4-0.

D. Approval of Resolution(s)

1. Resolution #21-11-734 Replacement Educational Programs and Operation Levy

Mark Mochel made the motion to approve resolution #21-11-734, as presented. MC 4-0.

Items Arising: No items were reported.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Finch's report was included in the Board packet.

Board Reports/Board Development:

Dave Jaeger reported that he was impressed with the HS Marching Band when they performed at the half-time of the final home football game last week. He said that their half-time show was "amazing."

Mark Mochel commented that the number of positive COVID-19 cases continues to decrease. He thanked staff, students and community members for helping keep students and staff safe.

Michael Thorner shared that he attended the High School Drama performance; All I Really Needed to Know I learned in Kindergarten, commenting on the terrific performance of the high-quality production.

Mark Strong thanked our high school students and staff for a memorable Veteran's Day Assembly.

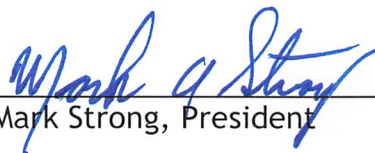
Closed Session: At 7:58 p.m., the Board moved into a Closed Session to discuss the Collective Bargaining, expected to last fifteen (15) minutes with no action to follow. At 8:15 p.m., the Board reconvened into regular session.

Executive Session: At 8:17 p.m., the Board moved into an Executive Session to discuss the Performance of a Public Employee, expected to last fifteen (15) minutes with no action to follow. At 8:33 p.m., the Board reconvened into regular session.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.



Dr. Peter Finch, Superintendent



Mark Strong, President