

## West Valley School District No. 208

### Regular School Board Meeting Minutes Monday, May 13, 2019

After having been advertised as required by law, the Board of Directors of West Valley School District No. 208 met in Regular Session on Monday, May 13, 2019, 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, Michael Thorner, Mark Strong, Barb Smith Gilbert, Student Representatives Sidra Yousaf, Faith Sullivan, and Grant Pickett.

**Administrative Staff** present: Superintendent Mike Brophy, Assistant Superintendents Peter Finch and Angela Von Essen, Communication Director Anjerie Nemrow, Innovations and Future Director Christopher Nesmith, Human Resource Director Randy Souers, Principals Heidi Sutton, Eva Lust, and Ben McMurry, and Recording Secretary Debbie Chronister.

**Call to Order:** At 7:00 p.m., President Mike Meyer called the meeting to order.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was done during the Study Session.

**Changes to the Agenda:** Dr. Brophy requested Item 9 - Host School Presentation/Program and Item 15 - Executive Session be stricken from the agenda.

**Communications:** Dr. Brophy recapped the funding challenges the District is facing. Dr. Brophy described the updated District Reduction Proposal including attrition from resignations and retirements, shifting programs and people for less reliance on Basic Ed funding, the focus on class size teacher ratio, and the proposed increase use of the Fund Balance for a total of \$1,000,000 from reserves.

#### **Recognition ELL Adult**

Minerva Pardo, Family Engagement Coordinator honored parents, Minerva Delgado and Hilda Sanchez for their participation in an English class and High School students, Brenna Modine and Alondra Covarrubias for their assistance to teach the class. Ms. Pardo presented each of them with a certificate recognizing their achievements.

**High School Student Report:** Student Representatives provided an update on the activities happening at the High School. Last week was staff appreciation week, ASB is currently developing the 2019-20 budget, and plans are moving forward to prepare for the Freshmen class moving into the High School.

#### **Introduction of Visitors/Public Comment:**

Visitors present were Ryan Mathews, Sean McGeeney, Susan Olden, Brittany Butler, Teresa Orcott, Jennifer Garcia, Hailey McCaffrey, Jake McCaffrey, Brad Tangeman, Peggy Tangeman, Kiley Keller, Amie French, Kristin Johnson, Kira Baron, Kris Vestad, Danielle Crawford, Melissa Vicente, Melissa Brunz, Brenda Severson, Robyn Webster, Ben Webster, Jason Harris, Darleme Harris, Chelsea Allen, Crystal Wade, Heather Match, Terra Buechler, Toni Paganelli, Rebekah Olden, Tiffany Williams, Carter Williams, Olivia Meissner, Brooke Maloney, Mike Saunders, Will Krueger, Meghan Alderson, Peter Marinace, Jerry Prescott, Heidi Mochel, Jamie Zeller, Tausha Stapleton, Lydia Mear, and Mari Spencer.

At 7:17 p.m., Mike Meyer opened the meeting to comments, questions and/or concerns from the audience.

The following attendees asked questions and voiced their concerns regarding the Apple Valley and Summitview students being moved to the Freshmen Campus and the 2019-2020 budget proposed reductions: Melissa Vicente (PTO supplies move, activities, crossing guard student, high school football practice); Brittany Butler (safety); Lou Krueger (pick up sites, no sidewalks); Becky Benjamin (locations of new schools, out-of-district students); Jaime Zeller (thank you, short-term sacrifice for long-term end result); Adam Eldridge (funding, fund balance, SEBB, levy lid); Ryan Mathews (cost, timing to move students, budget

process, new buses, community forum); Jason Matson (out-of-district parent - not giving up); Trisha Dennison (paraprofessionals, teacher support); Kris Dennison (safety issues losing paraprofessional); Alice Campbell (students behaviors - life matters, self-esteem issues, troubled kids, funding); Kathy Peterson, (paraprofessionals dedication to students); Trey Lecheminant, (need paraprofessionals); and Saben Hogue (staff reduction).

President Mike Meyer closed the public forum at 7:57 p.m. He encouraged people to email board members and Dr. Brophy any further comments and/or questions.

### **Discussion Items:**

#### **A. Budget Planning/Financial Reductions for 2019-20 Update**

Mike Brophy stated the updated reduction proposal includes using \$1,000,000 of the Fund Balance.

Barb Smith Gilbert clarified that the budget process is due in August and tonight's discussion is the recommended reductions for 2019-2020 school year. The District has a deadline of May 15, 2019 to notify provisional teachers of not having a contract for next year. Ms. Gilbert spoke as a Board member, grandmother, and alumni expressing that the Board wants the best quality education for each student. This is a difficult situation, not easy to make any cuts.

Mark Strong appreciated all comments expressed and noted he has three children in West Valley and has concerns surrounding the impact of reductions.

Dave Jaeger stated he is frustrated, has been working toward a solution with the position of being as transparent as possible. There is a problem to solve and we will make the best decision we can. Happy to see people coming to the Board meetings.

Mike Meyer appreciated the attendance and comments from visitors. He stated the Board trusts and relies on resources who know this business. He will be pragmatic and look at the best solution possible. He expressed appreciation for the attendance and comments made.

Barb Smith Gilbert spoke about the implications of using reserve funds with the reminder that as a Board, they have to look at long-term solutions.

Michael Thorner stated that this is his sixth year as a Board member and the first year with less revenue. He is attentive to communication from the community and other board members. The next two years may have more reductions. These proposed reductions personally affect him and his family, however, he is not in favor of spending a larger amount of the reserve funds. He cares and feels deeply about all of the students. Mr. Thorner thanked the administration led by Dr. Brophy in trying to move forward determining the why's and what's to be able to decide the best for our students. And that is why we are all sitting in this room.

#### **B. 4A Commitment Update**

Dan Eyman and Jeff Jamieson provided a comparison of West Valley School District coaching staff with the other districts in the 4A league. WIAA is revising the enrollment formula incorporating the free and reduced lunch levels with the enrollment numbers to determine the leagues. West Valley could be in a different league. Dan and Jeff would like to come back in November with more information.

### **Action Items**

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

1. April 22, 2019 Study Session (attached)
2. April 22, 2019 Regular Meeting (attached)
3. May 8, 2019 Special Meeting (attached)

Michael Thorner made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. MC 5-0.

#### **B. Approval of Travel Requests**

1. Brad Cramer / Craig Lacy, State Softball, Spokane - May 23-25, 2019

2. Dan Eyman, Football Camp, Boise, ID - June 12-16, 2019

Barb Smith Gilbert made a motion to approve the two travel requests as presented. MC 5-0.

C. Approval of Policy Additions/Revisions, First Reading

1. Policy 1400 Meeting Conduct, Order of Business and Quorum ([attached](#))

Mike Meyer made a motion to approve the first reading of Policy 1400. MC 5-0.

D. Approval of 2019-2020 Instructional Calendar

Michael Thorner made a motion to approve the 2019-2020 Instruction Calendar. MC 5-0.

E. Approval of Budget Planning/Financial Reductions for 2019-20

Dave Jaeger made a motion to approve the Budget Planning/Financial Reductions for 2019-20. MC 4-1.

(Voting Yeas: Mike Meyer, Mark Strong, Barb Smith Gilbert and Dave Jaeger. Voting Nay: Michael Thorner.)

**Items Arising:** Michael Thorner requested administration to include the discussion item, Long-Range Facilities Plan, on a future agenda.


Barb Smith Gilbert expressed appreciation for all who were here and the comments made. We are here to recognize and do what is best for our schools, students, and staff. She reminded us that it is OK to disagree.

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

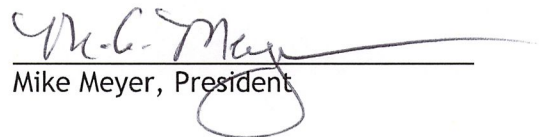
**Board Reports/Board Development:** The Board thanked everybody for participating in the meeting.

**Executive or Closed Session:** This item was stricken from the agenda during the Changes to the Agenda.

**Adjournment** followed at 8:34 p.m.



Mike Brophy, Superintendent



Mike Meyer, President