

West Valley School District No. 208
Regular School Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, February 13, 2023

After being advertised as required by law, the Board of Directors of West Valley School District No. 208 met in Regular Session on Monday, February 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wide Hollow Elementary School Library, 1000 S. 72nd Ave, Yakima, WA 98908, and Via YouTube Livestream: <https://youtube.com/live/tRaD1UMIJY4?feature=share>

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

Administrative Staff present: Superintendent Dr. Peter Finch, Assistant Superintendent Stacey Drake, Principal Rick Ferguson, and Recording Secretary Stephanie Smith.

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.

Changes to the Agenda: Travel Request for Dave Stai and Nevin Crider was added as Approval Item B.4.

Communications:

- A. Response to Public Comment - Dr. Peter Finch provided a response to public comments, questions and concerns that were raised by the public during the January 24, 2023, School Board meeting. He affirmed that field trips are valued and there have been a variety of field trips this school year, including elementary student field trips to a local pumpkin patch, a local bakery, and secondary student fields trips to Central Washington University and a local care center for senior citizens.
- B. Bob Harrison, City Manager, shared info with the Board of Directors. The City will be installing a round-about at the intersection of 72nd and Washington.

School Presentation: Wide Hollow STEAM Elementary

Principal Rick Ferguson, second grade teachers, Kaitlyn Hinton and Andrea Little, and second grade students, Emma Fleming, Mason Prilucik, Landon Case, and Macie Gendron, presented information about personalized learning and small group instruction at Wide Hollow with a focus on math education. Students discussed goal setting, working towards learning targets, accomplishing their goals, and earning badges for their badge book.

Public Comment of Non-Discussion Agenda Items: At 7:31 p.m., President Michael Thorner opened the meeting to visitors for public comment. A community member asked why the school calendar had more days scheduled for the second semester than the first semester.

With no further requests, President Thorner closed the public forum at 7:32 p.m.

Approval Items

- A. Approval of Minutes
 - 1. January 24, 2023 Study Session

2. January 24, 2023 Board Meeting
3. January 30, 2023 Study Session
4. February 6, 2023 Study Session

Mike Meyer motioned to approve the minutes, as presented. MC 5-0.

B. Approval of Travel Requests

1. Minerva Pardo AASA Authentic Family Engagement Summit, New Orleans, LA- April 19-22, 2023.
2. Kendal Bjerke USDA's Produce Safety University, Alexandria, VA-April 9-15, 2023.
3. Jeff Jamieson, Volleyball Coach TBD, SunDome Volleyball Festival, Yakima, WA- September 8-9, 2023.
4. Dave Stai / Nevin Crider, WIAA State Wrestling Tournament, Tacoma, WA- February 16-18, 2023.

Dave Jaeger motioned to approve the presented travel requests, including the one additional request that was added during Changes to the Agenda. MC 5-0.

Action Item:

A. Approval of the 2023/24 Instructional Calendar

Peter Finch explained that the extra days in the second semester are devoted to state testing and the calendar follows the same structure as this school year.

Mike Meyer motioned to approve the 2023/24 Instructional Calendar, as presented. Mark Mochel abstained from voting. MC 4-0.

Items Arising: No items were reported.

Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Finch provided a report in writing which included information about student and community education that has been provided by a local FBI regarding attempts to extort and victimize youth in our region, including youth in West Valley. The report also included information regarding the rationale for discontinuing Summer School.

Board Reports/Board Development: Board members asked questions about small group instruction which were answered by the Wide Hollow teachers and principal. Michael Thorner expressed appreciation for the local FBI agent for his outreach to our schools and to the City Manager for his outreach to the school district.

Executive Session: At 7:53 p.m., the Board moved into an Executive Session to discuss Potential Litigation, expected to last ten (10) minutes with no action to follow. At 8:05 p.m., the Board reconvened into regular session.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.



Dr. Peter Finch, Superintendent



Michael Thorner, President