

## WEST VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 208

### Board of Directors Study Session Meeting Minutes April 9, 2018

Having been advertised as required by law, the Board of Directors of West Valley School District No. 208 met for a Study Session on Monday, April 9, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. in the library at Mountainview Elementary School, 830 Stone Road, Yakima WA 98908.

Those present for the study session were: President Michael Thorner, Mike Meyer, Mark Strong, Superintendent Mike Brophy, Assistant Superintendent Angela Von Essen, Assistant Superintendent Peter Finch, Christopher Nesmith, Shelly O'Neill, Yozelyn Chavez, Russ Tuman, Ryan Mathews, Jerry Prescott, Linda Miller, and Recording Secretary Debbie Chronister.

**Call to order:** At 6:00 p.m. President Michael Thorner called the meeting to order.

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

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

**Communications:** Dr. Brophy will provide information in regards to the Safety and Security Community Forum through the District's Skyward Messaging System.

#### **Study Session/Special Meeting:**

The purpose of meeting/items discussed:



##### A. Successful ENGAGE - Blended Learning Initiative

Dr. Brophy stated the Blended Learning Initiative began in the 2016-17 school year. The West Valley commitment is to enhance teaching and learning with the use of technology providing students a more personalized learning environment. The "Use of Technology to Support Blended Learning" has been added to the Learning Walks Look For's. West Valley initiated Blended Learning Walks with other school districts to create the opportunity to receive professional feedback on our ENGAGE Blended Learning Initiative. The results of a recent survey conducted showed that the West Valley staff is most supportive, followed by the students and then parents. It was discussed to have a "Technology Night" at the schools for parents to learn more of the technology used in teaching and learning.



##### B. Development of Career and College Aptitudes

Mike Brophy stated that a board goal is to foster greater development of career and college aptitudes at an earlier age. Christopher Nesmith and Shelly O'Neill for the high school level, Russ Tuman for the middle level, and Rick Ferguson for the elementary level spoke on the expansion and alignment of the West Valley programs. Higher skills and higher levels are the results of the curriculum being moved to earlier grade levels.

As Mayor of the JA BizTown simulation field trip, Yozelyn Chavez, a sixth grade student shared her experience, the structure of the day, how the students participated, and the duties of her job as mayor. The students experienced being in an adult business world.

The program plans to include field trips to Central Washington University, the Yakima County Courthouse, visiting print shops, YV-Tech's presentation on drones, etc. are ways West Valley is exposing and providing awareness to students to think about their future.

Shelly O'Neill gave an update on a list of West Valley seniors who have been accepted into the University of Washington, Rice University, Brown University, University of California, Los Angeles, Berkeley, Georgetown University, and Princeton University.

**Adjournment** was declared at 7:00 p.m.



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Mike Brophy, Superintendent



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Michael Thorner, President