

WEST VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 208

Board of Directors Special Board Meeting Minutes Monday, February 1, 2021

After being advertised as required by law, the Board of Directors of West Valley School District No. 208 met in a Special Board Meeting on Monday, February 1, 2021, via Zoom Webinar ID# 886 1471 7410.

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

Administrative Staff present: Superintendent Mike Brophy, Assistant Superintendent Angela Von Essen, Assistant Superintendent Peter Finch, Communications Director Nick Sybouts, and Recording Secretary Stephanie Smith.

The meeting attendees are as follows: The list of attendees and the Q&A report is attached to the minutes.

Call to order: At 6:15 p.m., President Mark Strong called the meeting to order.

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

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

Communications: Yakima Health District Updates

Dr. Brophy shared he met with Yakima Health District staff, Board of Health members, and Yakima County superintendents to review plans for implementing a high school hybrid learning model. The Yakima Health District has decided to support hybrid learning for all high school students in Yakima County starting February 16, 2021, which will be communicated in a formal press release this week.

Introduction of Visitors for Public Comment:

At 6:20 p.m., President Mark Strong opened the meeting to visitors for public comment.

Tiffany Williams, a District parent and teacher, asked that there be an opportunity to clarify what hybrid will look like at the High School. She would like it to be consistent with the Middle-Level Campus.

Danielle Polage, a District parent, thanked the Board for all of the hard work they have done to get us to this point.

Trish Hull, a District parent, thanked the Board and questioned if there was a safe start plan already approved and in place. Why wait until February 16? Why not start next week?

With no further comments, President Strong closed the public forum at 6:25 p.m.

Discussion Item: Return to In-Person Learning at WVHS

Ben McMurry, High School Principal, shared that the staff is ready and excited to have students back in the classrooms. He presented two hybrid schedules: pre-hybrid and hybrid, explaining that the difference between the two, which is based on the recommendations provided by the Yakima Health District.

Board members expressed their frustrations with the Yakima Health District's frequent changes, and they are trying to follow their recommendations to help maintain positive relationships with teachers, students, and community members.

After a discussion between Board members, they are committed to making sure our students can return to in-person learning as soon as possible. The Board requested a Special Board meeting will be reserved for Thursday, February 4, 2021, if the Health District's recommendations change.

Action Item: Return to In-Person Learning at WVHS

Dave Jaeger made a motion to begin the hybrid in-person learning at the High School on February 16, 2021, consistent with the Yakima Health District recommendations. MC 5-0

Discussion Item: Superintendent's Contract

Dr. Brophy explained his current contract expires June 30, 2023. He asked the Board to extend it an additional year, to expire on June 30, 2024.

President Mark Strong addressed the West Valley Education Association (WVEA) regarding the vote of no confidence in Dr. Brophy as the Superintendent of the West Valley School District. He thanked the membership for sharing their concerns about the leadership in our District. He stated the Board has received and reviewed their letter regarding the vote of no confidence. Mr. Strong read a letter prepared by the Board, expressing their full support in Dr. Brophy.

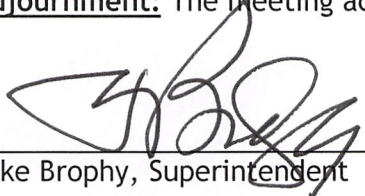
Action Item: Superintendent's Contract

Michael Thorner made the motion to approve the Superintendent's Contract as presented. MC 5-0

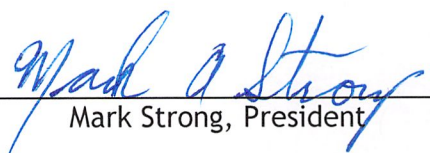
Superintendent's Report: Dr. Brophy thanked the Board for their continued support. He shared he's proud to be the leader of a great team and looks forward to continuing with the great things in the District.

Board Reports/Board Development: Michael Thorner shared he is meeting with the WVEA leadership on Thursday afternoon and looking forward to the conversation.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.



Mike Brophy, Superintendent



Mark Strong, President