

## West Valley School District No. 208

### Special Study Session Meeting Minutes Wednesday, May 8, 2019

After having been advertised as required by law, the Board of Directors of West Valley School District No. 208 met in a Special Study Session on Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at 4:30 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, and Student Representatives Grant Pickett, and Faith Sullivan.

**Administrative Staff** present: Superintendent Mike Brophy, Assistant Superintendent Peter Finch, Communication Director Anjerie Nemrow, Human Resource Director Randy Souers, Innovations and Futures Director Chris Nesmith, Special Services Director Lucas Jaeger, Principals Heidi Sutton, Stacy Drake, Richard Pryor, Eva Lust, Russell Tuman, Ben McMurry, and Recording Secretary Debbie Chronister.

**Call to Order:** At 4:30 p.m., President Mike Meyer called the meeting to order.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Mike Meyer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

#### **Communications:**

Dr. Brophy presented a Power Point on the school funding in Washington State addressing the ways schools have been funded and the upcoming changes. He discussed the three factors that have caused reductions to state funding for West Valley. Dr. Brophy explained how West Valley is managing the budget situation. He stated projected reduction amounts for the upcoming three years.

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

Visitors present were Katie Horton, Kris Dennison, Kristin Johnson, Sabin Hogue, Nikki Olden, Rhonda Hutton, Stephanie Hennessy-Smith, Arin Lee, Keri Button, Brooke Woodward, Rick Beck, Heidi Mochel, Shari Foster, Tiffany Williams, Rebekah Olden, Heidi Rikard, Stacey Drake, Cathy Warren, Melody Pryor, Mari Spencer, Brian Van Dyke, Alice Campbell, Kiley Keller, Toni Paganelli, Charene Cluff, Alyssa Buffington, Abby Stuck, Hannah Urquhart, Joan Coomer, Terri Halstead, Brook Jolley, Ryan Mathews, William Hancock, Mary Ellis, Michelle Siguenza, Jerilyn Ashbaugh, Susan Olden, Kelly Johnson, Danielle Crawford, Sara Jetton, Tausha Stapleton, Courtney Hardy, and Sally Schlect.

At 4:51 p.m., President Meyer opened the meeting to comments, questions and/or concerns from the audience. Dr. Brophy responded to Apple Valley parent, Saben Hogue's request for clarification on the district class size and the proposed \$500,000 from the reserve fund.

Mike Meyer closed the public forum at 4:53 p.m.

#### **West Valley Education Association Requested Time:**

Amy Osborn, WVEA Grievance Chair, addressed the board stating that the union will pay close attention as we go through this process to ensure the district maintains what is best for kids and the contract language is being followed.


Heidi Mochel, President of WVEA, stated she was honored to speak on behalf of WVEA. She read a statement identifying the union's position on the proposed reductions for the 2019-2020 budget. She challenged the Board on their support, transparency, decisions being made without input, and the need to use the fund balance to change the horrible choices.

Mike Brophy listed the proposed reduction changes since the first list created on April 8, 2019.

Discussion from the Board continued on the fund balance, the levy reduction, special service funding, reducing travel, supervision for extra-curricular activities and athletics, and the building carryover budgets. Student Representatives commented that a better understanding of the effects would be helpful, class size is important, and to look more into using the fund balance. Board members recognize the limited time for decisions to be made, however, they do not want to make quick decisions that may have a negative impact on the following years. President Meyer took more public comments from parents attending the meeting. The Board members agreed to continue this discussion at the next meeting, Monday, May 13, 2019.

**Closed Session:** At 5:52 p.m., the Board moved into a Closed Session to discuss interpreting application of a labor agreement expected to last 30 minutes with no action to follow. At 6:22 p.m., Mike Meyer announced the Board needed to extend the closed session 30 minutes. At 6:52 p.m. the Board reconvened into regular session.

**Adjournment** followed at 6:52 p.m.



Mike Brophy, Superintendent



Mike Meyer, President