

**BAINBRIDGE ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 303
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Date: January 27, 2011

Place: Bainbridge High School Library

Board of Directors Present

Board President – Patty Fielding

Board Vice-President – Mary Curtis

Directors – John Tawresey, Mike Spence, Tim Kinhead

Call to Order

5:32 p.m. – Board President Patty Fielding called the meeting to order and a quorum was recognized.

Public Comment

President Fielding opened the floor to public comment noting in particular item B. Optional Program Proposal on the agenda. Ms. Fielding and the other board members received and responded to over forty emails regarding that topic. She wanted to make sure that anyone who felt they had not yet been heard on the subject had an opportunity to speak. No further public comment was provided.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Faith Chapel announced January was School Board Recognition Month, a nationwide effort to honor and underscore the important role of elected school board members in promoting public education and student achievement. Ms. Chapel read a proclamation from Governor Christine Gregoire issued December 13, 2010, in observance of this special honor. She also presented board members with Certificates of Appreciation from the Washington State School Directors' Association, along with a small token of thanks from the Bainbridge Island School District.

Superintendent Chapel spoke about the end of the semester at the secondary schools, and beginning the second half of the school year. She also noted the latest information from the state indicates the legislature will move forward with HB 2776 related to new funding formulas. In addition, the House of Representatives voted to retroactively reduce K-3 funding (I-728) for all schools. More detailed budget information was on the agenda for later in the meeting.

Board Reports

No board reports

Presentations

A. Policy 2166: Highly Capable Students (Second Reading)

Executive Director Betsy Minor Reid presented revised Policy 2166 Highly Capable Students for the second and final reading. She has shared the policy with the Highly Capable Advisory Committee and they concurred with the language used in the policy.

Motion 43-10-11:

That the Board approves the second reading of Policy 2166 Highly Capable Students. (Kinhead) The affirmative vote was unanimous.

B. Optional Programs Proposal

Board President Patty Fielding reviewed the task for this agenda item, which was to discuss the written communication and input from the January 25th study session, discuss the district analysis of the proposal, and to determine if the proposal moves forward to the next phase – a feasibility study. She highlighted the public input from the study session, categorizing that input into areas of concern and benefits. Areas of concern included: a) funding and costs – start-up and ongoing; b) access to the program – “founders’ clause” and lottery vs. first come, first serve; c) lack of communication; d) timing – budget crisis, planning, and stakeholder involvement

and; e) potential for divisiveness. Areas of benefits included: a) BISD is a great school district; b) choice is important; c) one size doesn't fit all; d) not possible to know all factors before you move forward; e) keeps and brings people to the district; f) potential for revenue and; g) we have a great prototype that works.

Associate Superintendent Julie Goldsmith reviewed the proposal process that included the following: 1) the proposal is submitted to the Superintendent; 2) district staff analyzes the proposal (cost, staffing, space, contractual impacts); 3) ongoing communication is provided to the Board; 4) evidence is prepared of initial interest; 5) the Board recommends, rejects or requests modifications, and approved moving forward to the Feasibility Study Phase (development of proposal with district leadership, actual enrollment, location, costs, staffing); 6) final decision made by Board at a public meeting and; 7) begin implementation. Ms. Goldsmith also provided more detail related to the system implications of a new options program. Regarding a location, it was noted that there may be space at Wilkes Elementary next year, pending the outcome of kindergarten enrollment for next year. Another option is to locate the program at Commodore; however this option was noted as being more costly. In discussing start-up costs for the options program, if the program was housed at Wilkes, there would be limited costs for furniture, instructional materials or other ancillary costs. Regarding staffing, assignment of staff members to an options program would be based on the collective bargaining agreement. Additional planning time would also be needed for the staff to address the proposed academic structure. A new options program would have limited impact on district transportation as parents would be required to provide transportation to the school. (It was noted that parents may drop their children off at existing bus stops that are in the Wilkes service area.) Finally, it was noted that there was the potential for an increase of revenues if the new program adds additional students to the overall district enrollment.

Ms. Goldsmith explained the components of a Feasibility Study if the decision was made to move forward. Those components included a committed enrollment, confirmation of a location with space availability, defined start-up costs, assigned staffing, and clarification regarding program access (Founders' Clause, lottery, etc.). Board members were asked for input regarding the working assumptions needed for moving forward with a feasibility study. Director Curtis shared a past personal experience related to building an optional program, which demonstrated the importance of strong parental support, and she stated her desire to see the new options program move forward. Ms. Curtis added that while she supported the concept of the new program, she had two stumbling blocks; one being the equity issue (access to the program) and the other being the cost. She favored a lottery system for enrollment in the options program, and shared concern about potential costs, noting the current budget crisis. Other board members concurred with Ms. Curtis' sentiments, noting there were several stages in the process where the district can gather more data and information. The board also discussed the process for access to the options program, founders' clause vs. lottery vs. first-come-first-serve, with board consensus supporting a lottery system. Board members were also clear about communications with parents regarding the elements necessary for the options program to move forward. At the conclusion of the discussion, Board President Patty Fielding called for a motion.

Motion 44-10-11: That the Board approves moving forward with the next phase - a feasibility study. (Curtis) The affirmative vote was unanimous.

C. District Mission, Vision, and Strategic Actions

Superintendent Chapel explained a board subcommittee was in the process of working on this document, and a related information survey had been kept active until January 9th. In addition, information generated through the options program process had identified some needs that would impact the strategic actions. President Fielding added, with continuing on the plan, it will be at least two months before a final version is presented for review. President Fielding suggested the agenda item be tabled until a later date. There were no objections.

D. 2011-13 Budget Development

Superintendent Chapel provided the board with a state budget update related to the supplemental budget for the current year. As noted in previous reports, the first order of business for the 2011 legislative session was to close the remaining \$500 million budget gap for the current year. Mr. Chapel provided copies of the January 18th and 19th legislative updates from the Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA), and the Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA). In addition to this detailed information, Ms. Chapel reviewed previously presented information related to the state legislature's special session held on December

11th, which made modifications to the supplemental budget for the current year. Those budget modifications resulted in a loss of \$209,000 (or 60%) of BISD's K-3 staffing allocation for this year. It also resulted in the loss of \$811,000 in "EduJobs" federal funding, which was redirected to help fill the state budget gap. The House has now released their proposal for filling the remaining budget gap for this year by retroactively eliminating the K-3 staffing allocations, which will cost the district an additional \$187,000. Updated information indicates the funding for Gifted/Highly Capable programs will be reinstated, however these funds are specifically targeted and cannot be used for general purposes. Ms. Chapel also provided the board with a revised preliminary estimate of the 2011-12 General Fund budget gap, now totaling \$1,227,500. She noted that the loss of these funds and the federal "EduJobs" allocation means the district will have to make significant cuts in the 2011-13 biennium – something that could have been avoided with an intact fund balance, higher-than-anticipated enrollment, the levies approved by the voters last fall, and the continued support of the Bainbridge Schools Foundation.

E. Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) Pilot Project

Associate Superintendent Julie Goldsmith explained a need had been identified, through curriculum work with principals and teachers, for the development of value-added assessment tools that will measure student learning over time. She noted one of the most consistently used assessment tools is the Washington State MSP and HSPE. The challenge of the MSP/HSPE is that they only provide grade level "snapshots." The advantage of value-added assessment tools is that they show student growth over time. It was noted the need for reliable data is also a component of the district's strategic plan. To address the need for value-added assessment tools, the district is proposing a pilot of the Northwest Evaluation Association's (NWEA) Measures of Academic Progress (MAP). Created by Educators for educators, MAP assessments provide detailed, actionable data about each child and their unique learning path. Ms. Goldsmith noted NWEA works with educators to create test items that interest children, and capture detail about what they know and what they are ready to learn. Specific details about the implementation of the pilot project were shared with the board and included the timeline for identification of staff and classrooms for the pilot, related professional development, communication to families, and assessment schedules.

F. Policy 5253: Maintaining Professional Staff/Student Boundaries (Second Reading)

Director of Personnel and Transportation Cami Dombkowski presented Policy 5253 Maintaining Professional Staff/Student Boundaries for the second reading. It was explained the Washington Risk Pool suggested the policy be implemented, which will also save the district 3% on its overall insurance costs.

Motion 45-10-11: That the Board approves the second reading of Policy 5253 Maintaining Professional Staff/Student Boundaries. (Curtis) The affirmative vote was unanimous.

G. Monthly Technology Report

Director of Instructional Technology and Assessment Randi Ivancich provided a report regarding technology projects and planning to date, with a focus on web design, development and hosting. Ms. Ivancich explained due to federal E-Rate submission deadlines, the district was addressing the website and email needs immediately. Other considerations for addressing the website now included: a) platform and applications have become unstable due to web traffic and increasing complexities; b) servers beyond the end of life cycle; c) surveys indicate websites not adequately meeting communication goals and; d) decreased staffing for web support. Some of the issues with the current Bainbridge Island School District websites were noted as follows: a) lack of common platform and applications; b) lack of common framework for design, layout and content; c) lack of expectations and guidelines; d) little coordination among/between sites and pages; e) limited connection to communication goals and district vision; f) limited connection to student learning. The reasoning behind choosing off-site hosting of the websites was related to expanded support, increased accessibility and feature updates. Ms. Ivancich also provided information about the participants involved in the vendor search process, the major goals for the website, key features and functions to be included, and the timeline for the process. Next steps in the vendor search process include gathering input from the school board, reference checks completed by January 31, recommendations submitted to the Superintendent and Communication Committee by February 1, and submission of the vendor selection to the School Board for approval on February 10, 2011.

H. Monthly Capital Projects Report

Director of Facilities and Capital Projects Tamela Van Winkle provided the capital projects and facilities report for January, which included activities related to the Wilkes Replacement Project, Commodore, Sakai Intermediate School, Bainbridge High School and the District Office. Related to the Wilkes Projects, Ms. Van Winkle noted the purchase and sale agreement for the fire district property had been signed and is moving to the escrow documentation process. She is working on an interlocal agreement with Kitsap PUD, and the project is at 64% for construction documents with 90% expected by the end of February. At Bainbridge High School, lighting upgrades have been completed in the main gym and gymnastics room. Ms. Van Winkle noted that the gymnastics participants had presented Conservation Specialist Glen Tyrrell with a hand-made thank you card to show their appreciation for the improved lighting. Phase II of the solar project at Sakai Intermediate School is moving forward in partnership with Community Energy Solutions, a Bainbridge Island non-profit organization. Construction of the additional solar panels is scheduled for spring break, allowing for a dedication ceremony on Earth Day.

I. Monthly Financial Report

Director of Business Services Peggy Paige reported on financial activities for the month ending December 31, 2010, and provided an analysis of the General Fund revenues and expenditures. She noted total General Fund revenues through December 31, 2010 were 2% more than for the same period last year, and were above average. Federal revenues increased significantly with the receipt of grant funds for EduJobs. However, revenues received in December and January for EduJobs funds will be deducted from the General Apportionment over the next five months (January – May). This reduction, accompanied by the loss of K-4 enhancement funding, will show a decrease in State General Purpose revenues for the year. General Fund expenditures to date are .8% lower than for the same period last year. Ms. Paige noted that in an attempt to keep the yearly comparisons more meaningful, she adjusted the expenditures for Basic Ed, Food Service and Maintenance/Grounds to reflect EduJobs funding. Expenses for Basic Education decreased .3% over last year. The area of Extracurricular is above the average and will be monitored over the next few months to determine if the district will stay within budget estimates. Special Education costs are up 5.4% over last year due to new out-of-district placements and enhanced services for several students. It is expected that receipt of Safety Net funds will offset these expenditures. In the area of Support Services, utilities reflect a partial payment for storm water fees this year. It was noted that last year, the district paid current fees as well as fees owing from the prior year to bring the account up to date with the City of Bainbridge Island. Electric expense is down compared to last December, but this may be a variation in the payment cycle rather than a real reduction in costs. Central Office expenditures were above last year due to the increase in the expense for legal fees. At the conclusion of Ms. Paige's presentation, board members asked that she include trend graphs in the financial reports on a quarterly basis.

Personnel Actions

Motion 46-10-11:

That the Board approves the Personnel Actions dated January 21, 2001, and January 27, 2011, as submitted. (Curtis) The affirmative vote was unanimous.

Consent Agenda

Student Field Trip - Overnight

1. Request for Board approval from Woodward Middle School Art Teacher Darcy Herrett for six 7th and 8th grade Woodward students to attend the Centrum Art Explorations Workshop to be held at Fort Warden State Park March 6 – 11, 2011.
2. Request for Board approval from Tricia Corsetti, Teacher/Academic Advisor at Eagle Harbor High School, for fifteen students from Eagle Harbor High School and Bainbridge High School to attend a five-day field science session at Olympic Park Institute on Lake Crescent, Clallam County, from March 7 – 11, 2011.

2011 Washington State School Directors' Annual Dues

1. The 2011 Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA) annual dues as established in accordance with Chapter 28A.345 RCW and additional subscription services and fees are presented for Board approval in the amount of \$9,242.89.

Donations

1. Donation to Bainbridge High School in the amount of \$1,500.00 from the Underwater Admiralty Services to support the Remote Operated Vehicle Program.

December 2010 Payroll: Warrant Numbers (171200 – 171237) and (1000183 – 1000236) = \$2,671,807.71

Motion 47-10-11: That the Board approves the revised Consent Agenda. (Spence) The affirmative vote was unanimous.

The following vouchers as audited and certified by the auditing officer, as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified, as required by RCW 42.24.090, were also approved for payment.

(General Fund Voucher)

Voucher numbers 2001631 through 2001740 totaling \$ 155,897.60 .

(Capital Projects Fund Voucher)

Voucher numbers 3992 through 3994 totaling \$ 21,806.43 .

(Associated Student Body Fund Voucher)

Voucher numbers 4000212 through 40002333 totaling \$ 64,698.22 .

9:33 p.m. – Board President Patty Fielding announced the board would move into an executive session for 20 minutes for a personnel evaluation.

Adjournment

9:55 p.m. – President Fielding reconvened the meeting to a public session and immediately adjourned.