

**WASHINGTON STATE CENTER FOR
CHILDHOOD DEAFNESS & HEARING LOSS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
June 12, 2014**

Board Members: Maria Christianson (District #1)
Allie Joiner (District #2)
Nita Kamphuis (District #4)
Char Parsley (District #5)
Rita Reandeau (District #6)
Ariele Belo (District #7)
Sidney Weldele-Wallace (District #8)
Nancy Fitta (District #9)
Larry Swift (District #10)

Director: Rick Hauan

Superintendent: Jane Mulholland

Legal Counsel: Bonnie Terada

Recorder: Judy Smith
Interpreters: Julie Moore, Don Coates

Guests: Nancy Sinkovitz, Director of Residential Services
Jessica Sydnor, Business Services Manager
Kris Ching, Director of Outreach (Birth to 3)
Lorana Myers, Procurement Specialist
Chris Newell, School Psychologist
Renee Outlaw, Speech & Language Pathologist
Carole Kaulitz, Speech & Language Pathologist
Larry Petersen, Former WSD Superintendent
Julia Petersen, Seattle Children's Hospital

The meeting was called to order by Nita Kamphuis, chair, at 10:56 a.m. It was determined a quorum was present.

Thanks to Nancy Sinkovitz for her years of service!

Nancy Sinkovitz, Director of Residential Services, is retiring at the end of August after 26 years of service. The Board members thanked Nancy for her dedication to WSD and its students. Best of luck Nancy!

Agenda addition

An Executive Session was added to today's agenda.

Sidney Weldele-Wallace moved to add an executive session to today's agenda. Allie Joiner seconded the motion. It was voted on and approved.

Minutes – May 2, 2014

Changes: correct the spelling of Sidney's name and add "month" to the Green Team report as the students have saved WSD \$200 per month.

Char Parsley moved to approve the May 2, 2014, meeting minutes with the above noted changes. Nancy Fitta seconded the motion. It was voted on and approved.

Board Finance Committee

Staff is putting together savings ideas to offset the substantial budget shortfall for the 2014/2015 fiscal year. Vacancies may not be filled which could severely impact services to children both on the WSD campus and throughout the state. The state of Washington is also facing a significant budget shortfall and the legislature will have to make some very tough decisions.

Reminder: Board Retreat is scheduled for July 29-30 at WSD.

It is important that all Board members be at the summer retreat as the main topic of discussion will be the budget crisis we are facing for FY15 as well as the submission of the 15-17 biennial budget. Also, possible discussion topics will be:

- 2015 CEASD National Conference
- Follow-up on the report to the legislature
- Mission/Vision of CDHL and WSD

Academic Overview (Shauna Bilyeu, Elementary Principal)

Assessment Data for the 2013-2014 school year was shared with the Board. Highlights are as follows:

Reading growth:

- 63% of elementary students
- 50% of secondary students.
- Overall growth in reading was 52%

Math growth:

- 56% of elementary students
- 56% of secondary students
- Overall growth in math was 56%

Language usage growth:

- 56% of elementary students
- 61% of secondary students
- Overall growth in language usage growth was 65%

ASL growth

- Students K-6th grade were tested and showed an overall growth of 67% (half a level or more). The process to evaluate ASL skills is just starting and staff is receiving the necessary training.

This PowerPoint will be presented at the Statewide Outreach Team retreat in August so the team members can then share the information with districts they serve. It was also suggested that this information be shared at the WASA (Washington Association of School Administrators) Special Education Conference which is being held August 7-8 in Tacoma.

Outreach Overview (Kris Ching, Director of Outreach ~ Birth to preschool)

The news of CDHL's birth to preschool outreach program is well known statewide. The budget ramifications require that we seek support from other agencies to support this new statewide system. New referrals have been received from Walla Walla, Bellingham, and Spokane.

Residential Overview (Nancy Sinkovitz, Director of Residential Services)

Note from the Superintendent: WSD's residential program is the best she has ever seen thanks to Nancy's leadership and a great residential department staff.

BR (Behavioral Referral) Information

- Currently using Skyward (similar to other schools in the area) which is an automated system for documenting and collecting behavior data.
- There has been a 46% drop in BRs from last year and the number has dropped dramatically from the 2002/2003 school year due to:
 - Really great students
 - Really great staff
 - Consistent expectations
 - Terrier Pride ticket program in the secondary department
 - More Honor and Gold levels achieved than ever before in the residential department
 - BR data is analyzed monthly and problem areas are addressed
- In the process of looking at a new, more user friendly program called SWIS (School Wide Information System). SWIS is a confidential web-based information systems to collect, summarize, and use student behavior data for decision making. SWIS aligns with the philosophy behind Positive Behavioral Intervention & Supports (PBIS) which is currently in use at WSD.

Bilingual Moment (April McArthur, Bilingual Services Director; Lyra Behnke, ASL Specialist; Krissy Walker, ASL Assistant)

How do you approach language planning?

- Status planning: How is a language viewed in society and/or government
- Corpus planning: Resources (i.e. curriculum) to support language
- Attitude planning: Is the language supported
- Acquisition planning: Teacher training programs on how to teach English

WSD became a bilingual school in 2009 with the focus on ASL and English. The journey on the bilingual path included:

- AEBPD (ASL/English Bilingual Professional Development)
- ASL Professional Development

- ASL Programming

All AEBPD staff training finished this year and the focus now is on ASL professional development.

Assessing ASL skills

- Social language (i.e. greetings, requesting information, etc.)
- Academic language (i.e. informing, comparing, ordering, etc.)
- It is important to understand the "Language Ladder" which begins at the bottom with "Language for communication of basic needs" to the top rung of "Language as carrier of culture". Very often parents only focus on the top rung and not on the steps to achieve that level.

What are we doing that's different?

- Assessing students' ASL skills
 - New students (regardless of age level)
 - P-levels at the elementary level
 - Piloting two new assessment
- Changing our instruction
 - Teaching ASL as a language
 - Using research based bilingual instructional strategies

ASL Immersion Class Program Description

- Develop understanding and use of basic/survival ASL through demonstration, practices and classroom activities.
- Use watching, viewing, and observation skills and strategies to gain understanding
- Use ASL skills and strategies to interact/work effectively with others
- Use ASL skills and strategies to effectively present ideas and one's self in a variety of situations.

Two videos were shared with the Board demonstrating ASL growth of two WSD students from 2012 to 2014 ~ amazing!

The Board asked what is needed to continue this program:

- ASL classroom in the high school
- Fulltime ASL teacher
- Funding for in-depth linguistic skills training

The Board wished to extend their gratitude to staff who work so hard to give the students at WSD and throughout the state the language skills they must have to lead a successful and productive life.

WSD's Class of 2014

WSD's class of 2014 introduced themselves and shared their future plans with the Board.

- Trevor Dockter ~ Entering Washington Career Academy for the Deaf and attending Clark College in the fall
- Dalton Schatz ~ Returning to WSD as a 5th year transition student
- Samantha Rowland ~ Attending college in Seattle this fall
- Cesar Sanchez ~ Returning to WSD as a 5th year transition student
- Miguel Flores ~ Returning to WSD as a 5th year transition student
- Maria Preciado ~ Returning to WSD as a 5th year transition student
- Luis Herrera-Guerrero ~ Plans to work this summer and attend a community college in the future.

Congratulations to the class of 2014 and special thanks to the senior sponsors: Amy Ellis and Tyler DeShaw.

Civics Class (Piper Gallucci, Teacher)

WSD's civics class visited the meeting to see a Board in action. Board member, Allie Joiner, encouraged the students to vote when they become of age and support issues they believe in. Students in attendance were:

- Jackie Wiles
- Ricardo Pineda
- Jessane Rogers
- Hilda Beltran-Lopez
- Lexie DiCapua
- Uma Strempler
- Juan Gaytan-Arroyo
- Joel Castro
- Enrique Rodriguez

Plan for school year 2014/2015

Meetings will begin at 9:30 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m. (Board Finance Committee will meet at 8:00 a.m.) on the following dates:

- September 5, 2014
- October 3, 2014
- November 7, 2014
- February 6, 2015 (Olympia area)
- March 6, 2015
- April 3, 2015
- May 1, 2015
- June 12, 2015

Nancy Fitta moved to accept the meeting dates as outlined above. Char Parsley seconded the motion. It was voted on and approved.

Election of Board Chair and Vice-Chair

Nominations for CDHL Board of Trustees Chair

Larry Swift made a motion to nominate Sidney Weldele-Wallace as the next Chair of the CDHL Board of Trustees and that her term be from July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2016. Nancy Fitta seconded the motion. Seeing there were no other nominations, this motion was voted on and approved.

Nominations for CDHL Board of Trustees Vice-Chair

Rita Reandeau made a motion to nominate Char Parsley as the next Vice-Chair of the CDHL Board of Trustees and that her term be from July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015. Allie Joiner seconded the motion. Seeing there were no other nominations, this motion was voted on and approved.

Congratulations to Sidney and Char!


Executive Session

The Board went into Executive Session at 3:04 p.m. for 30 minutes pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) "To evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee...."

- The meeting reopened at 3:34 p.m. and closed for an additional 5 minutes.
- The meeting reopened at 3:39 p.m. and closed for an additional 5 minutes.
- The meeting reopened at 3:44 p.m. and closed for an additional 5 minutes.
- The meeting reopened at 3:49 p.m.

Adjournment

Hearing no objections the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.


Rita Kamphuis, Chair
CDHL Board of Trustees

9/5/14
Date


Rick Hauan, Executive Director
CDHL

9/5/14
Date