

**WASHINGTON STATE CENTER FOR
CHILDHOOD DEAFNESS & HEARING LOSS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
October 30, 2015**

Board Members: Allie Joiner (District #2)
Nancy Sinkovitz (District #3)
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) (via K-20)
Larry Swift (District #10)

Absent: Maria Christianson (District #1)

Legal Counsel: Bonnie Terada

Executive Director: Rick Hauan

Superintendent: Jane Mulholland (absent)

Recorder: Judy Smith

Interpreters: Dave Morrison, Catherine Thomas

Guests: Jessica Sydnor, Director of Business Operations
Lorana Myers, Procurement

The meeting was called to order by Sidney Weldele-Wallace, chair, at 9:54 a.m. It was determined a quorum was present.

Welcome to:

- Dave Morrison - CDHL/WSD's new Interpreter Coordinator
- Sarra Yamin – Assistant Attorney General who is part of the succession planning for Bonnie Terada's retirement in April 2016.

Minutes – October 2, 2015

Change: Sarah Hafer's first name was misspelled on the list of guests.

Rita Reandeau moved to approve the October 2, 2015, meeting minutes with the change noted above. Nita Kamphuis seconded the motion. It was voted on approved with one abstention from Sidney Weldele-Wallace as she was absent from the October 2nd meeting.

Finance Committee Report

The financial climate for CDHL is very good at the present time. Funds were expended in September above the allotted amount due to the large number of new staff and the need for 32 hours of safety training in the first 90 days of employment.

Projections for the year are very positive. Since many of the current computers are over 10 years old, additional money will be allotted for replacements.

OFM recently notified state agencies of a reduction in allotments to reflect savings resulting from agency efficiencies achieved through Lean management and other performance management strategies. CDHL's reduction is \$19,000 for each year of the biennium. Additional information will be shared with the Board members at the January meeting.

Reports discussion:

- Seattle Public Schools (SPS) Program Review: SPS was very positive about the report and appreciated its honesty and detail. They felt the report could be used as a "road map" for future decisions regarding their DHH programs. The report will be posted to the SPS website next week.
 - Thanks to SPS for allowing us to share the report with CEASD. CEASD, OPTIONS, and Common Ground Project members are working toward a nationwide program to ensure that all DHH children receive the highest quality education possible.
- The Board felt that the Spokane and North Thurston school district program reviews were outstanding.

Note: Nita Kamphuis wished to thank Jane Mulholland and Toni Stromberg for touring families through WaCAD. What a great program!

D.E.A.F. (Deaf Education Advocates Foundation) Bill Brelje, D.E.A.F. board member

- D.E.A.F. was set up in 1989 by former Superintendent, Gary Holman.
- Current board members are:
 - Courtleigh Guerci
 - William Brelje
 - Carole Kaulitz
 - Despo Varkados
 - David Born
 - George Belser
 - Jim Raines
 - Jane Mulholland (Ex-officio)
 - Al Bauer (Honorary)
- Mission is "To enhance the education of all deaf and hard of hearing children and youth at the Washington School for the Deaf" by:
 - Enhancing the curriculum

- Purchasing equipment, materials and services needed
 - Last year D.E.A.F. awarded \$6,000 worth of grants to WSD teachers for needed equipment and special programs.
 - Helped send students and staff to the Math Competition event in Rochester, New York.
- Assisting with Professional Development
 - D.E.A.F. has funded travel and accommodations for teacher professional development.
- Awarding scholarships to graduates

Upcoming projects include: Special Olympics, new uniforms for the athletic department and new alignment equipment for the auto mechanics after school program. Donation information was passed out to the Board members. Donations can also be made through Fred Meyer's Community Rewards Program. Judy Smith will email the Board members sign-up information.

Behavior Referrals (BR) 2014-2015 Recap (Jason Cox, Director of Residential Services)

Use two systems to track behaviors:

- Skyward – Student data management system
- SWIS (School Wide Information System)

Behaviors are broken down to three levels:

- Level 1 – Moderate
- Level 2 – Serious or chronic
- Level 3 – Dangerous or illegal

Information shared regarding the 2014-2015 school year was broken down by:

- Month
- Levels
- Behavior types
- Grade
- Days of the week
- Time of day
- Location
- Academic or residential time

Behaviors have consistently dropped over the past 10 years through administration support, staff training, PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention & Supports), CPI (Crisis Prevention Intervention), interventions and teamwork. The residential and academic staff, along with the class sponsors, has done a wonderful job de-escalating behaviors.

The Board complimented Jason and the entire WSD staff for the outstanding work they are doing with students. Also, a special thanks to Nancy Sinkovitz for initiating trainings and programs which have led to positive interventions for our students.

Common Ground Project, Rick Hauan, CDHL Executive Director

The Common Ground Project is a joint project of CEASD and OPTION Schools. Their vision is: "All infants, children and you who are D/HH should have the services, supports and specialized providers they need to become successful as full-fledged human beings. As children and adults, they should thrive, not just survive."

The Common Ground Project members have met eight times since October 2013 and are now funded through a grant from the Oberkötter Foundation. Meetings are facilitated by Rick Hauan, CDHL Executive Director and the next meeting will be held in Atlanta November 16-18, 2015. The Common Ground Project members are:

- Representing OPTIONS Schools
 - Barbara Hecht: President of OPTION Schools and Director of the Clarke School program in Boston
 - Maura Berndsen: Past president of OPTION Schools and Educational Director at Listen & Talk in Seattle
 - Bill Corwin, President of Clarke Schools and Chair of OPTION Schools Legislation and Policy Committee
 - John Porteous: Chairperson of the Board for Children's Choice for Hearing and Talking in Sacramento
- Representing CEASD
 - Jane Mulholland: Former Board member of CEASD and Superintendent of Washington School for the Deaf
 - Joe Finnegan: Executive Director of CEASD
 - Ron Stern: Past president of CEASD and Headmaster of the New York School for the Deaf
 - James Tucker: President of CEASD and Superintendent of Maryland School for the Deaf

Several states are looking at the work done by the Common Ground Project to see how they can bring partners together to achieve a common ground to provide the best education possible for D/HH children in their state.

Thanks to Rick Hauan and the Common Ground Project members for their focus on making sure that all D/HH children receive a quality education.

Policy review – 1st reading

- Suicide Prevention (policy 2145)
 - Delete:
 - "including substitute and regular bus drivers" (3rd paragraph, 3rd line)
 - Concerned staff will be able to follow the policy
 - Procedures are in the development stage
- Nondiscrimination – Students (policy 3210)
 - Delete:
 - "honorably discharged veteran or military status" (1st paragraph, 4th line)

- “district” (2nd paragraph, 6th line)
 - “employment” (3rd paragraph, 2nd line)
- Change:
 - “district” to “CDHL” (5th paragraph, 3rd line)
 - Should read “provide training to all staff” (6th paragraph, 1st line)
- Suggested reference: school lunch policy
- Transgender Students (policy 3211)
 - Additional residential program

Bonnie Terada will review the above policies and provide the Executive Director feedback. The policies will be brought back for a second reading at the January meeting.

WSSDA (Washington State School Directors’ Association) leads in education policy development and provides sample policies through policy development to promote safe, secure and respectful learning environments for all children. These sample policies can be used as a guide for CDHL in setting up future policies.

CEASD Accreditation Team Visit

CEASD’s (Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools and Programs for the Deaf) accreditation is a voluntary process and is a means to effectively drive student performance.

The CEASD accreditation team’s visit began with dinner on Sunday, October 25th and ended with an exit conference on Wednesday, October 28th. The visiting team members were:

- John Cool, Iowa School for the Deaf
- John Serrano, Texas School for the Deaf
- Tim Kelly, St. Mary’s School for the Deaf
- Marcia Volpe, Pennsylvania School for the Deaf (formerly)

During their visit the accreditation interviewed a variety of WSD stakeholders including: students, staff, parents, Board members and alumni. During the exit conference, the accreditation team reviewed the 12 standards along with commendations and recommendations.

The accreditation team will submit their recommendation to the CEASD Board. WSD’s Superintendent will be notified of the CEASD Board’s decision after their spring meeting.

Thanks to:

- Shauna Bilyeu for leading the accreditation process.
- WSD staff for the awesome job they do each day to ensure that WSD students are the B.E.S.T.!
- Board members Allie Joiner, Nancy Sinkovitz and Larry Swift for meeting with the accreditation team during their visit.

Executive Session

The Board went into Executive Session at 2:25 p.m. for 20 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 2:45 p.m.

Next Board of Trustees meeting - January 22, 2016 at WSD

Suggested future agenda items:

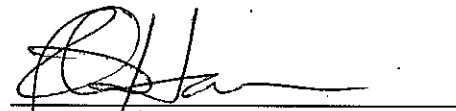
- MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) data
 - What is done with the data?
 - How does it fit back into staff discussions on how changes are made?
 - What is the follow-up on students that make little or no progress?
 - How do the results guide instruction?
- CDHL website update
- Classroom visits
- Tour of WaCAD program

Adjournment

Hearing no objections the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.


Nita Kamphuis, Chair Pro Tem
CDHL Board of Trustees

2-4-16
Date


Rick Hauan, Executive Director
CDHL

2/4/16
Date