

WASHINGTON SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
November 3, 2006

Board Members: Larry Swift (District #9)
Allie Joiner (District #1)
Pat Clothier (District #2)
Gail Pollock (District #3)
Bonnie Decker (District #4)
Rita Reandeau (District #6)

Absent: Sidney Weldele-Wallace (District #8)

Legal Counsel: Bonnie Terada

Superintendent: Todd Reeves

Guests: April Rounds, Human Resources Consultant
Chuck McCarthy, Business & Operations Manager
Dawn Smith, PSO representative
Lori Scheer-Matheson, Certificated staff representative
Lorana Myers, Classified staff representative

Recorder: Judy Smith
Interpreters: Lori Meyer, Don Coates

The meeting was called to order by Larry Swift at 9:07 a.m. It was determined that a quorum was present.

Agenda revision: "Graduation" discussion moved to 9:10 a.m.

Pat Clothier moved that revised agenda be adopted. Bonnie seconded the motion. It was voted on and approved.

Minutes from October 6, 2006, meeting

Correction: Executive Session reopened at 2:00 p.m. not 1:00 p.m. Pat Clothier moved that the minutes be approved with the above correction. Bonnie Decker seconded the motion. It was voted on and approved.

Graduation – Class of 2007 (Seniors: Heather Daley, Mike Haggard, Mike Hoyt, Senior Advisor: Kim Bucha)

The seniors would like graduation to take place at 3:00 p.m. rather than in the evening due to a larger class and the distance many parents have to travel. They would also like to have the ceremonies closed to individuals that are not associated with WSD. Before a final decision is made, it was suggested that the

seniors survey the parents to see if the time change would be preferred. It is also important to maintain a strong relationship with the alumni.

The seniors also asked for permission to go to Florida for a Senior Trip. The Board suggested that the details be worked out among the seniors and then present the request to the Superintendent.

The Board complimented the seniors on their willingness to share their ideas with them.

IPP (Institute for Public Policy) Study Activities

The IPP facilitators recently held a parent meeting in Vancouver. This meeting was attended by four WSD parents. Also, one-on-one meetings and a focus group meeting was held with WSD staff.

The facilitators interviewed the Superintendent in Seattle. At this meeting there was a discussion regarding changing the "agency" name and have the "school" portion be an umbrella under the agency. This would help clarify the additional services that WSD offers.

A second stakeholder meeting was held on November 1st in Ellensburg. Three WSD parents and the Assistant Superintendent attended this meeting. Attendees were very positive regarding the services provided by WSD.

Bonnie Decker will contact the facilitators to suggest that meetings be held in the Pasco and Spokane areas as well.

Gail proposed that a recommendation be made to the IPP facilitators that the name of the state agency that reports to the governor be changed to reflect the services offered but that the Washington School for the Deaf name remain the same. Pat Clothier seconded the motion. It was voted on and approved.

The Board would like to meet with the facilitators when they return to WSD in January 2007.

Report on State Reform Efforts

The states of Texas (AJ Joiner), Pennsylvania (Rita Reandeau), and California (Gail Pollock) will be on the December agenda.

- Arkansas (Bonnie Decker)
 - Arkansas was the 4th state to look at Deaf education. They utilized Colorado's model. Their established core beliefs are:
 - Every student that is Deaf or Hard of Hearing in the state of Arkansas has a right to a high standard of education

- *Every student that is Deaf or Hard of Hearing in the state of Arkansas deserves the earliest form of intervention.*
 - *Every student that is Deaf or Hard of Hearing in the state of Arkansas has a right to a learning environment that utilizes highly qualified personnel.*
 - *Birth to three identification is fragmented and highly qualified staff are not available.*
 - *Lack of reliable data*
 - *Limited options for services*
 - *Academic expectations for Deaf and Hard of Hearing children are sub-standard.*
 - *Families do not feel supported.*
 - *Will send out follow-up information to Board members*
 - *Issues are similar in the state of Washington*
- *New Mexico (Pat Clothier)*
 - *Deaf Education Bill of Rights (signed in March 2004)*
 - *Quality on-going education (from birth on)*
 - *Training for teachers and staff*
 - *Critical mass*
 - *Role models*
 - *Transition*
 - *Family Information*
 - *Addendum addresses the need for various modes of communication.*

The Board would like to discuss a Deaf Education Bill of Rights for the state of Washington with the IPP facilitators.

Legislative Update (State)

- *Capital Submission (Chuck McCarthy, Business & Operations Manager)*
 - *“Revisions to the Capital Budget Request for the 2007-09 Biennium” and “Capital Budget for the 2007-09 Ten Year Plan” documents were distributed and discussed. The revisions have been submitted to OFM (Office of Financial Management).*
- *Meeting with former Representative Val Ogden (Larry Swift, Gail Pollock, Bonnie Decker, Pat Clothier, Todd Reeves)*
 - *Several members of the Board and the Superintendent met with former Representative Val Ogden. She suggested the following:*
 - *Need to convene a nine (9) member delegation from this district before the upcoming session to make sure they are on board with the WSD capital submission.*
 - *Two key legislators are Representative Jim Moeller and Senator Joseph Zarelli.*
 - *Strongly recommends that WSD put together a plan to contact key parents and key members of the Deaf*

community to brief them on WSD's capital needs and ask them to sit down with their legislators to discuss the capital proposal.

- The Superintendent will work with teachers and staff to identify "key" parents. Also, a packet of material for stakeholders will be prepared.
- Work with D.E.A.F (Deaf Education Advocates Foundation).

Legislative Update (Federal)

- The Superintendent will be in Washington D.C. next week to attend the Clerc Center Stakeholder meeting sponsored by Gallaudet University.
- While in Washington D.C. the Superintendent will visit various Washington State legislative offices to discuss:
 - ESA Board Certification
 - Specific proposals regarding additional research and how it will link to WSD.
 - Access to interpreting services and the lack of interpreters.

Superintendent Updates (Todd Reeves)

- Day Student Transportation
 - The Superintendent from WSSB met with Representative Fromhold regarding day student transportation. He feels that Representative Fromhold will be submitting legislation that would not highlight WSD and WSSB but all school districts and public agencies. This legislation would not result in a loss of any funding dollars.
- OSPI Partnership
 - National Board Certification – recommended that this topic be discussed with the state legislators in Washington D. C. and also the Superintendent of OSPI, Terry Bergeson.
 - WASL retakes and how it impacts our school
 - Governor's office is still very interested in an exchange program with the School for the Deaf in China
 - Chinese immersion – camp for teachers and students of Mandarin Chinese

GMAP Presentation – SLC Graveyard Staffing (Nancy Sinkovitz, Residential Program Supervisor)

(Powerpoint presentation) Nancy Sinkovitz gave a presentation regarding residential graveyard staffing. Suggested ideas to enhance the presentation were discussed.

The Board would like to eliminate the waiting list for admissions. In order to do that and to maintain the mandated 1:7 ratio more staff would need to be added.

Executive Session

The meeting closed at 2:00 p.m. for one hour to discuss individual student and personnel issues with the Superintendent and legal counsel. This Executive Session will also be used to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation. The meeting reopened at 3:00 p.m. and closed again for an additional 30 minutes. The meeting reopened at 3:15 p.m.

Plan for December 1, 2006, meeting

- *State reforms – Texas (Allie Joiner), Pennsylvania (Rita Reandeau), and California (Gail Pollock).*

Adjournment

Rita Reandeau moved that the meeting be adjourned. Allie Joiner seconded the motion. It was voted on and approved. The meeting adjourned at 3:26 p.m.