



SCHOOL BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Prosser Consolidated School District #116

At the school board meeting of April 21, 2009 the following occurred:

ACTION ITEMS:

- Proclamation: National Teacher Day The Prosser School Board, by unanimous voice vote, passed a proclamation honoring teachers on May 5, 2009 as National Teacher Day.
- Resolution 03-09: Reduced Educational and Operational Program Dr. Ray Tolcacher told the board due to anticipated loss of revenue from the state to the district there could be a sizeable reduction in educational programs and operations. The resolution declares an economic emergency and begins the process of developing a plan to meet it. The resolution passed by unanimous voice vote.
- Out of State Travel for Basketball Head Coaches Dr. Tolcacher told the board that out of state travel has not been approved for several months due to budget concerns for the coming school year. The Board considered a request to provide funding for registration and lodging for Prosser High School head basketball coaches in Las Vegas, NV in May. Following a considerable discussion about the need for this participation and ongoing budget concerns, a motion to approve the request was turned down.
- Leader Services Billing and Collection Services Agreement As the district's Medicaid billing agent, Leader provides services to process claims to Medicaid on behalf of the district. The fee is \$1.40 per encounter billed. The agreement was reviewed and approved for a 12 month period effective September 1, 2009.
- Consent Agenda The consent agenda was approved and included the following actions: Certificated Personnel— Mark Sundberg resigned his position as Varsity Volleyball Coach at PHS and Tracey Berry resigned her position as a Special Education teacher at PHS effective at the end of the current school year. Classified Personnel— Felipe Hurtado resigned his position as a groundskeeper effective April 17, 2009 and Edie Rocha resigned her position as a Special Education Paraeducator at Keene-Riverview effective April 20, 2009. Minutes from prior minutes were approved. Kristin Walker has completed paperwork to be a volunteer coach for the district.
- Vouchers General Fund vouchers for \$193,580.71, a Capital Projects Fund voucher for \$880.00, Associated Student Body vouchers for \$43,369.48 and General Fund payroll warrants for \$1,933,640 were approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- Donation to Autistic Staff Development Parents of autistic students are raising funds to assist with staff development training regarding autism. Kerry Weisz and Erin Hunt presented the board a check for \$93.55 toward those efforts.
- WASL Update Curriculum Director Mary Snitily reported the high school finished WASL testing today and the other schools are on schedule. About 75 11th and 12th graders took the math WASL. Results for the high school should be available May 30.
- Water Bills at Housel Middle School Dr. Tolcacher reported that discussions have been taking place with the City of Prosser regarding past overcharging for water at the school and he and one board member would be meeting with the City April 22 regarding the issue.

- **State Budget Updates** Dr. Tolcacher reported that budget information from Olympia is not encouraging. If the budget isn't approved by May 15, a Memorandum of Agreement with the Prosser Education Association would be required. Bills cutting I-728 and I-732 funding for two years are pending. One Learning Improvement Day has been cut from teacher's salary schedules. Stimulus money for Special Education will be available and Federal Title I stimulus money will help if no strings are attached.
- **Prosser Falls Accreditation** Prosser Falls High School received state accreditation April 16 at a meeting in Walla Walla. The accreditation, normally given for three years, was given for six with honors and the school is considered by the state to be an outstanding example of this type of program and will be visited by other districts. The process has been underway for two years. Syndi Duehn was recognized by the board for a job well done at the school.
- **Gang Intervention Update** Alex Santillanes updated the board on gang intervention efforts in the district. He said 98% of the district staff knows about gangs and parents are going to begin fundraising to assist with fees. He also assists with the Prosser City Gang Taskforce. He recommended the board consider the need for a full time intervention specialist. Dr. Tolcacher commended Santillanes for his efforts but noted there is much more work to be done.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Dr. Tolcacher reviewed the ESL classes conducted in the district by Columbia Basin College. The first class had 80 parents attending two nights a week. The next class will be three nights a week with at least 50 parents expected to attend. He also noted that while CBC is cutting back on its outlying activities, it will continue to partner with Prosser in various programs.

AWARDS:

- Certificates were presented to Housel Middle School student Jamie White and Prosser Heights Elementary student Walker Orr for their participation in the State Geographic Bee held April 3, 2009 in Tacoma.

REPORTS:

Curriculum Director's Report: Mary Snitily reported OSPI is discontinuing their annual conferences for the next biennium. After meeting with math and science coordinators at ESD 123, she reported math trainings will now be offered in evenings.

Business Manager's Report: Craig Reynolds said an I-728 hearing will be held April 30 at 6:00 p.m. at Keene-Riverview. April enrollment is up by 43 students. He reviewed information provided to the board regarding the budget, extra time above contracts for classified and certificated staff, costs for substitutes through March 2009 and athletic costs for 2008/2009.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Tolcacher reported he will not be attending the Superintendent's Conference in May due to budget considerations.

Board Member Reports: Warren Barmore reported on staff input meetings April 21 and 22 and thanked Fred Bray for his help in setting them up. Kay Brader reported attending the National Honor Society induction April 20 at PHS and said she was at the district office when the local CESSAP emergency drill started today.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES:

- April 30, 2009— Special Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Keene-Riverview Elementary.
- May 5, 2009— Regular Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Keene-Riverview Elementary.



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