



## SCHOOL BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

### Prosser Consolidated School District #116

**At the school board meeting of April 7, 2009 the following occurred:**

#### ACTION ITEMS:

- Dr. Tim Rankin was sworn in as Director, District 2 and assumed his board position.
- Following the annual evaluation of Supt. Dr. Ray Tolcacher March 25, the board voted to extend his contract for one additional year. Dr. Tolcacher told the board his job was easier thanks to the dedication and performance quality of the administrative team and union leaders.
- The board reviewed a request from the Prosser Memorial Hospital Foundation for endorsement of their efforts to renovate and expand the emergency room facilities at the hospital and use school facilities to help inform the community of their project. The board voted to allow the foundation to provide information to staff in accordance with existing policies and approved a motion to endorse the project. A formal resolution of support will come to a future meeting for approval.
- Consent Agenda: Approved as presented Doug Gustafson as a .75 Assistant Baseball Coach at Prosser High School, minutes of the previous board meeting, 2009/2010 EPIC Interagency Agreement to develop student plans and strategies at no cost to the district and completion of paperwork for Ivan Campos to be a volunteer coach in the district.
- Vouchers: The board approved vouchers from the General, Associated Student Body and the Transportation Vehicle Funds.

#### INFORMATION ITEMS:

- Local Budget/State Budget: Business Manager Craig Reynolds said the latest budget information the district had received from OSPI was not correct and we are waiting for new information. Dr. Tolcacher said the district is looking at a worst case scenario of a loss of \$1.5 million in funding. He, Curriculum Director Mary Snitily and Fred Bray, Prosser Education Association President, have been meeting with school staff regarding completion of paperwork in the current teachers contract that must be completed if a reduction in staffing is necessary. Any reductions must be made by May 15. Further conversations with classified staff will be forthcoming and no final decisions will be made until the district knows what its funding from the state will actually look like.
- WASL Update: Mary Snitily said WASL booklets are on hand and ready for the next round of testing. She noted that major changes in student assessment will begin next year. Measures of Student Progress for grades 3-8 will be held in May with both paper and pencil or computerized testing options. At the high school level, the High School Proficiency Exam will be held on a similar schedule to the one currently used.
- Summer School Calendar: Mary Snitily reviewed the summer school schedule which currently contains only programs for migrant students with funding provided from sources outside the district.
- Mathematics and Science Partnership Grant: Mary Snitily reported on the recently awarded \$450,000 grant to be held in conjunction with the Kiona-Benton and Finley School Districts. Math teachers in grades K-5 will receive additional training to improve student performance and meet new state standards.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Dr. Tolcacher provided the board requested information regarding having student representation on the board. A number of districts in the state do so and each have their own rules regarding student selection and exact duties. He recommended the board study the provided information. Meanwhile work will continue toward having student representation on the board when school starts this fall.

## AWARDS:

- Two Housel Middle School students participated in the Washington State Library "Letters About Literature" competition and were recognized as semi-finalists. Award certificates were presented to 6th grade students Zoe Wilson and Mayra Garcia.

## REPORTS:

**Curriculum Director's Report:** Mary Snitily reported meeting with high school staff regarding the third math credit which will be required in the future.

**Business Manager's Report:** Craig Reynolds reported that credit card finance charges by U.S. Bank in 2008 and 2009 have been reversed by the bank and procedural changes have been put in place to avoid the issue in the future. Reynolds reviewed the February 2009 financial reports and noted expenditures are inline with the budget. He also noted enrollment in April has unexpectedly increased which will increase revenue to the district.

**Superintendent's Report:** HMS Principal Deanna Flores report on the upcoming CSEPP emergency drill involving the school and community which begins April 21 at 5pm. Flores also reported on steps being taken to deal with student safety and traffic on Alexander Court at dismissal time. Dr. Tolcacher requested the board hold a meeting primarily for budget study Wednesday, April 15 at 6pm. And he noted there is an autism conference at the Three Rivers Convention Center April 11.

**Board Member Reports:** Kay Brader noted Prosser is hosting the WSSDA Regional Meeting, April 23, 2009 at 6pm at Housel Middle School. She also asked the board if they had any legislative proposals for her to pass along. Dr. Rankin reported attending the recent History Day in the West Valley School District. Win Taylor invited the board to attend the Kiwanis Club meeting April 14 at 6:30am at Keno's Café.

## UPCOMING MEETING DATES:

- Special Board Budget Meeting, April 15, 2009—6:00 p.m. Keene-Riverview Elementary.
- Regular Board Meeting, April 21, 2009—7:00 p.m., Keene-Riverview Elementary.



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