

Work/Study Session

President Jan Woldseth called the January 23, 2008 Issaquah School Board meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. The Board moved immediately into work/study session as scheduled around the upcoming boundary review. Board members in attendance: Jan Woldseth, Connie Fletcher, Brian Deagle, Suzanne Weaver and Superintendent Steve Rasmussen. Mr. Winkler arrived at 6:45 p.m.

Dick Withycomb, outside facilitator for the Boundary Review process, outlined his experience and expectations for moving forward with the BR process, once the Board has made some necessary decisions impacting the review.

Craig Christensen, administrative lead supporting the BRC, explained how a “Technical Advisory Committee” composed of the administrative cabinet team, has been working to pull together preliminary research and materials for use by the BRC.

Mr. Withycomb identified benefits to be gained from a comprehensive boundary review, including;

- provides an integrated look at all characteristics, qualities and circumstances of a district which sometimes makes visible solutions that are thoughtful, creative, and valuable that would have been missed if the approach was regional.
- allows for study of the feeder patterns and movement of youngsters as an integrated experience, rather than an experience that get split as students move from elementary to secondary level.

6:56 p.m. Break to move back into regular session

Please note: Because regular Issaquah School Board meetings are now being recorded and made available in their entirety for listening via podcast at www.issaquah.wednet.edu/podcasts/ minutes will reflect board action/direction and general topic discussion only.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

President Woldseth called the regular meeting back to order at 7:15 p.m. noting the Board and administration had been in a work/study session since 6 p.m. regarding the upcoming boundary review study. Present: Jan Woldseth, Brian Deagle, Connie Fletcher, Suzanne Weaver, Mike Winkler and Superintendent Steve Rasmussen.

Jane Heffernan, Clark Elementary student, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

In order to facilitate meeting management, Superintendent Rasmussen requested an opportunity to address the establishment of the agenda at this time. The Board agreed. Dr. Rasmussen asked that PUBLIC be broken into two parts: 1) to address a request from the Cougar Ridge PTA, and the recognize NBC teachers, and 2) following a break to address input on items not on the regular agenda.

Public

1. Heidi Klansnic – Cougar Ridge PTA President – announced that in honor of School Board Appreciation Month (January), the Cougar Ridge PTSA has made a donation to the Issaquah Schools' Foundation in the Board's name, and presented members with a small token of appreciation.

2. Dr. Rasmussen introduced six new National Board Certified teachers, bringing the total number of NCB teachers in the Issaquah School District to ten. Achieving NCB status represents an enormous commitment of time, effort, and energy and the following staff were honored for their achievement: Steve Darnell—Liberty High School, Angela Hammang—Liberty High School, Tasha Kirby—discovery Elementary, Ben Sorensen—Maywood Middle School, and Gretel von Bargaen—Skyline High School. Sarah Sarriddine—Beaver Lake Middle School was also recognized, but was unable to attend this meeting.

To further modify the agenda, the Board agreed to:

- o conduct a very brief (15 minute) executive session (per RCW 42.30.140) to summarize the bargaining agreement ratified by the Issaquah secretarial association to the Board – which is necessary in order to walk the ratification on the agenda for board action.
- o return to Public input for items not on the discussion agenda
- o move discussion/action item #3. E-15 to the first item for discussion.

7:30 pm President Woldseth called for the Board to move to executive session on bargaining per RCW 42.30.140 (4) (a) – approx. 15 minutes – with anticipated action to follow

7:44 Back to regular session

Mr. Winkler moved, and Ms. Fletcher seconded, that the Board ratify the contract as presented with the Issaquah Association of Educational Office Personnel. Motion carried unanimously.

Student Representative Input – None

Public Input

Pat Walker – EA at Maywood Middle School – reported that EA negotiations are currently stalled and urged the District to go back to the bargaining table.

Establishment of Regular Agenda – Taken care of above

Approval of Consent Agenda

Ms. Weaver moved the consent agenda be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Deagle and carried unanimously. Board action was taken as noted on the following consent agenda items.

1. Declared surplus the obsolete equipment as presented by the administration and authorized the administration to conduct a sale of these items.
2. Approved the minutes of the January 9, 2008 regular meeting as presented.
3. Accepted three gifts: 1) \$5,000.00 for five individual scholarships of \$1,000 each for five graduating seniors at Issaquah High School; 2) \$5,761.14 for science materials at Sunset Elementary; and 3) \$5,000.00 for various programs at Maywood Middle School.
4. Approved non-continuing, provisional and continuing contracts as presented for the 2007-08 school year.*
5. Approved leaves of absence without pay for the 2007-08 school year as presented.*
6. Approved leaves of absence without pay for the 2008-09 school year as presented.*
7. Approved supplemental contracts/employment agreements as presented.*
8. Approved new classified employees as presented.*
9. Approved classified resignations/retirements/terminations as presented.*

*personnel listings are available by clicking on the appropriate item on the electronic agenda for this meeting: <http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/board/Events/ViewEvent.aspx?ID=101&KEY=9Z5aXb84>

Elementary 15

Superintendent Rasmussen very briefly summarized the administration and Board's study into student housing needs, noting the importance of housing that allows for good feeder patterns and safe, consistent, meaningful boundaries and schools for students. Based on public input, a site field trip, and discussions at several meetings and work study sessions, Dr. Rasmussen recommended the Board take action this evening to building Elementary 15 on the Pine Lake Plateau.

Mr. Winkler moved that the Board approve the construction of Elementary 15 as originally approved by the voting public on February 7, 2006 to be sited on land purchased by the District located at 20808 SE 20th Street on the Sammamish Plateau; in addition to amend the boundary process to be a boundary to accommodate elementary and middle schools and to boundary for 15 elementary schools leaving Clark open for an interim for up to four years. Mr. Deagle seconded the motion.

Ms. Fletcher presented a friendly amendment to the motion to read: I move the Board approve the construction of Elementary 15 as originally approved by the voting public on February 7, 2006 to be sited on land purchased by the District located at 20808 SE 20th Street on the Sammamish Plateau. Mrs. Weaver seconded the motion as amended.

Following discussion, and input from community members, the motion as amended by Ms. Fletcher carried unanimously.

The following people spoke to the issue: Maureen Arnold, Mariah Batista, Stefano Gaudiano, Catherine Morgan, Sara Winnick, Leigh Stokes, and Gabriel Larsen.

The Board discussed the need to provide direction to the Boundary Review Committee (BRC) about whether the BRC will be directed to develop attendance area boundaries for 14 or for 15 elementary schools. The Board has been considering a recommendation from the District Technical Committee that Clark Elementary be closed as a neighborhood school (with future use to be determined at a later date) in 2-4 years. The Board has been considering public input on this issue, as well as discussion at work/study sessions and regular meetings.

There was discussion about whether to take action at this meeting or the February 6th meeting,

Mr. Winkler moved that the board on Feb 6 charter the Boundary Review Committee for 15 elementary schools. Mr. Deagle seconded the motion and offered a friendly amendment that the Board direct the BRC to boundary for 15 elementary schools, and on Feb 6th that the Board approve the charter for that process.

There was Board discussion on the timeline to take this action, and agreement that boundaries are a matter for constant monitoring and review. Following discussion the motion carried unanimously.

9:05 p.m. break

9:22 p.m. back to order

Charge and Activation of High School Graduation Requirements Committee

The Board and administration have reviewed the activation of the High School Graduation Requirements Committee. It is a committee responsible to the Superintendent and periodic updates will be provided to the Board. Information will also be posted on the web site.

2008-09 Budget Parameters

Following some discussion regarding the value of changing the minimum/maximum unreserved balance to be maintained, Ms. Weaver moved the Board approve the budget parameters as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Deagle and carried unanimously.

Board Legislative Representative – Job Description

Board members agreed that the job description presented captured well the discussions held and that incorporating the job description into policy was appropriate. As is the board's practice when addressing policy development, the policy was presented for first reading at this meeting and will be presented for action at the February 6th meeting.

Audit Exit Interview

Mr. Winkler moved that Jan Woldseth and Suzanne Weaver serve as the Board's committee to participate in the state audit exit interview on Monday, February 25th. The motion was seconded by Mr. Deagle and carried unanimously.

Legislative Matters

Legislative matters and upcoming legislative related events were discussed.

Works in Progress

Superintendent Rasmussen provided a brief update on various works in progress district-wide. He also provided a reminder that the Board will meet this weekend to conduct a "mini retreat" with the cabinet on working together to bring the district's mission and ENDS to life for every child in the district.

Announcements and Correspondence – None

Calendar – Brief discussion – no action taken.

Future Agenda Topics – Discussed under calendar.

Executive Session

10:10 p.m. President Woldseth called for an executive session per RCW 42.30.140 (4) (a). The session will last approximately 15 minutes with no action to follow.

10:45 p.m. executive session concluded and the meeting adjourned.

These minutes were approved as presented at the February 6, 2008 board meeting.