

President Jan Woldseth called the special meeting of the Issaquah School Board to order on October 28, 2008 at 6:40 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administration Service Center. With Ms. Woldseth were board members Brian Deagle, Connie Fletcher, Suzanne Weaver and Superintendent Steve Rasmussen. Ms. Woldseth noted the purpose of this special meeting is to continue the process for filling the board vacancy in Director District #4.

Superintendent Rasmussen led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The two finalist for the position, Carla Wigen and Chad Magendanz, were each asked to respond to the following questions:

1. Individual board members are a highly visible link between citizens and the school district administration. A) How would you respond to a neighbor who brings a serious concern to you about the performance of his/her child's teacher? B) You are approached by a parent who has heard a rumor that a teacher at her school is being investigated for inappropriate behavior with a child, and is outraged that the teacher is still in the classroom. How do you proceed? C) Someone stops you at QFC with a concern about the work of the boundary committee that affects your child's school. You agree with this person's conclusion that this committee is going to negatively impact your child. i) How do you proceed? ii) Same situation, but you believe the person's concern is unjustified. Do you respond any differently?
2. High school athletics are a source of pride to and also taken very seriously by many in our community. How would you handle the demand of a person that the football coach be fired? A) Same situation, but the demand is from an entire school community group. Do you respond any differently?
3. Imagine you've been selected to fill this vacancy and you also win election for a four-year term. Five years from now Issaquah wins "national school board of the year." A) What is your vision for what you, and the board has done to win this award?
4. Student achievement data in Issaquah show that there is a significant and persistent gap of approximately 20 points between low income students, as defined by eligibility and participation in the free and reduced price lunch program, and all other Issaquah students. For background purposes, low income children in Issaquah perform at about the same level as the state average, but perform at a lower rate compared to our regional bench mark districts. A) How would you approach eliminating the achievement gap from a policy perspective? B) What challenges do you think the board would face in attempting to eliminate the achievement gap?
5. The Issaquah Schools Maintenance and Operating, Technology and Bus levies expire and will need to go before the voters again in 2010. This will also be an opportunity to put a bond issue to fund facility renovation and/or new construction before the voters on the same ballot. A) What factors should be taken into consideration when deciding whether to put a bond issue on the ballot? B) What should the board's role be in this process? C) How would you balance the wants and needs of the various parts of the District?
6. We heard on Thursday that given the significant budget deficits forecast at the state level, cuts are being considered even to the education budget. One speaker said that it is possible that we may see cuts to I-728 funding, which accounts for \$7 million of the District's \$150 million budget. A) What measures should the board take if the state significantly cuts funding of up to \$7 Million? B) How do you see the board processing the proposal of closing schools? C) What would be your response if it was your own child's school that was under consideration for closure? D) Athletic programs are the biggest discretionary District budget line item. How should the District factor in the cost of athletic programs if it needs to cut operating expenses?

At the conclusion of the questions/responses, the Board moved into executive session to discuss the qualifications of the candidates. President Woldseth estimated the session would last about 30 minutes and that action was anticipated following the executive session.

7:40 p.m. to Executive Session
8:25 p.m. back to order

Upon returning from executive session, President Woldseth reviewed the criteria established for applicants and board members expressed many of the strengths of the finalists. Mr. Deagle moved, and Ms. Weaver seconded, that the board take a roll call vote to select the individual to fill the vacancy in director District #4. Motion carried unanimously. In response to the question from Board Secretary Rasmussen, the roll call vote was taken as follows:

Brian Deagle – Chad Magendanz
Connie Fletcher – Chad Magendanz
Suzanne Weaver – Chad Magendanz
Jan Woldseth – Carla Wigen

President Woldseth declared the position filled by a 3-1 vote and announced that Chad Magendanz would be official seated at the November 12th regular board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Approved as presented at the November 12, 2008 regular meeting.