

Issaquah School Board President Brian Deagle called the Saturday, February 28, 2009 special meeting of the Issaquah School Board to order at 8:05 a.m. in the Board room of the Administration Service Center.

Also attending the meeting were board members Connie Fletcher, Chad Magendanz, Suzanne Weaver, Jan Woldseth, Superintendent Steve Rasmussen, Associate Superintendent Ron Thiele and CFO/COO Jake Kuper.

A working agenda to establish a timeframe for the discussions was agreed upon to try and cover all of the topics the board hoped to cover during this work session.

8 – 9:30 am Budget, staffing and legislative update/discussion and organization of future agenda topics  
9:30 – 11 am Board self-review, new member orientation, monitoring the board’s performance, new member policy orientation  
11 am – Noon Executive Session with Superintendent for half-yearly review  
Noon – 1 pm Working lunch – summary and next steps

The Board and administration began the discussion as outlined and completed discussion on budget, staffing and legislative update, board self-review, new member orientation, monitoring the board’s performance, new member policy orientation reviewing GP-1, GP-2, GP-3, GP-4/4E, GP-5, and GP-6 with careful review and no changes identified.

Time ran out before completion of the policy review and before the organization of future agenda topics was addressed or the executive session was conducted. The Board and Superintendent agreed to address the half-yearly evaluation at an executive session prior to the March 11<sup>th</sup> board meeting.

Points made included:

- The administration agreed with the suggestion to include representation from Tiger Mountain Community High School as a separate entity in the upcoming ballot funding study. Because TMCHS is composed of students from throughout the district, their representation is usually considered from their home schools – however, because school needs will be considered in the funding study it was agreed that input from the “school” would be important.
- It will be some time yet before the full impact of action/non action in Olympia is known with regard to district budgeting and staffing. CFO Kuper noted that the news is grim and expected to become more grim as specific impact becomes known. The importance of keeping the district staff and community informed was stressed. Some brainstorming on how to monitor enrollment trends was discussed including whether an exit questionnaire would be helpful to understand why students are removed: economy, education program, etc.
- The kinds of information that will be helpful to the community was also discussed, such as: 1) What is already being done to prepare for worse economic conditions in the future should be shared; 2) different funds have different specific uses and cannot be moved back and forth (General Fund, Capital Projects Fund, ASB Fund, Transportation Vehicle Fund, Debt Service); 3) budget/staff cuts will be district-wide, and will impact classified as well as certificated staff, administrative as well as support staff;

9:36 to 9:45 a.m. – short break

The remainder of the discussion was spent on policy review. The following policies were comprehensively read and discussed for clarity and review – no changes were identified.

GP-1 Global Governance Commitment

- There was considerable discussion on overall community values and how the board can effectively *know* what those are and effectively represent them at the table.
- A work/study was discussed on ‘how to link better with the community’
- It was suggested that community meeting(s) be held to share the same budget information that Superintendent Rasmussen is sharing with staff. The administration consider further and pursue appropriate scheduling.
- It was suggested that a work/study on communications, processing correspondence and e-mail be scheduled in the near future.
- As in the past, the administration was asked to pursue dates for meetings with the Renton and Newcastle city councils.

GP-2 Governing Style

GP-3 Board Job Description

GP-4 Agenda Planning

GP-4E Annual Board Calendar

- It was agreed that the Board would look at the GP-4E work calendar quarterly at a regular meeting to make certain that established items are met.
- Upcoming special meetings regarding ballot measures should be added.

GP-5 Chief Governance Officer’s Role

GP-6 Board Members’ Code of Conduct

11:20 – 11:30 a.m. Short break before returning to policy review.

1:45 p.m. Adjournment

*These minutes were approved as presented at the March 11, 2009 regular board meeting.*