



SCHOOL BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Prosser Consolidated School District #116

At the school board meeting of May 5, 2009 the following occurred:

ACTION ITEMS:

- Princess Theatre Rental Agreement The Board approved rental of the Princess Theatre for the Prosser Falls High School 2009 graduation ceremony on May 29, 2009. The fee is \$175 plus a \$400 refundable security deposit.
- Policy No. 1116: Student Representation to the Board of Directors The policy will provide for representation of a Prosser High School Junior or Senior on the school board in a non-voting position. The student would provide feedback to the board on issues effecting students and report back to the school on school board operations. The intent is to have the program in place early in the coming school year. Following considerable discussion regarding student selection processes and timing of implementation, the first reading of the policy was passed unanimously. The Board will conduct further review and discussion on procedures leading to implementation of the position in the Fall of 2009.
- Consent Agenda The consent agenda was passed by the board. It included the following:
 - Certificated Personnel**—approval of Benji Sonnechsen as Head Football Coach at Prosser High School.
 - Classified Personnel**— Acceptance of the resignation of Breanna Porter as a Paraeducator at Housel Middle School.
 - Contracts/Agreement**— 2009/2010 Elliott Bay Fundraising Agreement to provide items for the annual fundraiser at Keene-Riverview Elementary which supports reading incentives, assemblies, field trips and the Walker Bee program. 2009/2010 Heritage University Agreement which provides students enrolled in the College of Education and Psychology as student teachers in the Prosser School District. There is no cost to the district.
 - Personal Service Agreements**— Bob and Lynn Tuck Service Agreement to provide teaching about the features of birds and relating information. The presentation will be held at Camp Wooten in May with a fee of \$400 paid through the Camp Wooten budget. Michael Esquivel Service Agreement to review Certificates of Eligibility for migrant families.
 - Vouchers**— General Fund vouchers for \$55,188.03 and Associated Student Body vouchers for \$34,953.54 were approved.
 - Minutes** of the previous meeting were approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- Curriculum Director Mary Snitily review the Class of 2009 Graduation Toolkit. Graduation requirements include obtaining required credits, completion of the high school and beyond plan, completion of a culminating project and passage of tests showing achievement in basic skills or completion of a state approved alternative to those tests.
- Dr. Ray Tolcacher told the board the Administrative Team has been meeting twice a week for the past month working on how to cope with expected reduced state funding. While final funding numbers are still unclear, it appears any necessary reductions in instructional staff will be possible through attrition. Another budget study session will be held soon although a final budget for the coming year is not required until the end of August. Business Manager Craig Reynolds reviewed current funding and projected state funding for the 2009/2010 school year. It appears, as of now, the district will be facing a \$1.4 million shortfall for the coming year.
- Dr. Tolcacher reported the district is on high alert regarding the current swine flu threat. The district has reviewed its protocols on dealing with health issues and has been in communication with parents and the community in general regarding the issue. Mary Snitily said there have been two conference calls with school nurses, other personnel and the Benton-Franklin Health Department regarding the swine flu situation.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A list of contracts which automatically rollover unless cancelled was reviewed by the board. They included a rental agreement for use of the Central Christian Church for classroom space, elevator service and repair, employee assessment counseling and/or referral services, publishing of the Housel Middle School annuals, anti-virus and anti-spam software and communication maintenance services for school information processing.
- Tim Rankin reported on the Washington State School Directors Association is continuing to ask the state to fully fund public education.
- Dr. Tolcacher updated the board in plans to lease the 55 acres of property on Old Inland Empire Highway. Previously used for cattle grazing, there have been several inquiries about from people desiring to lease the land. The board consensus was to investigate all lease options including other possible uses. All lease proceeds must go into the capital projects fund.

AWARDS:

- Certificates of Achievement were presented to 15 Housel Middle School students and two Prosser High School students for their participation in the Washington State History Day competition in April.

REPORTS:

Curriculum Director's Report: Mary Snitily reported on the wrap up of the WASL testing and praised her assistant, Tammy Feakin, for her outstanding job in handling security of the tests as required by the state. She also reported on being in Olympia on May 8 for training on the upcoming joint math teacher training grant with the Kiona-Benton and Finley school districts.

Business Manager's Report: Craig Reynolds reviewed the March 2009 Financial Reports which showed a General Fund balance of \$2.2 million, Capital Projects fund balance of \$250,000, Debt Service fund balance of \$815,000, ASB fund balance of \$348,000 and Transportation Vehicle fund balance of \$207,000. All budget figures are as expected for this time of the year.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Tolcacher reported on meeting the City of Prosser April 29 regarding past overcharges for water usage at Housel Middle School. Discussions are continuing and another meeting will be held in the near future. He advised the board he would be bringing another out of state travel request for staff development at the next meeting and there would be no cost to the district if approved.

Board Member Reports: Board President Warren Barmore reported on attending the Something Special reception for district staff on May 5. Win Taylor noted the governor had signed a bill regarding teacher contact with students are wondered if the district needs to update any existing policies.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES:

- Regular Board Meeting, May 19, 2009— 7:00 p.m., Keene-Riverview Elementary.



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