

Easton School District No. 28
Board Workshop
February 10, 2014
Jennie Marie Giovenale-Austin Library

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Kathie Stratton at 6:33p.m.

Attendance:

Board Members Present: Kathie Stratton, Ken Everaert, Anna Dodge, Chris Helgeson, Lynn Lopez

Staff Members Present: Patrick Dehuff, Lisa Henderson

Pledge of Allegiance

iPad User Agreement: A draft iPad User Agreement was presented to the board of directors for their review. The draft iPad User Agreement was discussed amongst staff during professional development on February 6th. Staff suggestions for change were incorporated into the draft document presented to the board of directors. A discussion amongst the board followed the distribution of the draft iPad User Agreement. The board of directors made several suggestions for change that will be included in the final iPad User Agreement that will be signed by students and their parents/guardians.

House Bill 1805: Superintendent Dehuff presented a proposed bill before the legislature. House Bill 1805 will require a minimum of 6 hours of instructional time during every school day. The concern about this proposed bill is the impact on teacher training, which would eliminate early release days that are currently utilized for professional development. Patrick Dehuff mentioned that effective professional development happens when there is regular, on-going training to implement new and innovative teaching strategies, and encourages personal reflection amongst colleagues on their teaching techniques and skills. With the work being done on implementing common core standards and TPEP, the need for a comprehensive program of professional development is even more critical. Patrick Dehuff will keep the board apprised of the status of this proposed bill.

Common Core Opt Out: Patrick Dehuff distributed a letter that was received by Selah School District from a parent who wanted their child to opt out of being taught or tested on common core standards. The superintendent of Selah School District sought out legal advice on the letter and the following point was made in response to the letter, "It is well settled that a parent's right to make decisions about the care, custody and control of their children does not supersede the general power of the state to regulate education, including the state's power to prescribe a curriculum for its public schools."

Accreditation Overview: Patrick Dehuff and Lisa Henderson gave a brief overview of the accreditation process that the district will be going through this spring. A discussion ensued on the merits of being accredited and whether it would truly be beneficial for students. Patrick

Dehuff will explore the impact of accreditation on students' ability to get into college or other post-secondary educational and vocational programs.

Consent Agenda: Science teacher Theresa Plue submitted a letter requesting an extension of her leave of absence until May 11, 2015. According to the certificated staffs' union agreement, employees are entitled to use the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) for 12 weeks after they exhaust their sick and personal leave. Theresa Plue's request for leave until May 11th would include the time that is allowed for FMLA. There are some documents that will need to be filled out and signed by a medical professional to verify the reason for FMLA. A motion was made by Lynn Lopez to approve the extended leave request subject to approval of FMLA. The motion was seconded by Chris Helgeson and the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned: A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ken Everaert. The motion was seconded by Chris Helgeson and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 PM.


Patrick Dehuff
Superintendent


Kathie Stratton
Board Chair