

Easton School District No. 28
Meeting of the Board of Directors
April 23, 2019
Jennie Marie Giovenale-Austin Library

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Chris Helgeson at 6:30 PM.

Attendance: John Jensen, Jen Phillips, Chris Helgeson

Staff: Patrick Dehuff, Sagi Jimenez, Dawn Bechtholdt, Marilyn Fudge, Ofelia Todd, Sara McCoy, Steve Jensen

Board Members Absent: Amy Grove, Lynn Lopez

Guests: April Simonson

Approve Agenda: Jen Phillips made a motion to approve tonight's meeting with the addition of Steve Jensen speaking. John Jensen seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Board Minutes: John Jensen made a motion to approve the minutes from the board meeting on March 26, 2019. Jen Phillips seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Communication to the Board: None

Public Comment:

Bus Transportation: Steve Jensen is the Maintenance/Transportation Supervisor for Easton School District. Steve Jensen discussed the need to purchase a larger bus for the bus route to Snoqualmie Pass because we are at capacity and are expected to exceed the capacity of the small bus soon. The current bus for the Snoqualmie Pass bus route is rated at a maximum capacity of 27 students, and the actual capacity can be less depending on the age and size of students. Mr. Jensen has researched various options and has recommended the purchase of a bus with a class C truck front. It is important to have a sharp turning radius on the Snoqualmie Pass bus in order to navigate the bus in tight spots at the pass during the winter months. A bus with a class C truck front will turn sharper than the current small bus, but has a larger capacity of 48 students. Steve Jensen will work on getting a final bid for the new bus and Superintendent Dehuff will provide the board with an estimate of costs, including the offset of cost by money that is in the transportation-vehicle fund and the offset of future depreciation on the buses. This information will be provided to the board at their next meeting, which will be a board workshop on May 14, 2019.

Reports:

Financial: Business Manager Sagi Jimenez shared her a bit of her background with fiscal at the ESD 105, where she has worked for the past three years. Ms. Jimenez has a background in accounting and has been managing Payroll for ESD 105 and for Easton School District. Ms.

Jimenez discussed the financial report with the board. A copy of this information is attached to this report.

Staff Report: Sara McCoy presented the staff report. The elementary is implementing the Next General Science Standards that aligns with the Smithsonian kits. K-1 grades are working on, “animals 2x2”, grades 2-3 grades are exploring, “how animals can be protected when their habitat changes”, grades 4-5 are working on, “how to get electricity into people’s homes.” There is testing happening for the 3rd grade students in the computer lab. The 2nd and 3rd grade students continue to show growth in reading. The 3rd grade class attended an agricultural field trip to Ellensburg on April 9th. The 2nd and 3rd grade classes are requesting a field trip in May to the Seattle Aquarium.

Principal Report: Principal Bechtholdt shared data from OSPI showing student growth at Easton School. Our secondary students (grades 7-12) attended a field trip in Seattle on a boat with the Pacific Marine science group. The students, staff, and chaperones that attended had a great time. Dawn shared pictures and stories from the day. The program, “Technology, Education, and Literacy in Schools (TEALS)” has been approved for Easton School for the upcoming 2019-20 school year. They are offering free training to teachers. The Fire Marshal came to school with his arson dog, Ally. They showed our students and staff how Ally works, and the importance of her training. Dr. Derrick is taking his cinema class on a field trip next week. This week, Ms. Badda and the Easton School archers are headed to Utah for the National Archery Tournament.

Superintendent Report: Dr. Dehuff shared information in regards to preparing for a Capital Project levy. Staff has identified areas of Capital Project needs and we will solicit information from our students, parents, and community. A flyer will be sent home and posted in town inviting people to come to the board workshop on May 14th for more discussion and input. A decision on whether to put a Capital Projects levy on the ballot in November needs to be made by the July board meeting. The board would need to determine the amount and length of time for the Capital Projects levy. Superintendent Dehuff stated that he would recommend that the board approve an amount that does not exceed the annual amount that is currently being taxed on existing bonds. The reason for this recommendation is that the bonds will be paid off at the end of 2019 and, if the Capital Projects levy doesn’t exceed the annual cost that is currently being assessed on the bonds, the local community will not see an increase in their local taxes. Superintendent Dehuff reminded the board that our secondary wing was built in the early 1960s and in dire need of Capital improvements, and that our technology infrastructure needs to be updated with a new server, improved wireless connectivity, and new computers. He also mentioned the need for capital improvements that would improve student safety.

Board Report: No report

Board Business: The district is requesting a waiver from the State for two days that were cancelled this winter during the time-frame of a State of Emergency declared by the Governor due to inclement weather and hazardous road conditions. School Districts throughout the State are requesting waivers for snow days and, so far, all of those requests have been granted. Superintendent Dehuff stated that this waiver wouldn’t set precedent for future days of cancelled

school days unless there is a State of Emergency declared, which is an uncommon occurrence. Jen Phillips made a motion to approve the waiver request. John Jensen seconded the motion and the motion carried.

A proposed 2019-2020 school calendar was presented to the board. John Jensen made a motion to approve the proposed 2019-20 school calendar. Jen Phillips seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Consent Agenda: Jen Phillips made a motion to approve the consent agenda. John Jensen seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned: A motion was made by Jen Phillips to adjourn the meeting. John Jensen seconded the motion and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.


Patrick Dehuff
Superintendent


Chris Helgeson
Board Vice-Chair