



Board Briefs for September 26, 2016

- **Next Board Meeting Location and Time:** Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Woodland Middle School Commons
- **Reports to the Board:**
 - **Financial/Enrollment Report** – Stacy Brown, Director of Business Services, explained that the number of students enrolled in the Running Start program at Woodland High School has doubled from last year with a more accurate enrollment count coming in October/November. Director Lesa Beuscher asked what caused the increase. Superintendent Michael Green indicated that there was no hard data at this point, only speculation, with the top two reasons students choose Running Start is the financial benefit of two years of free college education along with the lack of connection with the “high school experience.” He informed the board that, historically, some students will exit the program following the first quarter and return to high school. Related materials: <http://www.woodlandschools.org/node/5095>
 - **Student Representative Report** – Jamie Gonzalez, Student Representative, shared her background with the board members. She is currently a senior actively looking into different colleges where she would like to major in Criminal Justice. She is also pursuing a summer internship at FBI headquarters. She enjoys being very busy and is currently enrolled in the Running Start program part-time while also serving in a youth group, participating in FFA, and coaching soccer.
- **Board Reports, Requests, and Comments:**
 - Director Steve Madsen reported about his recent trip to the Washington State School Directors Association (WSSDA) Legislative Assembly in Spokane. He noted that the high-priority items seemed to lean toward larger school districts and did not necessarily pertain to Woodland Public Schools. Madsen would like to invite state representatives to attend an upcoming Woodland Public Schools Board Meeting.
 - Director Beuscher asked where the bussing boundary is for Woodland Intermediate School students to know who can walk and who must ride a bus. Superintendent Green told the board members he would get the information from Shannon Barnett, Director of Transportation, and share his findings with the board.
- **Discussion Items:**
 - **Communications Report and Planning Review** – Eric Jacobson, Communications Manager, presented a wide variety of communication program information including goals and objectives as well as results from the 2015-2016 school year. The district’s objectives are: to engage the community; keep parents, community members, and local organizations informed; and engage the staff. These goals are accomplished through district newsletter mailings; sharing stories with the local news media; automated phone calls to the community; weekly feature stories; Board Briefs; and dispersing information using the district’s website and social media accounts. Jacobson asked board members what they would like to see or suggest for the current year. Director Sarah Stuart asked if there could be some consistency with how teachers communicate to their students’ parents. Director Janice Watts asked if all schools utilized Jacobson to cover their upcoming stories to which he replied that although it’s always challenging when he first comes on board (Jacobson started in summer 2015), the staff is now comfortable reaching out him. Director Madsen mentioned he would like to see articles about how the McCleary case could impact Woodland. Jacobson noted this was a strong idea and would work on it. Related materials: <http://www.woodlandschools.org/node/5103>
 - **Replacement Operations and Maintenance (M&O) Levy Recommendation** – Superintendent Green presented levy information to the board in order to provide them with education on levies and to consider the administrative recommendation for a three-year replacement M&O levy. Green’s presentation covered the different types of levies, how important timing of a levy election is, the Woodland School District’s levy history, how the district used levy funds in the past years, and Woodland’s levy rates compared to other districts in Clark and Cowlitz counties. Green recommended a three-year replacement levy with a total collection of \$4,500,000 for 2018 increasing to \$4,750,000 in both 2019 and 2020. The board requested Green present a formal resolution to them with this recommendation. Related materials: <http://www.woodlandschools.org/node/5116>
 - **Effective School Boards: Chapter 7** – The board continued their book study with Director Madsen recommending reviewing this chapter on Superintendent and Board partnership prior to the next superintendent evaluation to which Director Watts agreed. Related materials: <http://www.woodlandschools.org/node/5063>
 - **First Reading-Policy No. 4260-Use of School Facilities** – Superintendent Green presented policy changes recommended by Director Matt Donald providing for employees and school board members to use school facilities for “Level 2” activities charged using the fees on the Level 1 schedule. Director Madsen inquired as to what type of activities would be included to which Green explained, by way of example, for use in pick-up basketball games or hosting Rotary meetings. Related materials: <http://www.woodlandschools.org/node/5100>
- **Consent Agenda:**
 - Director Watts asked Superintendent Green for clarification on how exempt employee wage rates are determined. Green responded that they are developed by comparing wage rates of similar districts for similar positions. The board unanimously approved the consent agenda. Related materials: <http://www.woodlandschools.org/board/meeting/254/10>

Upcoming Board Meeting: Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Woodland Middle School Commons

Board documents are available online! Previous meetings: <http://www.woodlandschools.org/board/archive>
Future meetings: <http://www.woodlandschools.org/board/upcoming>