

**TOPPENISH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 202
PUBLIC HEARING: TITLE VII INDIAN EDUCATION AND
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: Tuesday, February 22, 2011

TIME: 6:45 p.m. Public Hearing
7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

PLACE: District Office - Board Conference Room
306 Bolin Drive, Toppenish, WA 98948

PRESENT: Maryrose Gonzalez, Richard Lommers, Gonzalo Macias, William Rogers,
and Rick Schutz

OTHERS PRESENT:

Superintendent John Cerna, Assistant Superintendent of Learning and Teaching Patty Schmella, Executive Director of Personnel and HR Jeanette Ozuna, Recording Secretary Danelia Arellano, Patsy Whitefoot, Nia Peters, Vienna Peters, James DelaRosa, Vivian DelaRosa, Eligio Jimenez, Jackie Arellano, Edilberto Godines, Anastasia Sanchez, Katherine Cove, Patrisia Diaz, Robert Roybal, Margaret Ambrose, Frank Harris, Terri Winckler, Matt Piper, Liz Hockens, Frank A. Chandler, Trevor Greene, Brenda Mallonee, Arnulfo Gonzalez, Margarita Jaramillo, Deborah Crinzi and others

PUBLIC HEARING: TITLE VII INDIAN EDUCATION

President Schutz opened the public hearing at 6:45 p.m. Margaret Ambrose, Title VII Chair, presented a report on Title VII Indian Education. She gave a brief history of the Treaty of 1855 and reported on the educational provisions included in the treaty for Indian children. She also shared the statement of policy, parent committee's responsibilities, and an overview of Indian education and authorized services and activities. Mrs. Whitefoot informed that in 2010, President Obama enacted government-wide tribal consultation policy and as a result tribal consultation meetings were held in six communities on education priorities. Ms. Ambrose also reported on the Native student count. She said that out of the district's 3,567 students, 568 students are Native, which is 15.9% of the student population. The two main objectives of Title VII are attendance and dropout prevention and the Indian education priorities include the following:

- Investing in Native Language and Cultural Revitalization;
- Strengthening Native Teachers, Administrators and Counselor preparation programs;
- Requiring Cooperative Agreements with Tribes, State and Local Agencies to meet the needs of the whole child;
- Restoring Deputy Assistant Secretary for Indian Education to advise Secretary on Tribal Sovereignty, Treaties and Government to Government Relations; and
- Pilot Tribal Education Agencies/Departments to meet the unique needs of Native students.

President Schutz closed the public hearing at 7:04 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

President Schutz called the regular meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

COMMUNITY INPUT

No community input was provided.

ADOPTION OF SCHOOL BOARD AGENDA

President Schutz called for a motion to adopt the school board agenda. Director Rogers moved to adopt the agenda, and Director Gonzalez seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

President Schutz called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Director Lommers moved to approve the consent agenda, and Director Macias seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the January 25, 2011 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

APPROVAL OF OUT OF STATE TRAVEL REQUESTS

- Permission granted for the Superintendent and the Board President to attend the Spring NAFIS Conference in Washington, DC, April 2-6, 2011.
- Permission granted for a group of five staff members consisting of the Assistant Superintendent of Learning and Teaching, TMS Principal, THS Teacher, THS Principal and a Board member to visit schools with exemplary STEM programs in Las Vegas, Nevada and Phoenix, Arizona, March 7-9, 2011.
- Permission granted for five individuals (Superintendent, Federal Programs Director, Migrant PAC Coordinator, Migrant PAC Officer, and one Migrant parent) to attend the National Migrant Education Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, May 1-6, 2011.

APPROVAL OF EXTENDED FIELD TRIP REQUESTS

- Permission granted for one THS student who has been selected as the Washington State Trio Leader to participate in the Leadership Conference, in Olympia, March 8-9, 2011.
- Permission granted for one Upward Bound student from the Toppenish High School to visit Clark College in Vancouver, Oregon April 1-2, 2011.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 1-11 DECLARATION OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

Approval of Resolution No. 1-11 Declaration of Surplus Equipment, which authorizes the Transportation Department to surplus a 1989 school bus with an estimated value of \$1,500 and a 1991 Buick Century vehicle with an estimated value of \$1,000 that are no longer being used by the district.

APPROVAL OF BUDGET STATUS REPORT FOR JANUARY 2011

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS AND PAYROLL

▪ General Fund X-Cycle Warrant No. 172666-172666	2/15/11	\$2,983.11
▪ General Fund Warrant No. 172740-172890	2/28/11	\$573,335.63
▪ ASB Fund Warrant No. 12291-12307	2/28/11	\$15,840.77
▪ Capital Projects Fund Warrant No. 1439-1439	2/28/11	\$14,280.00
▪ Payroll Warrant No. 172667-172739 172891-172930	2/28/11	\$2,252,488.67

REPORTS

RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS AND EDUCATORS OF THE MONTH

The students recognized for outstanding academics and citizenship for the month of February are Margarita Jaramillo from Garfield Elementary School and Fernando Arias from EAGLE High School. The Classified Employee of the Month recognized as an exemplary role model and who has achieved significant success as the head mechanic for the District is Fernando Razo from the Transportation Department. The Engineering Team at the Toppenish High School was recognized as the Professional Learning Community of the Month for exemplary collaboration in increasing student learning. The team consists of Desiree Fry, Arnulfo Gonzalez, Moises Gonzalez, Shawn Myers, and Enrique Romero.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Enrollment Report-February

Superintendent Cerna gave the enrollment report for February. The actual head count for the month of February is 3,562 students, which is a decrease (↓) of 14 students from last month. The FTE count is 3,549.40 students reflecting a decrease (↓) of 7.18 FTE students. The bilingual count decreased (↓) by 13

students and is at 1,177, which represents 33.04% of the student population. The special education count, including birth to two years, is at 446 students, which is an increase (↑) of 8 students and represents 12.52% of the student population. The student count for the Washington Web Academy is 140 students and 173 students for the Computer Academy of Toppenish Schools.

School Improvement Grant (SIG) Writing Process

Superintendent Cerna informed they have been diligently working on the School Improvement Grant, which is due March 4.

Visitation to Olympia – February 8

Superintendent Cerna reported four administrators spent February 8th in Olympia visiting several legislators. The main reason for the visitation was to talk about levy equalization and the effects it would have on our district. He said the day was very productive and the people they spoke to were very positive about supporting no reductions to levy equalization monies.

BERC Group Visitation

Superintendent Cerna reported that as a result of applying for the School Improvement Grant, OSPI sent the BERC Group to Valley View Elementary to interview several staff members and district administrators. The report was very positive as it revealed that some of the gains from last year to this year were 25%-30%.

Auditors in District

Superintendent Cerna reported the auditors are in the District. They recently had an Entrance Audit and were informed of the areas they would be auditing. The auditors also presented a comparison of Toppenish with other similar size school districts in the Valley and across Eastern Washington of data that revealed our district is above or at state average in most areas audited.

GEAR UP (Orlando)

Superintendent Cerna reported he recently had an opportunity to attend the GEAR UP Conference in Orlando, Florida. He said he attended for three main reasons. First, he met with the national and the Washington State AAU directors regarding the possibility of obtaining insurance for our students at a reduced rate. He said a lot of our students don't have any type of insurance for sports and this opportunity would benefit students greatly. The second reason he attended was to try to obtain another \$40,000 from GEAR UP to implement the biomedical curriculum at high school next year. GEAR UP has agreed to provide the funds for the biomedical classes. Finally, the third reason was attending the conference itself which was excellent and included grant writing workshops and information on STEM high schools. He said after the biomedical curriculum is implemented next year, our high school would be considered a STEM high school. This means more opportunities for our District to apply for more federal and state grants.

Toppenish High School Recipient of the WA Achievement Award

Superintendent Cerna reported the Toppenish High School is a recipient of the Washington Achievement Award for its Language Arts program. The award will be presented at Lincoln High School in Tacoma on April 27. He said we have had two other schools receive this type of award, which are Garfield and Lincoln Elementary schools. Congratulations to the Toppenish High School for obtaining this outstanding recognition.

Review Board Goals/BoardDocs Presentation

Superintendent Cerna reported the Board will be having their retreat on Saturday, March 12 from 9:00 am to noon at the District Office. The Board will be having a presentation on BoardDocs; a paperless system for school boards, and they will also be reviewing and revising the Board goals.

WSSDA Legislative Conference, February 27-28, Olympia

Superintendent Cerna and President Schutz will be attending the WSSDA Legislative Conference, February 27-28, 2011 in Olympia.

NAFIS Spring Conference, April 2-6, Washington, DC

Superintendent Cerna and President Schutz will be attending the Impact Aid Conference is April 2-6, 2011 in Washington, DC.

PRESCHOOL SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Liz Hockens, Literacy Coach and Principal Intern, presented an overview of the Toppenish Preschool Cooperative which is being recognized nationally and internationally as an exemplar powerful preschool program. Ms. Hockens stated our program has intentional instruction, research based curricula, and is aligned with the preschool curricula through third grade. Our program is also collaborative with our professional development in working with our community partners and doing trainings together and making sure we are all data driven. All of this is resulting in fabulous scores when comparing the DIBELS scores of children entering kindergarten. The difference is phenomenal between children who are entered in our preschool cooperative program which includes Yakama Nation Head Start, EPIC Head Start, Heritage University Early Learning Center and Toppenish Preschool compared to district scores which include kids who are not part of the Cooperative.

Ms. Hockens reported research of preschools is becoming more and more prevalent to ensure that our children learn from birth up instead of catching them up when they get to the middle or high school to repair the wide gaps. She said the research is interesting because it shows that by the time the students get to the high school the difference preschool made is phenomenal in that it prevents youth violence, reduces special education referrals, increase math and literacy achievement, and has long-term benefits for social and emotional development.

Ms. Hockens said there is a lot more information to share and invited the Board to visit the Preschool and see the difference a certified teacher makes in our preschool program.

KIRKWOOD SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Anastasia Sanchez, Principal, presented a summary of the Kirkwood Elementary School Improvement Plan. She said there have been some changes in reading this year. The fifth grade teachers are keeping their students, and implementing a "push in model" where paraprofessionals go in to the classroom and work with students instead of having them "walk to read". They are no longer doing the ten-year old "walk to read" model. They are modeling the "push in" program after Lincoln Elementary who had a lot of success in the accuracy of their students. They are also piloting a program in fifth grade in which each teacher specializes in one subject and they teach that subject all day. One of the benefits of this program is that all of the fifth grade teachers know their students. In math, they are using the Investigations program and recently implemented the program in kindergarten. They also have First Steps in Math interventions that provide specific areas of instruction. As for writing, they are still using the Step Up to Writing model and Units of Study by Lucy Calkins. The teachers are using small lessons, guided highlighting, mall moments, two column notes, developing rubric for expository and narrative writing. In the area of Family Friendly, Kirkwood Elementary has had five family nights, 263 newsletters, 520 student led conferences, 1,823 parent contacts, 796 telephone calls to parents, 42 home visits, and 84 family support team meetings. This year, they adopted the GLAD program and are finding it to be very beneficial for all students not just English language learners. GLAD strategies give students that added visual they need to understand and comprehend the reading. Finally in science, the students are using the Earth Science Kit Eco System.

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

Director Rogers reported that he read a great article in USA Today on Impact Aid and how it is underfunded. He will give the article to Superintendent Cerna to provide copies to the rest of the Board.

PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES REPORT

No report was provided this month.

TOPPENISH EDUCATION ASSOCIATION REPORT

Terri Winckler, TEA President reported she has had several conversations with Mr. Cerna and Mrs. Ozuna and has attended informational meetings about the Heritage 105 program. She said Heritage 105 is a new student teaching program that actually puts teachers in the classroom for two years. The program is currently being implemented in Mabton and White Swan and Toppenish is tentatively scheduled for next school year. Mrs. Winckler said the union is not against the program but wants to be proactive in issues that may arise since the program is relatively new.

She also stated they are keeping a close eye on the pending legislative issues. Mrs. Ozuna and Mr. Cerna are planning on attending the next union meeting and talk about the new teacher evaluation program. Mrs. Winckler said TEA is actively trying to develop a model themselves.

ACTION ITEMS

PROCLAMATION - CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE'S WEEK, MARCH 14-18

President Schutz called for a motion to approve the Proclamation for Classified Employee's Week, March 14-18. Director Rogers moved to approve the proclamation, and Director Lommers seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

2011-2012 SCHOOL CALENDAR – FIRST READING

President Schutz called for a motion to approve the first reading of the 2011-2012 school calendar. Director Rogers moved to approve the first reading of the calendar, and Director Macias seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PERSONNEL

President Schutz adjourned the regular school board meeting at 7:49 p.m. for a recess and executive session. The motion was carried unanimously. The executive session began at 8:05 p.m. and was scheduled to last approximately fifteen minutes for a personnel issue according to R.C.W. 42.30.110 (1) (g). President Schutz closed the executive session at 8:12 pm and entered into regular session to modify Superintendent Cerna's contract. The Board unanimously approved adding three personal days per year for Superintendent John M. Cerna's contract. The motion was carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

President Schutz adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m. with no further business.

John M. Cerna, Secretary to the Board

Rick Schutz, President