

**TOPPENISH SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 202
REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: Tuesday, January 25, 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, Viennae Peters, James DelaRosa, Vivian DelaRosa, Teri Martin, Dawn Weddle, Katherine Cove, Margaret Ambrose, Diane Sampson, Robert Roybal, Marlene Panell, Donna Barr, Shawna Emch, Rosemary Copeland, Katherine Anderson, Frank H. Chandler, Trevor Greene, Anastasia Sanchez, Patrisia Diaz, Frank Harris, Shauna Church, Sayra Gonzalez, Maribel Reyna, Marcos Martinez, Eva Martinez, Matt Piper, Liz Hockens, Charles Murphy, Janie Lopez, Alejandro Villafan, Araceli Villafan, Jose Luis Villafan, Francisco Villegas and Raul Villegas, Deborah Crinzi, Barbara Moses, Eligio Jimenez, and others

PUBLIC HEARING: TITLE VIII FEDERAL IMPACT AID FUNDS

President Schutz opened the public hearing at 6:46 p.m. Superintendent Cerna began the hearing by providing a definition of the Title VIII Public Law 103-382, and the effects it has on school districts. He said this year the District received \$477,383.13, and annual funding has continued to decrease. Toppenish School District uses Impact Aid funds for instructional support, learning resources, maintenance and repairs, teaching, extra-curricular, and for the no-cost operation and maintenance levy. The no-cost operation and maintenance levy provides the district \$2 million dollars in state matching funds for the debt service fund. This year the district reported 55 children with disabilities residing on eligible federal property and 347 children residing on federal property with a parent employed on eligible federal property. We have no children residing on eligible federal property whose parents are not employed on federal property. Superintendent Cerna opened the hearing for public comment. President Schutz closed the public hearing at 6:53 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

President Schutz called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

COMMUNITY INPUT

Frank Chandler, a teacher from EAGLE, gave an update on the pond project. He said that one of the National Honor Society students at the Toppenish High School is looking at doing a project on pond clean up. We have a MESA mentor from Heritage University who has volunteered to help with the project. We have another student from the Toppenish High School who will also use the pond area for her senior project. She plans to do some masonry work and add some steps so students can get safely to the edge of the pond. A student from EAGLE wants to do some Native plant propagation for his senior project next year. Mr. Chandler is very pleased with the progress of this project as there is a collaborative group involved in the pond project.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President Schutz called for nominations for President of the Toppenish School Board of Directors. Director Rogers nominated Director Schutz for President, and Director Gonzalez seconded the motion. Nominations for President were closed. The motion was carried unanimously. Director Schutz continued to assume the office of President of the Toppenish School Board of Directors.

President Schutz called for nominations for Vice-President of the Toppenish School Board of Directors. Director Macias nominated Director Lommers for Vice-President, and Director Gonzalez seconded the motion. Nominations for the position of Vice-President were closed. The motion was carried unanimously. Director Lommers continued to assume the office of Vice-President of the Toppenish School Board of Directors.

President Schutz called for nominations for Legislative Representative. Director Rogers said he would continue as the Legislative Representative, and Director Macias seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously. Director Rogers continued to assume the office of Legislative Representative.

President Schutz called for nominations for the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association Representative. Director Rogers nominated Director Gonzalez to be the WIAA Representative, and Director Macias seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously. Director Gonzalez continued assumed the position of WIAA Representative.

ADOPTION OF SCHOOL BOARD AGENDA

President Schutz called for a motion to adopt the school board agenda. Director Rogers moved to adopt the agenda with modifications. Director Lommers seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously, and the agenda was amended as follows:

- Revised Agenda with Payroll and Accounts Payable Amounts
- Addition of Letter of Resignation
- Addition of Request for Leave of Absence
- Addition of Executive Session for Personnel

CONSENT AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the December 15, 2010 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

APPROVAL OF NEW STAFF RECOMMENDED

- Annabel Garza, Receptionist/Administrative Secretary for the District Office
- Robert Gonzales, Painter Technician for the Maintenance Department

APPROVAL OF LETTER OF RETIREMENT

Approval of Everett Gary Ashelman letter of retirement effective 3/31/11

APPROVAL OF LETTERS OF RESIGNATION

- Julie Godina, resignation effective 1/28/11
- J. Michael Hillier, resignation effective 8/31/11

APPROVAL OF LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTS

- Theresa Hernandez, maternity leave of absence, 4/6/11 to 5/20/11
- Sherry E. McCord, medical leave of absence, 12/2/10 until further notice from the doctor
- Sylvia Nishi, medical leave of absence, 1/25/11 to 2/23/11

APPROVAL OF OUT OF STATE TRAVEL REQUESTS

- Permission granted for the Indian Education Director and a Preschool Teacher, who are members of the National Indian Education Association Board of Directors, to attend the National Indian Education Summit in Washington, D.C., February 4-9, 2011. The National Indian Education Association will provide all travel expenses.
- Permission granted for the Migrant Graduation Specialist to take three migrant seniors to the University of Idaho in February or March of 2011.

APPROVAL OF EXTENDED FIELD TRIP REQUEST

Approval for the Migrant Graduation Specialist to take a group of five students from the Toppenish High School to the Latino Education Advancement Project Conference in Tacoma, February 24-26, 2011.

APPROVAL OF BUDGET STATUS REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2010

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS AND PAYROLL

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| ▪ General Fund Warrant No. 172285-172433 | 12/31/10 | \$ 547,919.82 |
| ▪ General Fund Warrant No. 172434-172547 | 1/31/11 | \$ 670,807.97 |
| Warrant No. 172664-172664 | 1/31/11 | \$ 117,124.77 |
| ▪ ASB Fund Warrant No. 12251-12272 | 12/31/10 | \$ 21,492.80 |
| ▪ ASB Fund Warrant No. 12273-12290 | 1/31/11 | \$ 15,172.41 |
| ▪ Capital Projects Fund Warrant No. 1436-1438 | 1/31/11 | \$15,770.50 |
| ▪ Payroll Warrant No. 172180-172243 172244-172284 | 12/31/10 | \$ 2,141,427.63 |
| ▪ Payroll Warrant No. 172548-172620 172621-172663 | 1/31/11 | \$2,183,562.38 |

REPORTS

RECOGNITION OF STUDENTS AND EDUCATORS OF THE MONTH

The students recognized for outstanding academics and citizenship for the month of January are Alejandro Villafan from Valley View Elementary School and Francisco Villegas from the Toppenish High School. The educator of the month recognized for exemplary teaching and excellent relationships with students and staff is Shauna Church, a kindergarten teacher at Garfield Elementary School. The Preschool was recognized as the Professional Learning Community of the Month for exemplary collaboration in increasing student learning. The team consists of Katherine Anderson, Rosemary Copeland, Krista Goudy-Sutterliect, and Janie Lopez.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL TEACHER BOARD CERTIFICATION

Superintendent Cerna gave special recognition to three teachers and a counselor who passed the National Teacher Board Certification. The staff recognized were Charles Askins from the Toppenish High School, Shawna Emch from Kirkwood Elementary School, Marlene Panell from the Toppenish High School and Yeymi Roman-Aranda from Kirkwood Elementary School.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Enrollment Report-January

Superintendent Cerna gave the enrollment report for January. The actual head count for the month of January is 3,576 students, which is an increase (↑) of 17 students from last month. The FTE count is 3,556.58 students reflecting an increase (↑) of 17.48 FTE students. The bilingual count decreased (↓) by 3 students and is at 1,190, which represents 33.28% of the student population. The special education count, including birth to two years, is at 439 students, which is an increase (↑) of 7 students and represents 12.28% of the student population. The student count for the Washington Web Academy is 136 students and 162 students for the Computer Academy of Toppenish Schools.

Washington Improvement and Implementation Network (WIIN) Training

Superintendent Cerna reported two more days have been scheduled for training on the Washington Improvement and Implementation Network grant. The training days are January 31 and February 1 and there will be representatives from all of our schools and buildings.

School Improvement Grant (SIG) Letter of Interest

Superintendent Cerna informed that he sent a letter of interest in December for the School Improvement Grant. This is one of the huge grants OSPI will be awarding. He said he is not sure how many grants will be awarded as it depends on the funding available. The grants will range from \$50,000 to \$1.3 million dollars. Mr. Cerna said a team of six administrators who have received grant writing training will be working on writing the grant. The grant is due March 4, 2011.

Readiness To Learn Grant (RTL) Cut as of January 31

Superintendent Cerna reported the Readiness to Learn Grant will be cut as of January 31, 2011. This grant will affect one employee in the district who works with parents.

BEST Grant Cut by 50% - Teacher Mentoring Grant

Superintendent Cerna said we are also losing 50% of the BEST grant which is the teacher mentor grant.

Olympia Visitations by our Groups

Superintendent Cerna said they have administrative teams selected to visit the legislators in Olympia on February 8, February 23 and March 9. He said the West side is going after the levy equalization monies. Our district receives about \$4.2 million dollars from the state.

ESD 105 National Board Celebration

Superintendent Cerna reported the ESD 105 National Board Certification Celebration will be on Thursday, February 17, 2011 from 4:30-5:30 pm.

WSSDA Legislative Conference, February 27-28, 2011, Olympia

Superintendent Cerna reminded the Board about the WSSDA Legislative Conference, scheduled for February 27-28. He asked the Board to contact Danelia if they are interested in attending so she can make arrangements.

NAFIS Spring Conference, April 2-6, 2011, Washington, DC

Superintendent Cerna reported the Impact Aid Conference is April 2-6. President Schutz recommended attending the spring conference. He feels that with all the budget cuts taking place, Impact Aid will also be targeted. As it is the district has been receiving less and less money each year. Director Rogers was in agreement to send a Board member with the Superintendent to Washington, DC.

LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Teri Martin, Principal, presented highlights of the Lincoln Elementary School Improvement Plan, and said the current Plan is online if the Board would like to look at the details. In reading, our goal is to increase our scores. Lincoln has been working really hard. Three of the main things they are focusing on are vertical teaming, extensions, and interventions. The vertical teaming concept is to make sure students are not getting the same interventions in each grade. They are trying to extend the top readers and for the past two years our higher reader groups have been highly involved with technology. They are also looking at the interventions and how they are grouping the students. In math, the main focus is First Steps in Mathematics. They are looking at the interventions they provide based on the diagnostics. They are also looking at how they are using paraprofessional support. In writing, Lincoln is focusing on integrating it in class subjects. One of the main focuses this year is posting student writings in the hallways from kindergarten to fifth grade. In science, they are continuing to focus on the kits and also looking at integrating science into other subjects, such as reading and writing.

TOPPENISH MIDDLE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Dawn Weddle, Principal, presented a summary of the Toppenish Middle School Improvement Plan, and said they also have the School Improvement Plan (SIP) on their website. She provided a handout to each Board member with information on the SIP goals, strategic plan goals, successes and accomplishments, next steps and areas of continued focus. She reported their goal is to increase the reading, writing, and math results by 10%. This year the Toppenish Middle School created strategic plan goals with a focus on data, rigor, PLC development, and vision and mission statements. She said the surveys they conducted with staff revealed that teachers are asking for in-depth training on how to use the data and the need to focus across the board on rigor, which includes high-level thinking skills, and GLAD strategies to increase vocabulary. As of PLC Development, they have implemented PLC's and staff is ready to take

the PLC's to the next level and use the data to drive the instruction. This year, they have also been working on creating a clear vision and mission statement, which everyone will know by the end of the school year. Mrs. Weddle also reported they are doing a lot of alignment with First Steps Math. This process has brought the math staff together as they focus on where the students need work and provide activities to fill in those gaps.

SCHOOL BOARD REPORT

Director Lommers inquired about Board Docs. Superintendent Cerna said a presentation to the Board on Board Docs could be incorporated with the Board Retreat. Mr. Cerna will make arrangements for a presenter on Board Docs.

PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES REPORT

No report was provided this month.

TOPPENISH EDUCATION ASSOCIATION REPORT

Superintendent Cerna read a written statement addressed to the Board from Terri Winckler, TEA President. Mrs. Winckler thanked the Board for all their hard work in honor of School Board Recognition Month. She also stated she had two meetings scheduled on the same night of the Board meeting and would not be able to attend this meeting. Mrs. Winckler reported that she and Doug Radach met with Superintendent Cerna and Mrs. Ozuna the first week in January. They talked about a myriad of topics ranging from mice and birds to bargaining and evaluations. Mrs. Ozuna and Mr. Cerna will be attending an early morning TEA meeting to share information on the new evaluation procedures. Finally, she stated the relationship between the administration and TEA is outstanding, morale district-wide seems to be upbeat, and teachers are working harder than ever.

ACTION ITEMS

APPROVAL OF TITLE VIII FEDERAL IMPACT AID FUNDS APPLICATION

President Schutz called for a motion to approve the Title VIII Federal Impact Aid Funds Application. Director Rogers moved to approve the application, and Director Gonzalez seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

POLICY UPDATE 7231/7231P Federal Impact Aid

Margaret Ambrose, Chair of Title VII Indian Parent Education Committee, presented the revisions made to Policy and Procedure 7231 and recommended approval. One of the changes they made was to clearly identify the policy as the federal government does as formally known as Public Law 81-874, Title VIII Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The committee's plan is to work on updating this policy thoroughly throughout the summer and will bring it to the Board for a final reading in August. Ms. Ambrose gave special recognition to Vivian DelaRosa who has been recognized both locally and nationally for her commitment to the community.

President Schutz called for a motion to approve the revision made to Policy 7231 Federal Impact Aid. Director Rogers moved to approve the policy, and Director Lommers seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION

President Schutz adjourned the regular school board meeting at 7:48 p.m. for a recess and executive session. The motion was carried unanimously. The executive session began at 8:04 p.m. and was scheduled to last approximately one hour for the evaluation of Superintendent John M. Cerna and personnel issues according to R.C.W. 42.30.110 (1) (g). President Schutz closed the executive session at 8:36 pm and entered into regular session to approve Superintendent Cerna's contract for one additional year. The Board unanimously approved Superintendent John M. Cerna's contract to be rolled over for one year from July 1, 2013, to June 30, 2014. Director Rogers made the motion to approve the Principal's Contract for the 2010-2011 school year only, and Director Macias seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

President Schutz adjourned the meeting at 9:06 p.m. with no further business.

John M. Cerna, Secretary to the Board

Rick Schutz, President