

Marysville School District

Board of Directors

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Meeting Information:

Monday, January 31, 2011

Service Center Board Room

5:30 pm – Work Study Session

7:00 pm – Joint Work Study with

Marysville City Council

Work Study Minutes

Work Study Session

Cindy Erickson, Board President, called the work study session to order at 5:32 pm. In attendance: Wendy Fryberg, Vice President, Directors Chris Nation, Darci Becker, and Dr. Tom Albright, Gail Miller, Assistant Superintendent, Ray Houser and Dr. Kyle Kinoshita, Executive Directors of Teaching and Learning, Jim Baker, Executive Director of Finance, Terry Brandon, Executive Director of Human Resources, Dr. Larry Nyland, Superintendent, and recorder, Jodi Runyon.

1. Mid-year Budget Discussion

5:30 pm

Dr. Nyland provided a PowerPoint presentation and report to the board regarding the mid-year budget reduction challenges faced by the district. Due to unprecedented action by the legislature the district has gone from \$1.4m ahead of budget on December 10th to \$2.4m below budget on December 17th. After making emergency reductions in travel, supplies, textbooks, substitutes, overtime and replacement hiring, the district still needs to make up as much as \$933,000 now, in the middle of this current year. He explained that the board will have an opportunity to review, discuss, and ask questions around the information presented and come to a possible recommendation for next steps and explained that the board will be asked to consider a range of alternatives that include classified RIFs, furloughs (unpaid days) for non-represented staff, and further reductions to the district unrestricted fund balance. A work sheet is provided to assist in that work. The board will do first reading of the budget reductions on February 7th, followed by board decision on February 15th or 22nd. The district will host a Town Meeting on February 10th.

Dr. Nyland and staff responded to budgetary questions raised by the board.

Director Nation shared his apprehension about dipping deeply into the reserve account. With the reassurances from Director Baker, he feels more secure about borrowing from the reserve with no RIFs.

Director Albright shared that he would like to borrow less from the reserve account (more like \$750k) and not to RIF unless that someone would be cut on September 1st and prefers to keep those cuts away from the classroom. Also, if adding furlough days adds more equity, then it is recommended to include those.

Director Erickson also shared that she does not want to RIF but also does not want to take the reserve down to bare bones. Leaning towards the same recommendation as Directors Albright and Nation.

Director Fryberg agrees that she also does not want to see RIFs mid-year. Would like to see the dollar amount for positions that would not be filled come September 1. Agrees that the furlough days be equitable as well. Leaning toward the reduction in the ending balance to get us through

the remainder of the year.

Director Becker agrees that we need to hold on to some funds for emergency use and that this is an appropriate time to do so. Concerned about the employees and their families and getting through this year.

Dr. Nyland restated the general consensus: Use reserve to forego RIFs mid-year, do not fill open positions, use furlough days equitably.

2. Superintendent Mid-year Evaluation process

6:20 pm

Dr. Nyland shared that planning is needed to review superintendent performance and decide whether to renew the superintendent's contract. The board will be asked about their availability for a work study session on February 15, 16, 17 to review mid-year progress on district goals, discuss superintendent contract renewal, and complete the mid-year evaluation process. President Erickson polled the board on their availability and it was determined that the 17th is the best date to hold the work study.

Prior to the break, the board heard 10 minutes of comment from the audience.

BREAK 6:40 – 7:00 pm

3. Joint Work Study Session with Marysville City Council

7:00 pm

Cindy Erickson, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. President Erickson asked each individual board member and council member to introduce themselves. In attendance: Marysville School Board: Cindy Erickson, President, Wendy Fryberg, Vice President, Directors Chris Nation, Dr. Tom Albright, Darci Becker, Dr. Larry Nyland, Superintendent, and recorder, Jodi Runyon.

City of Marysville: Jon Nehring, Mayor, and City Council members: Donna Wright, Jeffrey Vaughan, Carmen Rasmussen, John Soriano, Michael Stevens, and Jeff Seibert. Councilman Lee Phillips was absent.

Mayor Nehring provided an overview of various partnerships between the City and the School District including inter-local and facility use agreements for use of playing fields and school gyms, road and development projects such as the 83rd street walkway for MGHS, 47th Avenue – part of the safe roads projects, School Resource Officers (4 at middle and high school levels), he shared that the total number of incidents are down this year. Mayor Nehring also reported on the 156th Street overpass project that is underway and further shared that the project is community-funded utilizing no state dollars. The interchange will ease access to the developed areas on the west side of the freeway and open space for a future industrial park area. It will also leave an option for a full interchange in the future. Mayor Nehring shared that there hasn't been a lot of discussion around growth due to the slow economy. The Mayor also discussed the new Boys and Girls Club in Marysville and looks forward to a possible event that can get kids involved at the site and the City's Multicultural committee that has school district representation (Wendy Messarina and Lynda Robinson).

Council member Vaughn shared that the Graffiti Task Force work continues and incidents of gang tagging are down as compared to previous years.

Council member Rasmussen shared that she attended the ELL Family Night and enjoyed the event and that the materials presented were very helpful for families. She further shared that she was pleased with the community representation at the event.

Superintendent Nyland provided an overview / update on the ongoing work and partnerships with the City (attached). Dr. Nyland further shared that he appreciated all of the opportunities we have to work with the City to make Marysville a better place to live, work, and learn.

Dr. Nyland shared that he and the Mayor discussed the image of the community...perceptions...and reality.

Mayor Nehring shared that the community wants to know what is going on in the City and why. Last year the City underwent many similar budgetary reductions and faced tough decisions around the City's finances. He shared that he and the council tried to network with the community as much as possible and faced many difficult decisions along the way; much like the work that Dr. Nyland, the board, and the district staff have had to do.

Council member Rasmussen shared that the Healthy Communities partnership is a great way to jointly market our community and schools. She shared that she felt that getting the word about "Marysville is a great place to get an education" would be very beneficial – showcasing current and former students.

Council member Vaughn shared that the graffiti tagging around Marysville is not highly specific gang related. The Marysville Police do a good job of keeping track of the tagging around the City.

Mayor Nehring shared about the success of the high school SLCs and that they are important in the work of the high school education and are something Marysville has that others do not. Council member Stevens shared that more industries are becoming high tech and seeking self autonomous learners and are looking for these types of communities and environments in schools. He further shared that the Department of Commerce is also interested in learning more about the student opportunities afforded to students and commerce from the high school communities.

Dr. Nyland discussed other possible partnerships that the district and City could work on together such as district boundaries, racial conversations, and more. How do we come together for the betterment of the community?

Council member Soriano shared that he recently attended a multicultural fair in another City and it was a great way to bring people together and break down walls. Council member Rasmussen expressed the importance of "creating friendships" across race to further break down barriers.

Council member Stevens shared that diversity comes together in the schools. It would be nice to add an integrated level in schools around multicultural / diversity.

Director Fryberg shared that the Tribes used to offer multicultural days and provided food, dance, and song. Bringing these types of the events into the schools can help build these relationships.

Director Erickson suggested "cultural fairs" at the schools as opposed to concerts.

Director Becker shared the importance of networking families at each school. And that the district is working on volunteerism and helping parents feel welcome especially at the secondary levels.

Director Fryberg inquired about the possibility of having a joint calendar with the City so that people in the community could access it and see what is going on in the community on any given day.

Dr. Nyland asked the board and council members to do a go 'round and share comments.

Director Nation shared appreciation for the work with the City to fix the walking area for the high school students at Getchell.

Mayor Nehring reiterated the idea of a possible homework / study time at the Boys and Girls Club to help students with math and reading.

Council member Jeff Seibert shared his appreciation to come together.

Council member Stevens shared that professionally he is an architect and congratulated the district on the new construction in Marysville and the concept of the SLCs which he feels are going well.

Council member Wright shared that it is important to take what we discussed and learned at this meeting and build upon it.

Council member Rasmussen shared a thank you to Dr. Nyland and the board for the great work that is being done.

Council member Soriano shared his appreciation to meet together and look forward to future work.

Council member Vaughn shared that the City meets on a quarterly basis with the Tulalip Tribes and wondered if the board might be interested in small group meetings like that.

Director Becker thanked the council for the meeting opportunity and appreciates the support from the council. We appreciate hearing the City's ideas and what you have in store.

Director Fryberg thanked the Mayor and the council for the meeting. The Tulalip Boys and Girls Club could also be a possible resource for the Marysville location. Possibly high school students would be willing to volunteer to tutor students.

Superintendent Nyland shared appreciation to all in attendance for the opportunity to meet. Like the idea of possible ad hoc groups meeting more often. Our boundaries overlap by about 80% so this allows us to continue to work on our existing partnerships and creating new ones.

President Erickson thanked everyone for their attendance. How do we keep generations who grow up in Marysville wanting to return / stay and make this their home? This work together including building upon what has been established is helpful.

Director Albright shared that this has been a great learning experience and that he announced last week that he is retiring from his current job which should provide him the opportunity to become even more involved. He thanked everyone for tonight's opportunity.

Dr. Nyland asked staff from the City and district to introduce themselves to the board and council. Audience members and staff did a go 'round and introduced themselves.

President Erickson announced adjournment of the meeting at 8:35 pm.