

**Arlington Public Schools**  
*“Providing the means to accomplish dreams”*

<b>Supportive Information Sheet</b>
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**Subject: APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE MAY 4, 2009  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Action

**Page(s):** \_\_\_\_\_ Four (4), including cover \_\_\_\_\_

**Submitted by:** \_\_\_\_\_ Dr. Kristine McDuffy, Superintendent \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ May 11, 2009 \_\_\_\_\_

**Background Information:**

The Arlington Public Schools Board of Directors held a special public meeting on Monday, May 4, 2009 in the Administrative Building Board Room at 315 N. French Ave, Arlington, WA 98223.

**Administrative Consideration:**

The minutes of the May 4, 2009 special meeting are being submitted for approval at this time.

**Superintendent’s Recommendation:**

That the Board approves the May 4, 2009 special meeting minutes.

**Arlington Public Schools**  
**Board of Directors**  
**Special Meeting Minutes**  
Monday, May 4, 2009

## **BUSINESS MEETING**

President Kay Duskin called the Special Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of Arlington School District No. 16 to order at 5:33 pm in the Administration Building Board Room. Also present were Directors Jeff Huleatt, Jim Weiss, and Carolyn Erickson, and Student Advisors Nikita Doggett and Andy Smith. Director Bob McClure was absent and excused.

The flag salute was given.

## **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The Executive Session was stricken from the agenda. Director Erickson moved to approve the agenda as amended. Director Weiss seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

## **COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE**

**Robin Foster**, Post Middle School teacher, spoke in support of reducing or eliminating programs to save teachers.

**James Brooke**, Arlington High School teacher and Traffic Safety Coordinator, spoke in support of the Traffic Safety Education Program.

**Robert Brown**, Arlington High School Agriculture teacher, spoke in support of the Agriculture program.

**Pam Moser**, Presidents Elementary Music teacher, spoke in support of the elementary music program.

**Judy Fay**, Pioneer Elementary teacher, spoke in support of keeping class size down.

**Ruth Milner**, parent, spoke in support of preserving jobs, keeping the arts, maintaining low class sizes, and keeping all AP classes.

**Stephanie Simone**, Post Middle School teacher, spoke in support of keeping teachers.

**Rachel Harrington**, Eagle Creek Elementary teacher, spoke in support of keeping teachers.

**Todd McLaughlin**, Trafton Elementary teacher, spoke in support of keeping teachers and maintaining class size.

**Deb Hubenthal**, Pioneer Elementary teacher, spoke in support of keeping teachers. She commented that she believes the union and the community would be willing to share the sacrifice.

**Eric Grant**, Haller Middle School teacher and AEA President, spoke in support of keeping teachers, cutting the JROTC program, closing Trafton, and requiring administrators to take a 10% pay cut.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **School Board Members**

**Director Erickson** has fielded a number of phone calls. She also contacted all of the school districts in Snohomish County to find out what they are doing in regard to reducing staff. She was surprised to find out that Index lays off their entire staff every year and hires back as needed (very small district).

**Director Huleatt** commented that the Board has to keep the vision of the "Ideal" graduate and the big picture in mind in making these tough decisions. Reducing the drop-out rate is an important goal, and there is value in programs that keep kids in school. Although it's

necessary to reduce the scope of the programs, it's also important to protect the entire environment. He doesn't feel good about having to let any teachers go.

**Director Weiss** thanked everyone for their input, and noted that the District is still working. These are tough times for a lot of businesses.

**President Duskin** thanked everyone for the input. She noted that this is a process, and that, even though the Board is voting on reductions tonight, work will continue on budget through the summer, and she hopes to be able to hire back teachers in the fall.

**Student Advisor Doggett** bought a car today.

**Student Advisor Smith** took the SAT this weekend.

**Superintendent McDuffy** noted that these eight months have been the toughest in her career. She shared a pie chart showing the breakdown of the district budget – 85% salaries & benefits, 15% non-employee related costs, and the percentage represented by each employee group. She explained that, although the District continues to look for potential reductions in all areas, reductions in staff can't be avoided when faced with these circumstances. She shared information about current class sizes and best estimates of average class sizes for next year. She also shared the list of program reductions to date. She noted that she will be hosting three opportunities for questions and answers; May 18 at 7:00 pm, May 19 at 8:00 am, and May 22 at 1:00 pm.

### **IDENTIFICATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

From the agenda, the Board identified the following items for discussion and action:

3. Policy Revisions – Second Reading and Adoption (9 Policies)
  - Policy 3122 – Students – Excused and Unexcused Absences - Amended
  - Policy 3200 – Students – Student Rights and Responsibilities - Amended
  - Policy 3205 – Students – Safety in Schools - New
  - Policy 3230 – Students – Student Privacy and Searches – Amended & Combined
  - Policy 3231 – Students – Searches of Students/Property – Deleted
  - Policy 3232 – Students – Locker Searches – Deleted
  - Policy 3440 – Students – Removal of Students/School Hours - Deleted
  - Policy 3441 – Students – Removal/Release of Student During School Hours – Amended, Combined & Renumbered to 3124
  - Policy 4129 – Community Relations – Family Involvement – New

The remaining items, comprising the consent agenda, were:

1. Board Work Session Minutes – April 24, 2009
2. Meeting Minutes – April 27, 2009
4. Certificated Staff Contracts 2009-2010
5. Certificated Reductions in Force
6. Program Reductions

Director Huleatt moved to approve the consent agenda as amended. Director Weiss seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

### **BOARD ACTION**

#### **Policy Revisions – Second Reading and Adoption (9 Policies)**

Director Weiss suggested Item #3 be tabled until all Board members can be present. Director Erickson moved to table Item #3 until the May 11 Board Meeting. Director Huleatt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next regular business meeting of the Arlington School District Board of Directors is scheduled for Monday, May 11, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the District Administration Building Board Room, 315 N French Avenue, Arlington. A Study Session will precede the meeting at 5:45 pm in the same location.

**ADJOURN**

With no further business to come before the Board, Director Erickson moved and Director Weiss seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned at 6:22 pm.

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Kay Duskin, President  
Board of Directors

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Dr. E. Kristine McDuffy, Superintendent  
Secretary to the Board

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