

Arlington Public Schools
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 13, 2009

STUDY SESSION

President Kay Duskin called the Study Session to order at 5:45 pm in the Administration Building Board Room. Also present were Directors Jeff Huleatt, Jim Weiss, Bob McClure and Carolyn Erickson, and Student Advisor Andy Smith.

Overpass/Hwy 9

Fred Owyen, Consultant for Arlington Public Schools, and Jim Kelly, Public Works Director for the City of Arlington, shared information and answered questions about the status of the overpass project and proposed alternative improvements. Since the overpass was initially proposed, a number of factors have changed: the estimated cost of construction has increased dramatically; the District has been unable to purchase a critical piece of property; permitting requirements have increased; and questions have risen about convenience and safety in the designated location. It has also come to light that the District would own the overpass, and would therefore be responsible for maintaining it.

Federal funds earmarked for the project will expire in September 2009. District administrators and City representatives are recommending pursuing alternate improvements in that area and not installing an overpass at this time. Due to the time constraints, the City has requested re-allocation of the Federal funds. A letter from the District, supporting the request, is needed.

There was discussion and Board members indicated their support of an alternate plan in lieu of the overpass, however, Director McClure expressed the need to clearly document the reasons for the change in direction.

Baseball/Softball Proposal

Erik Heinz, AHS Teacher and Baseball Coach, shared information about a proposal to sell ad space on the outfield fence. There was discussion and the Board members indicated their support, but asked that the District research policies, procedures, and experiences of other districts that sell ad space.

Community members, Mike Wendland and Tom McKenzie, outlined a proposal for soliciting donations from the community and installing a batting cage at the high school. There was discussion and Sid Logan, Executive Director of Operations, agreed upon request from the Board, to work with the community members in further investigating the project.

Policy Revisions

Time did not allow for review of proposed policy revisions scheduled for discussion, so they will be rescheduled to another Study Session.

The Study Session was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

BUSINESS MEETING

President Kay Duskin called the regularly scheduled Business Meeting of the Board of Directors of Arlington School District No. 16 to order at 7:00 pm in the Administration Building Board Room. Also present were Directors Jeff Huleatt, Jim Weiss, Bob McClure and Carolyn Erickson, and Student Advisor Andy Smith.

The flag salute was given.

President Duskin recognized in the audience, Claire Logan, new student Board member, and Ursula Ghirardo, community member, running unopposed for the Arlington School Board Director position being vacated by Carolyn Erickson.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Additional information was provided for Items #7 and #8, and a correction was made to the cover sheet for item #10. Director Erickson moved to approve the agenda as presented. Director Huleatt seconded the motion, which passed with a unanimous vote.

PRESENTATIONS

Emergency Management Report

Chris Badger, Emergency Management Coordinator, reported on the emergency management efforts that have been going on in the District and in the community. She showed items purchased with the grant money, including escape ladders, search and rescue backpacks, and triage backpacks. Ms. Badger also spoke about the training sessions, emergency drills, Red Cross disaster plans, and the Comprehensive Safe Schools Plan Notebooks and Incident Command Planning Charts that will be located at each building in the District.

The Board and Superintendent thanked Ms. Badger for all of the hard work she and Alan Boatman have put into getting the District more prepared for an emergency.

District/School Improvement

Diane Kirchner Scott, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, provided information about School and District Improvement planning. She also shared about the goals and direction of the Teaching and Learning Department. Ms. Kirchner Scott discussed the District's focus on mathematics and outlined a plan to pilot the use of Holt materials, providing Algebra I in 8th and 9th grades.

Dr. McDuffy introduced our new Arlington Police Chief, Robert Sullenberger. Chief Sullenberger shared a bit about his 29-year law enforcement career. He noted that he is a strong supporter of the School Resource Officer program, and is committed to providing an SRO, regardless of the District's financial inability to contract for the service this year.

PUBLIC HEARING

At 8:21 pm, President Duskin recessed the regular board meeting and opened the public hearing portion of the meeting to hear public comment on the *2009-2010 Budget*. Deb Borgens, Executive Director of Financial Services, provided a briefing about the 2009-2010 Budget. Ms. Borgens shared that the last several months have been very difficult, but she feels a workable budget has been reached, and that it provides for the academic goals Ms. Kirchner Scott spoke about. There was discussion. The final budget will be presented for Board approval at the August 10, 2009 meeting.

After the Board members' questions were answered, President Duskin called for comments from the public. There were none. After calling twice more for questions or comments and hearing none, President Duskin closed the public hearing.

The regular business meeting was reconvened at 8:58 pm.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE

James Brooke, AHS Teacher and Traffic Safety Coordinator, provided the handout that was sent to the Board recently, and shared his proposal for making the Traffic Safety Program cost-neutral. He added a request for the ability to add a fuel surcharge if gas prices go up dramatically again. He then addressed questions from the Board members.

Sarah Cofer spoke on behalf of the RESPECT program. She had also provided a handout to the Board a couple weeks prior, and is recommending a 60% cut to the program for next year, rather than the proposed 85%. She noted that all 10 schools are served and that the number of students who feel safe at school has increased, which she feels is due to the program.

DISCUSSION

School Board Members

Director McClure shared an article in USA Today about a teachers' academy in New Jersey, with a focus in Math & Science.

Director Huleatt commented that traffic departing from graduation seemed to be smoother this year with help from the Arlington Police Department. He wanted to express his thanks and encouraged continued support.

President Duskin attended Hoop Fest in Spokane and saw a lot of Arlington faces – great event! She worked at the Relay for Life booth at the Arlington Street Fair, and noted that Arlington will have a Relay for Life event next year.

Student Advisor Smith recently attended Leadership Camp and Hoop Fest. He will be starting Football season soon.

Superintendent McDuffy shared that it has been a good closing to a very difficult year. The District has been able to recall some staff and Dr. McDuffy hopes we'll be able to bring back more. She shared that there is a sense of hope and a new beginning amongst the staff.

IDENTIFICATION OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

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

2. Overnight Field Trip – AHS FFA to Othello, WA, Sept. 17-18, 2009
3. Overnight Field Trip – AHS FFA to Puyallup, WA, Sept. 18-22, 2009
9. 2009-2010 Student Fees and Charges
12. Contracts and Personal Service Agreements

The remaining items, comprising the consent agenda, were:

1. Meeting Minutes – June 8, 2009
4. Highly Capable Grant Application
5. Policy Revision – First Reading (1 Policy)
 - *Policy 2410 – Instruction – High School Graduation Requirements– Amended*
6. Policy Revisions – Second Reading and Adoption (2 Policies)
 - *Policy 3141 – Student – Non-Resident Students – Amended*
 - *Policy 3420 – Student – Anaphylaxis Prevention - New*
7. 2009-2010 Certificated Staffing Amendment
8. 2009-2010 Classified Staffing Amendment
10. Inter-Local Agreement with NW ESD 189 for Classroom-Based Assessments Cooperative
11. Inter-Local Agreement with NW ESD 189 for Northwest Regional Data Center (NWRDC)
13. Payroll Report – June 2009
14. Personnel Report
15. Budget Report
16. Vouchers and Warrants
 - *June 23, 2009 Check numbers 46554 through 46775 in the total amount of \$625,481.09*

- July 7, 2009 Check numbers 46776 through 46865 in the total amount of \$178,560.74
17. Adjusted Warrants
- June 4, 2009 Gen – Payroll Warrant #700002732 in the amount of \$258.15
Duplicate Warrant – Check Lost in Mail
 - June 18, 2009 Gen – Payroll Warrant #7000026 in the amount of \$229.57
Duplicate Warrant – Never Received in Mail.

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

BOARD ACTION

Overnight Field Trips for AHS FFA to Othello, WA and Puyallup, WA

Tracy Brown, AHS FFA Advisor, shared information about both FFA proposed trips. Director Erickson moved to approve the overnight field trip for FFA to Othello, WA and the overnight field trip for FFA to Puyallup, WA. Director Weiss seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

2009-2010 Student Fees and Charges

Director Weiss noted that Cheer Uniforms were on the old price list and not on new. They may be fund-raising next year to pay for the uniforms – if they do, the uniforms will belong to the school. There was also a question about the Library Print Fee (.10 for copies over 100). The District will clarify both of these. Director Weiss moved to approve the 2009-2010 Student Fees and Charges list as submitted. Director Erickson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Contracts and Personal Service Agreements

President Duskin is concerned about approving copier agreements for any longer than a year, as the District would like to consolidate agreements and reduce the number of copiers. There was discussion about the fact that current agreements are in varying stages of their contracts and that it will take some time to look into the copier needs around the District, where savings can be obtained, and how best to work towards reduction. Shorter contracts would be much more expensive, and buying out contracts would be cost-prohibitive for the District at this time. The Board members would like more information prior to approving this agreement. Director Weiss moved to modify item #12 to remove the Xerox Copier agreement and approve the remaining contracts. Director Huleatt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular business meeting of the Arlington School District Board of Directors is scheduled for Monday, August 10, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the District Administration Building Board Room, 315 N French Avenue, Arlington. A Study Session is tentatively scheduled to precede the meeting at 5:45 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Kay Duskin recessed the regular Business Meeting at 9:43 pm, stating that, following a short break, the Board would be convening in an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing with legal counsel, litigation to which the district is a party. She stated that the estimated time for the Executive Session would be 45 minutes and that no action would be taken. She further stated that, following the Executive Session, the regular meeting would be reconvened for the sole purpose of adjournment. The Executive Session convened at 9:58 pm. The Executive Session was adjourned at 10:44 pm.

ADJOURN

President Duskin reconvened the regular Business Meeting at 10:45 pm. With no further business to come before the Board, Director Erickson moved and Director Huleatt seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion was approved with a unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned at 10:46 pm.

Kay Duskin, President
Board of Directors

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