

**MINUTES
of the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors
of the ENUMCLAW SCHOOL DISTRICT #216
6:30 p.m.
December 4, 2017**

I – PRELIMINARY

A. Call to Order:

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by Bryan Stanwood, Vice President of the Board of Directors, at 6:31 p.m. at Thunder Mountain Middle School.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Stanwood led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

C. Roll Call:

All board members were present except Mrs. Schroeder, who was excused. Student representatives Peyton Brucher and Foster Barnhart were also excused.

II – WORK BOARD STUDY SESSION

A. Resolution 1066 - Indigenous People's Day: Presentation to the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe:

Mr. Nelson welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained his honor of being able to take time to celebrate the passing of Resolution 1066: Indigenous People's Day, with members of the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, Enumclaw School District Cultural Program and students from indigenous backgrounds. Mr. Nelson explained something he has learned during his partnership with the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, which is the importance of honoring the land on which we host an event. He added that he and the board would also like to honor the history of the people who first inhabited the land. Mr. Nelson extended gratitude to the late Sharon Calvert, who played a major role in distinguishing the partnership between the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and the Enumclaw School District, as well as Bob Charlo, Cathy Calvert, Kapiolani Laronal and Sui-Lan Hu'okono who have played significant roles in developing Cultural Programs for Enumclaw School District students. The board of directors has spent much time having courageous conversations and working to becoming a system where equity is at the forefront of thinking as a school system for our students. The board and leadership team has gone through extensive training in equity. Mr. Nelson explained that at the last board retreat in April of 2017, the board made the decision to insert the word "equity" into the mission statement for the Enumclaw School District, recognizing that "equity" is much more than just a word, and action would be needed to properly move forward. He added that he hopes that this resolution will act as a part of the action which will make the mission statement come to life for the school system, and ripple into the community.

Mr. Stanwood then introduced a member of the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, Mr. Will Bill Jr., to lead both a ceremonial song and a song to honor the land. Will Bill Jr. extended his gratitude to

the board for their efforts and continued partnership and growth before leading other members of the tribe in song.

Following the ceremonial songs, Mr. Stanwood presented Cathy Calvert with a framed resolution.

Cathy Calvert asked for a moment to say a few words. Dr. Calvert gave a brief history of the land, the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, the first settlers, the first schools, and the beginning and current partnerships between the Enumclaw School District and the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe. She explained that the relationship between Muckleshoot and Enumclaw School District has been in place for 130 years. She thanked Sharon Calvert, Terry Parker, and Bob Charlo for being influencers of the Cultural Program within the Enumclaw School District and providing an equitable opportunity for education for all students. She then thanked the board for their work with passing the resolution.

Mr. Stanwood then welcomed students Lucas Daniels and Johanna Johnson who presented the board and the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe with Ho'okupu. Cultural Program Manager, Sui-Lan Ho'Okano, explained that Ho'okupu are gifts native to Hawaii and are a way to pay homage to all of those who have come before us and after us, as well as respecting those who helped to make this wonderful moment occur. She thanked the board for being a part of collectively making sure that all of our children are successful. She stated that there are no small steps, just steps that move us forward.

Mr. Stanwood called for a short recess to participate in a ceremonial meal with the members of the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and the cultural program manager and students.

Mr. Stanwood called the meeting back to order at 7:22 p.m.

B. Thunder Mountain Middle School Presentation

Principal Steve Stoker was introduced.

Mr. Stoker thanked the board and passed out a few handouts relating to his presentation. He began by sharing his message to the staff in August. In August, he explained to his staff that the focus for this school year would be on two things: the art and the science of teaching. For the science of teaching, the focus would be on differentiation, while the art of teaching would focus on building capacity through belief. Mr. Stoker placed emphasis on building capacity through belief by adding: if someone does not see worth in what they are doing, or the “why” to what they are doing, that person will not put in their best effort. If the person feels you do not believe in them they will not try their best.

Mr. Stoker then went on to referenced John Hattie, who reviews strategies of how kids learn. According to Hattie's system, a grade of a .4 or above means the strategy is working well. Hattie's system explains that the strategy of a teacher believing students will succeed, receives a score of 1.62 on his scale of success. This means that without any instruction, the strategy of believing in students can be largely successful for student achievement. Mr. Stoker added that collective teacher efficacy, or, students who believe that the teacher believes the students will be successful, is another extremely powerful component for positive learning outcomes.

The Thunder Mountain School Improvement Plan (SIP) was then broken down by Mr. Stoker. He began with the instructional component, giving an overview of test scores for the middle school. He explained that there are areas for improvement, and that subgroup data is where he found areas to place focus for growth. Mr. Stoker celebrated the successes of the special education students showing improvement in test scores over the last two years. He noted that the challenges are will the ELL students and the Spanish/Latino students. Moving on to literacy, Mr. Stoker detailed that the goals for Thunder Mountain would be to have all grade levels with 60% of the students passing the state exam, with the ELL students having a passing rate of at least 25%. For math, the goal would be 50% passing, with ELL students at 15%. For science, Mr. Stoker has asked his teachers to create lesson plans and work similar to what the students would face during the state science exam, so that the students would be better prepared to be successful.

For the tiered system portion of the SIP, Mr. Stoker placed focus on three areas: behavior, attendance and academics. He explained that there is a living document to capture student needs and track for areas of support and intervention. Each profile of a student concern matches up with a profile for an intervention strategy. Mr. Stoker hopes that this will help to create a fluid cycle of capture and intervention.

Moving on to the whole child component, Mr. Stoker introduced four of his students who are a part of the Safe School Ambassadors program that has been implemented within Thunder Mountain Middle School. The Safe School Ambassadors are students who are trained to recognize five types of mistreatment within their student body. The students explained that the program is in place to help reduce negative behaviors, exclusion, bullying, vandalism, etc. The Safe School Ambassadors are trained in intervention strategies to help reduce the need for administrative involvement and increase classroom time on task. Veteran Safe School Ambassadors have been through 21 hours of training and have served for two consecutive years. The students hold regular meetings to discuss any issues and come up with constructive resolutions. The students believe these strategies and the involvement in the program have taught them to be more aware of their social surroundings while learning how to diffuse any negative situations. One student felt more confident in standing up for others and another student was proud to say he felt better knowing that he was able to help other students feel safe.

The board was able to ask the students questions about their program and thanked the students for presenting and being a part of making the school a safer place for all students.

Associate Administrator, Chad Davidson, added that there are roughly 32 students in the Safe School Ambassadors Program. The students are typically broken into teams of four, and each team has a teacher who is involved for support. If the students are not comfortable intervening in a certain situation, they can consult the designated teacher, or, they can anonymously write the issue on a piece of paper and place it in the designated box in the office, for Mr. Stoker or Mr. Davidson to investigate.

Mr. Stoker thanked the students for their part in the presentation. He then went on to show the board the success of Thunder Mountain Middle School in the area of discipline at this point in the school year. Mr. Stoker was proud to report that as of December 4th, there were zero incidents of physical aggression or fighting at the school.

Mr. Stoker also explained that he has implemented several student groups to aid in positive student cultural and success. The Titan Advisory Committee, which is a group of students who volunteer to meet with Mr. Stoker, periodically, to discuss the culture of the school. They discuss conferences, hallways, policies and procedures, and more. This gives Mr. Stoker the chance to fully understand if the students feel safe at school, and if they are comfortable reaching out to adults. It also gives him information for areas needing growth or extra attention.

Another student group, the La Chispa Leadership Group, is dedicated to Hispanic students and lead by cultural program staff member, Jennifer Leatham. The group comes together to set goals around academics and citizenship. They have also attended a conference and are working on implementing some strategies learned for student success.

The Positively Charged Titans group is assisted by staff member Kamele Kimball and helps with the production of student assemblies and other cultural promotions.

To end his presentation, Mr. Stoker presented the board with a specific student success story. Mr. Stoker explained that data is not just numbers, that data also has a face. He showed a picture of a student who was historically challenging. The student did not see the worth in putting forth effort in school. Mr. Stoker intervened and developed a relationship with the student. He told the student that he used to be a science teacher and he believed the student could be successful in science if he tried his best. He asked the student to give best effort in the upcoming science MSP testing and the student agreed. Mr. Stoker was proud to report that the student passed! Not only did the student pass, but the student is now doing well in his classes at the high school. Mr. Stoker used this example to support his ideas that connecting with students, believing in students, and showing the worth in putting forth effort will create positive outcomes.

The board was able to ask questions and thank Mr. Stoker for his presentation.

C. WSSDA Conference Debrief

The board debriefed the WSSDA Conference from mid-November. Mrs. McGann shared some handouts that highlighted areas that she felt were interesting, including an example of a board calendar used by another district. Mr. Nelson shared information related to HB2242 and the upcoming levy language. As of December 4th, King County decided that the word “enrichment” did not need to be included in the levy title. The board agreed to remove the word moving forward. Mrs. Merrill added that she would be sending an email detailing the points she felt were interesting. The board discussed relationships with the schools foundation as well as city leaders and ways to continue to grow those relationships and fill gaps to ensure better student support and community engagement.

Mr. Beals, Deputy Superintendent, was invited to provide a quick presentation regarding attendance using the Homeroom Data System which is new to the district. The program allows for targeting specific groups to monitor growth. He shared attendance statistic trends over the last three years. As of this point in the school year, the Enumclaw School District is on track to have fewer absences than last year in each and every school.

Mr. Nelson ended with an invite to the State of Ed Address on January 18, 2018. The theme will be “The Tonight Show.”

III – EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Stanwood asked Mr. Nelson if an executive session was necessary. No executive session was necessary.

IV — BOARD PROCESS DEBRIEF

The board debriefed the meeting.

V — ADJOURNMENT

This meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

President, Board of Directors

Secretary, Board of Directors