

## **Board Mtg. BURLINGTON-EDISON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 100 Feb. 27, 2012**

The Board of Directors of Burlington-Edison School District No. 100 met on Feb. 27, 2012 in the Board Room of the Administration Office at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present: President, Bill Wallace; Vice-President, Roger Howard; Members, Bradley Whaley, Rich Wesen, and David Lowell

Staff Members Present: Laurel Browning, Superintendent; Dr. Jeff Drayer, Assistant Superintendent; K.C. Knudson, Director of Teaching and Learning; Joe Stewart, Finance Director; and Vicki Kelley, Deputy Board Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

At approximately 7:00 p.m., the regular meeting was called to order by President Wallace.

PLEDGE OF  
ALLEGIANCE

This month the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Superintendent Browning.

President Wallace opened the floor to any members of the audience who wished to address the Board. The following addressed the Board:

AUDIENCE  
PARTICIPATION

### **Renee Roozekrans**

1217 Jacqueline Drive  
Burlington, WA 98233

She is the treasurer of the high school parent group. Ms. Roozekrans stated that on behalf of the parent group, they request that the high school graduation date be June 8, 2012 and have other means to make up snow days for our seniors. If it is scheduled for June 8, the parent group will keep their venues they reserved rather than suffer financial penalties. Many family members are coming here for graduation and parents have paid for announcements in full. Since the community supported the school bond and levies, Ms. Roozenkrans asked that as a gesture of good faith, the Board approve June 8 as the high school graduation date so seniors can celebrate in a drug-free, alcohol-free environment.

### **Kelly Moss**

1735 E. Fairhaven Ave.  
Burlington, WA 98233

She has family members coming in and recommended June 8 as the date and having the seniors come back a couple of days after graduation.

### **Shelly Whan**

13309 Bridgeview Way  
Mount Vernon, WA 98274

She met with Mrs. Browning earlier to get correct information for parents. She said their only request was to come up with some creative thinking on how to do it. Ms. Whan said that Mount Vernon for the second year in a row has kept their original date and required seniors to come back after graduation for a few days to make it up. She stated, "We are asking if there is a legal way and creative way to schedule June 8 as the date."

**Rock White**

700 S. Anacortes St.  
Burlington, WA 98233

Mr. White is a retired high school principal, and this happened twice during his 25-year tenure. Both times a parent group worked with students to come up with a community service project. They worked in parks and around town, and it turned out fine.

**Jeff Frizzell**

20194 Hillvue Street  
Burlington, WA 98233

He stated, "A lot of this is financial for parents and students. They have purchased their pre-grad trip, and it is so hard to cancel. They will lose money."

**Bill Wallace**

**Board President**

"Thank you for coming to share your concerns and ideas with us, so we better understand the situation you are in. You asked that we not change the graduation date; actually, the date has not been set. It is always set by the Board in March or April. We don't know if we will have more snow days that could impact us. The Board needs to consider and balance a couple of things: 1) There is a state requirement of 180 school days for students, except for seniors, there is a 175 day requirement, and it is not negotiable; 2) after receiving e-mails from parents as well as your comments tonight, we need to consider financial impacts to families; 3) we need to consider the impact of education on all high school students. Seniors, juniors, sophomores, freshmen, and staff will be impacted; and 4) we need to consider any impacts on the district's General Fund. We need to consider all these issues, and we will work hard to make this decision.

After board comments, we will discuss grad night. We have asked Superintendent Browning to share information we need to hear. We have scheduled a special board meeting open to the public at 7:45 a.m. tomorrow so the Board can digest this overnight."

Mr. Whaley moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 23, 2012. Mr. Wesen seconded; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES

Mr. Wesen moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Mr. Whaley seconded, and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF  
CONSENT  
CALENDAR

Items approved on the consent calendar are as follows:

Approval was granted for payment of warrants subject to review by the Board member designated by the Board President at the end of month. Items covered are the February 2012: General Fund Warrant Nos. 312933 through 313056; 313058 through 313231; 313263 through 313263; and 313266 through 313266; Capital Projects Fund Warrant Nos. 313265 through 313265; and Associated Student Body Fund Warrant Nos. 313057 through 313057; 313232 through 313262; and 313264 through 313264.

APPROVAL OF  
WARRANTS

The attached appointments, resignations, and leaves of absence were approved/accepted.

PERSONNEL

The Board approved the following travel items:

APPROVAL  
OF TRAVEL  
ITEMS

- The travel of Lucille Umbarger Elementary Assistant Principal, Kim Welling, to Tampa, Florida on March 7-11, 2012 to attend the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) "Breaking Ranks K-12" Conference. Costs for the trip will be paid by the administrative professional development contract.
- The travel of B-EHS staff member, Steve Clark, and one-five students to the University of Puget Sound to participate in the State Speech (Individual Events) Tournament on March 9-10, 2012. Costs for the trip will be paid by the debate budget; travel will be via school van.
- The travel of B-EHS staff member, Steve Clark, and two-four students to Gonzaga University to participate in the State Debate Tournament on March 15-17, 2012. Costs for the trip will be paid by the debate budget; travel will be via school van.
- The travel of B-EHS staff member, Elizabeth Lathrop, 1 chaperone, and 10-15 students to Central Washington University in Ellensburg, WA on March 15-17, 2012 to compete in the State Thespian Convention. Costs for the trip will be paid by the ASB/Drama budget and the students. Travel will be via school bus.
- The travel of B-EHS staff members, Clark Colby and Ryan Wallace, 2 chaperones, and 40 students to Columbia Basin College in Pasco, WA on April 13-14, 2012 to perform at the Jazz Unlimited Festival. Costs for the trip will be paid by parents, boosters, and fund-raising; travel will be via coach bus (Triangle Charters).
- The travel of B-EHS staff member, Greg Knutzen, and five students to Pullman, WA on April 19-21, 2012 to participate in the Varsity Girls' Golf Invitational Tournament. Costs for the trip will be paid by the ASB budget, the students, and fund-raisers. Travel will be via school van.
- The travel of Greg Knutzen and five students to Cle Elum, WA on April 23-24, 2012 to participate in the Girls' Varsity Invitational Golf Tournament. Costs for the trip will be paid by the ASB budget, the students, and fund-raisers. Travel will be via school van.
- The travel of B-EHS Assistant Principal, Todd Setterlund, to Philadelphia, PA on March 23-27, 2012 to attend the 2012 Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) Annual Conference. Costs for the trip will be paid by his professional development monies.
- The travel of traffic safety instructor, Arnie Robinette, along with Dan Constanti, Dan Peterson, Mary Lynch, Deb Grenier, and Garry Swartz to Portland, Oregon on March 2-4, 2012 to attend the Pacific Northwest Traffic Safety Education Conference. Costs for the trip will be paid by the TSE budget; travel will be via privately owned vehicle.

The Board accepted the following donations:

ACCEPTANCE OF  
DONATIONS

- A donation to the B-EHS softball program from the Ginny Sloan Memorial Fund in the amount of \$1700. The donation will be used to purchase a “Welcome to Tiger Field” sign and championship signs for the softball field.
- A donation in the amount of \$3,149.35 from the Edison Booster Club to Edison Elementary. The donation will be used to purchase a wireless headset/audio system for the gym and music room.

The Board approved an interlocal cooperative agreement between the Burlington-Edison School District and the Concrete School District. The purpose of this agreement shall be that B-ESD shall provide development and access to the SOAR database for the Concrete School District. This includes setup and training. Also included are enhancements as they occur to the system. The total period of the contract shall be one year.

APPROVAL OF  
AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN B-ESD  
& CONCRETE  
SCHOOL  
DISTRICT

Alpine Fire and Safety and the Lions Club of Burlington were recognized for their contributions to our district and students. B-ESD nurse, Becky Neff, presented them with certificates of appreciation. Mrs. Neff stated that by working with Alpine Fire and Safety, the district now has nine defibrillators that the company provided to us at a discount. She has been working with the Burlington Lions Club for 12 years. The district refers students to the Lions Club who need help with the purchase of their glasses. Rock White, a member of the club, thanked Mrs. Neff for the certificate of appreciation. He said that the Lions Club will have a health screening van that will screen kids for sight and hearing.

RECOGNITION  
OF LIONS CLUB  
& ALPINE FIRE &  
SAFETY

President Wallace and Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Jeff Drayer, thanked Mrs. Neff for all she does for the district.

ACKNOWLEDGE-  
MENT OF  
AUDIENCE  
MEMBERS

Mr. Wallace acknowledged former board members Mike Dynes and Marty Lopez who were in the audience.

The following teachers were recognized for obtaining their National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) certification:

RECOGNITION  
OF NATIONAL  
BOARD  
CERTIFICATION

Kathy Becker  
Sonia Bell  
Becky Donnino  
Jackie Ford  
Karla Lechner  
Jeremy Voight  
Ryan Wallace  
Molly Westring

Dr. Drayer thanked Jenny Hill who is the cohort facilitator. Mr. Wallace on behalf of the Board congratulated all staff on this achievement. He said it is great for kids to have teachers and staff who have gone through this program. He introduced Ryan Wallace, who is acknowledged this evening for obtaining his certification. Ryan explained the process of obtaining NBPTS certification. President Wallace thanked Ryan and congratulated all the recipients.

President Wallace asked the Board if they had any comments. Mr. Lowell congratulated the NBPTS certification recipients and said their commitment to excellence is appreciated. He also thanked the community and schools on the fine levy results.

Mr. Wesen said that obtaining NBPTS certification really shows professional development is really important and that it is great the district is working with everybody for accomplishing this. He thanked school district nurse, Becky Neff, for her work in getting defibrillators for the district and the work she has been doing with the Lions Club on sight and hearing screening. Mr. Wesen said it was great the levy passed and thanked Superintendent Browning and the people who helped make it pass. He congratulated Bay View Elementary for receiving the Washington Achievement Award. He also attended a play at Edison Elementary that turned out well and said that school is getting ready for their annual carnival on March 10. Mr. Wesen enjoyed the high school play and said it was fun and not to miss it. He attended science night put on by grade school students at the high school. He thought it was a good experience for the younger kids, and the teachers were excited about it. Mr. Wesen acknowledged the girls' basketball team as they are still winning.

Mr. Whaley stated that West View Elementary preschoolers came to his café and helped him make toast recently. The café is displaying art from the high school art department the entire month of April. There will be an artists' reception and invitations will go out to the Board. You can meet the artists and actually buy their artwork. The funds will be used to pay for a field trip to Seattle. Mr. Whaley also thanked the voters of B-ESD for passing the levy; he said we will not levy more than we need.

Mr. Howard congratulated the NBPTS certification recipients and said he appreciated the explanation of the process from Ryan Wallace. He thanked senior parents for sharing their comments and e-mails about the high school graduation date and said he thinks it is important to commend our community for continuing to support our students. Mr. Howard thanked district staff and Mrs. Browning for determining the value of the levy. A lot of thought was put into it. He said it is great that the community continues to support our schools and it is rewarding to be on a Board in a community that shows their support. Mr. Howard stated the girls' basketball team has been a joy to watch, and he is impressed with their camaraderie. He thanked nurse, Becky Neff, for all her work. He also acknowledged former board members, Mike Dynes and Marty Lopez, who were in the audience. He stated he is proud of their work when they served on the school board.

Mr. Wallace thanked voters for passing the levy in these tough economic times. He said they understand the importance of education and that it makes us feel good that we have a community behind the whole program. He congratulated Bay View School for receiving the Washington Achievement Award and stated the school is in the top five percent of performing schools in the state. The district and Bay View Elementary School is to be commended. Mr. Wallace acknowledged the donations this month from the Ginny Memorial Fund in the amount of \$1700 and the Edison Booster Club in the amount of \$3100 and said he appreciates the support from a variety of organizations. He congratulated the girls' basketball team for winning both the conference and district championships and the first regional game of the state playoffs. Mr. Wallace and Mrs. Browning attended the WASA/WSSDA Legislative Conference in Olympia the end of January and met with legislators. Mr. Wallace said the main message was the McCleary decision that says the Legislature has not adequately funded basic education and directed the Legislature and State that adequately funding basic education is a high priority. Therefore cuts to education won't be as significant. They met with most of the legislators from the two districts that cover our school district.

Discussion followed regarding the graduation date for the B-EHS Class of 2012. Superintendent Browning visited with board members and high school administration, read e-mails, and also met with two parents on the subject. She said there is no right or wrong on this. Superintendent Browning stated, "We are looking for the most educationally sound decision."

DISCUSSION/  
HIGH SCHOOL  
GRADUATION  
DATE

Mrs. Browning reviewed an outline that detailed the background, past history, what other school districts have done, options for a June 8 and June 15 grad date and the administration's and board's recommendation for the graduation date (see attached). The administration is recommending June 15, 2012 as the date for high school graduation this year. There would be no cost involved and educationally wise, there would be more contact time with students. Comments from the Board and audience are as follows:

- Underclassmen would not get out until June 20 if the graduation date is June 15.
- What would happen if we use some of the days from spring break?  
**Response:** We would have to bring in staff. There would be transportation costs. It would be too expensive.
- If we bring the seniors back after graduation, we will have to have a place for them.
- It will be an unexcused absence if they don't show up.
- Parents can call in and excuse the student and it would be an excused absence.
- The Board did not set the graduation date for June 8.
- There may be bad weather still to come.
- Have students do community service.
- Community service is not good off campus.

Mr. Lowell requested to see the policy on unexcused and excused absences and how it impacts getting a diploma.

The Board acknowledged the administration's recommendation date for high school graduation for the Class of 2012 as June 15, 2012. However, they will take into consideration the discussion that occurred at this meeting and make a final decision tomorrow, Tuesday, February 28, 2012, at a special board meeting at the District Office.

At approximately 8:35 a.m., Mr. Wallace announced the Board would take a five-minute break. At approximately 8:43 p.m., the Board met again in regular session.

RECESS

Finance Director, Joe Stewart, presented the monthly Fiscal Report and answered questions from the Board. He distributed and reviewed projected levy collection times (2013-2015) with the Board. Mr. Stewart stated that the top priorities of the tech levy are the phone system and servers. Tech will look at e-rate money and identify cash flow for this. Mr. Stewart said he thinks we will finish the year above the Board's designated goal.

FISCAL REPORT

It was the consensus of the Board that Board members, Bill Wallace and Roger Howard, will hand out diplomas at the B-EHS graduation.

HANDING OUT  
DIPLOMAS AT  
B-EHS  
GRADUATION

The State Board of Education definition of a high school credit includes “satisfactory demonstration by a student of clearly identified competencies established pursuant to a process defined in written district policy.” New Board Policy No. 2409 establishes this process for World Languages. Mr. Wesen moved to waive second reading and adopt new Policy No. 2409/Credit for Competency and Proficiency. Mr. Whaley seconded. Motion carried.

ADOPTION OF  
POLICY NO.  
2409/CREDIT  
FOR  
COMPETENCY &  
PROFICIENCY

Policy No. 6220 is updated; specific bid requirements are contained only in the procedure. The board policy is limited to broad provisions. Mr. Lowell moved to waive second reading and adopt revised Policy No. 6220/Bid Requirements. Mr. Wesen seconded. Motion carried.

ADOPTION OF  
POLICY NO.  
6220/BID  
REQUIREMENTS

Policy and Procedure No. 6895 are amended to eliminate the mandatory annual notice requirements and to add the “upon request” provisions. Notifications regarding these types of activities are provided on the district website and annual report created in September. Mr. Whaley moved to waive second reading and adopt revised Policy No. 6895/Pesticide Notification, Posting and Record Keeping. Mr. Lowell seconded, and the motion carried.

ADOPTION OF  
POLICY NO. 6895/  
PESTICIDE  
NOTIFICATION &  
RECORD  
KEEPING

State legislation capped the number of hours per year a retired employee may work. The amended law applies to retirees from plans 1, 2, and 3. Policies 5001, 5610, and 5612 have all been amended to replace the 1,500-hour cap with the new 867-hour cap. Mr. Whaley requested that verbiage be added to Policies Nos. 5610 and 5612. The correction will be made. Mr. Whaley moved to waive second reading and adopt revised Policies 5001/Hiring of Retired School Employees; 5610/Substitute Employment; and 5612/Temporary Administrators as amended. Mr. Wesen seconded, and the motion carried.

ADOPTION OF  
POLICY NOS.  
5001, 5610, AND  
5612  
(PERSONNEL)

Recently the state auditor cited several districts for relying on electronic attendance systems because the systems inappropriately defaulted to “present” when calculating attendance. Policy No. 3122 indicates that if attendance is taken electronically, an absence will default to unexcused until such time as an excused absence may be verified by a parent or other responsible adult. Mr. Wesen moved to waive second reading and adopt revised Policy No. 3122/Excused and Unexcused Absences. Mr. Lowell seconded. Motion carried.

ADOPTION OF  
POLICY NO.  
3122/EXCUSED &  
UNEXCUSED  
ABSENCES

Policy No. 2410 is updated to include the changes in the math and science assessment requirements. Mr. Whaley moved to waive second reading and adopt Policy No. 2410/High School Graduation Requirements. Mr. Wesen seconded, and the motion carried.

ADOPTION OF  
POLICY NO.  
2410/HIGH  
SCHOOL  
GRADUATION  
REQUIREMENTS

Mr. Howard moved to approve the travel of B-EHS staff member, Geoffrey Anderson, and ten students to Seattle, WA on March 22-24, 2012 to attend the TSA (traffic safety) State Conference. Costs for the trip will be paid by the ASB budget, the students, and monies from fund-raisers; travel will be via school van. Mr. Wesen seconded; motion carried.

ADDITIONAL  
TRAVEL ITEM

The Board scheduled a work session for Monday, March 12, 2012, starting at 5:30 p.m. in the District Office Board Room.

NEXT WORK  
SESSION

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board will be held on Monday, March 26, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the District Office.

NEXT REGULAR  
MEETING

A special meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, February 28, 2012 starting at 7:45 a.m. in the District Office Board Room.

SPECIAL  
BOARD  
MEETING

The next Board tour of the year is scheduled at West View Elementary School from 8:30 – 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 28, 2012.

NEXT BOARD  
TOUR

There is also a Board tour scheduled for Tuesday, March 20, 2012, starting at 8:30 a.m. at Auxiliary Services, the Central Kitchen, the Tech Department, and the Alternative School.

MARCH BOARD  
TOUR

Mr. Wallace will go over the warrants this month.

WARRANTS

At approximately 9:17 p.m., Mr. Wallace announced the Board would recess into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing an evaluation of an employee and a personnel matter relating to employment. He stated the public was excluded due to the sensitive nature of these matters, that he anticipated the Executive Session would be no more than 15 minutes long, and that the Board will take formal action upon return to public session.

RECESS  
INTO  
EXECUTIVE  
SESSION

At approximately 9:56 p.m., the meeting reconvened to public session, and the following action was taken: Mr. Lowell moved to accept the resignation of Allen Elementary Principal, Margie Rodriguez. Mr. Wesen seconded. Motion carried.

RECONVENED  
ACTION  
TAKEN/

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:58 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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Board President

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Board Secretary