

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF
THE UNIVERSITY PLACE SCHOOL BOARD
October 24, 2007
Regular Meeting**

Members Present: Mary Lu Dickinson
Kent Keel
Paul Koppe
Rick Maloney
Ray Tennison

Call to Order

Board President Rick Maloney called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm at the Educational Service Center. He led the flag salute and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of Agenda

There was an addendum to the agenda containing one consent agenda item, a resignation.

Public Comments

David Hammond, principal of Curtis High School, thanked and recognized teachers John Lewtas and Marty Olson, for the student artwork displayed in the board room.

Consent Agenda

Kent Keel moved, Ray Tennison seconded, and the motion carried to approve the items on the consent agenda, including the addendum. Items on the consent agenda included:

The Board of Directors approved the minutes of the regular meeting of the board held on October 10, 2007.

New Classified Hires

The Board of Directors approved the election of:

Name	Position	Location	Effective
McClary, Kathaleen	Sp Ed Para	CHS	10/15/07
Gallaher, Carolyn	Crossing Guard	Chambers	10/15/07

The Board of Directors approved the University Place Primary School Improvement Plan.

The Board of Directors approved the monitoring report on EL-18 Mandatory Policies.

The Board of Directors approved the 2007 / 2008 State Transitional Bilingual Grant.

The Board of Directors approved authorizing the district to issue bonds on a timeline that will maximize proceed Capital Projects Fund and stay within our promise to the community of stable taxes and reduce or eliminate the : arbitrage that we will pay to IRS.

The Board of Directors accepted the resignation of Michael Squires, teacher at Curtis Junior High School, effective June 20, 2008, for the purpose of retirement.

Voucher Approval

Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing that has been made available to the Board.

Fund	Warrant Numbers	Amount
General Fund Warrants	56024 - 56211	238,796.27
Associated Student Body Fund	10368 – 10403	22,594.45
Capital Projects Fund	864 – 874	1,799,508.70

Assurance of Organizational Performance

Board Response to Monitoring

Kent Keel moved, Paul Koppe seconded, and the motion carried to approve the monitoring on **EL-9 Facilities Program**, as in compliance with one comment.

Mary Lu Dickinson moved to approve the monitoring on **EL-10 Asset Protection** as in compliance. Paul Koppe asked about energy savings after the district review by McKinstry in 2002. Ruth Russell, Executive Director of Business Services, replied that the original agreement with McKinstry came with the energy use being monitored for ten years. "There has been no comment that we have not met the energy savings," she said. After discussion the motion carried to approve the monitoring as in compliance, with two comments.

At 6:48 the meeting was recessed so the linkage portion of the meeting would start at the advertised time of 7:00 pm.

Community Linkage

At 6:59 pm the meeting was reconvened. Superintendent Patti Banks introduced Andrew Eyres, Jeff Loupas, and Annette Holmstrom, the presenters of monitoring information on policy **E-2 Academic Competence**.

The standards in #1 were reviewed. They state student achievement will exceed that of Washington State and the nation, yearly progress will be made toward eliminating the achievement gap, and the district will make continuous progress on all measures and indicators including percentage passing all parts of the assessment and the performance of each quartile.

On the WASL, in 2007 UP students out scored the state on all subjects and at all levels tested. The achievement gap in both reading and writing is a low income issue, according to Jeff Loupas, assessment coordinator. In math, both low income and non low income black students scored below low income white students in the 4th grade.

Andrew Eyres, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, believes students need to be targeted for assistance in math earlier. In third and fourth grade students generally score fairly high in math, but their scores go down over time. "We are providing an enormous amount of support in math at the high school," said Mr. Eyres, "but by then we've run out of time to catch them up." He believes that if a student is not at grade level in math by the end of grade seven, they won't be able to catch up.

Superintendent Patti Banks said intervention must be done at the intermediate level, and that is the district's next strategic area to concentrate upon.

Scores were up on both the verbal and math portions of the SAT. Scores were just one point below the state on Verbal, and above the state on Math. On the ACT, only 45 students took the test, and their scores were better than the state average.

At Curtis High School, 529 AP classes were taken in 2007; 70.5% of the students enrolled in AP classes took the AP exam for their subject, and 66.8% passed the exam with a 3 or higher score.

Questions / Discussion with Audience

Have you seen changes with the six period day?

Has the state considered changing the dates for the WASL?

Are AP teachers encouraging students to take the AP exams?

AP exams should be free (they currently cost \$83.00 per test)

High school isn't very much fun – there is lots of stress – and emphasis on meeting standards. It's not emotionally healthy for students.

Is help available for students who don't pass the WASL? Some might need several times to pass the test.

The district shouldn't concentrate just on eliminating the achievement gap. They need to challenge all students.

I'm concerned about class sizes – and don't want all the focus to be on the students who need extra help.

Board President Rick Maloney thanked those who attended the linkage meeting for their time, interest, and participation.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm.

PATTI BANKS, SECRETARY
Board of Directors

RICK MALONEY, PRESIDENT
Board of Directors

Minutes prepared by Lois Frick, Administrative Assistant, Central Office.