



Association of Educational Service Districts

Supporting Educational Communities in Washington State

**Educational Service Districts**

- ESD 101  
Spokane
- ESD 105  
Yakima
- ESD 112  
Vancouver
- ESD 113  
Olympia
- ESD 123  
Pasco
- North Central ESD 171  
Wenatchee
- Northwest ESD 189  
Anacortes
- Olympic ESD 114  
Bremerton
- Puget Sound ESD 121  
Renton

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**AESD EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

Thursday, November 19, 2009  
Mayflower Park Hotel – Rose Room  
Noon-3:00 p.m. and 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

**Minutes**

President Brad Gingerich called the meeting of the AESD Executive Board to order at 12:48 p.m.

**Quorum**

A quorum was established. Those attending were:

**ESD Superintendents**

- Dr. Michael Dunn, ESD 101
- Dr. Jane Gutting, ESD 105
- Dr. Twyla Barnes, ESD 112
- Dr. Bill Keim, ESD 113
- Dr. Walt Bigby, Olympic ESD 114
- Dr. Monte Bridges, Puget Sound ESD 121
- Bruce Hawkins, ESD 123
- Dr. Rich McBride, North Central ESD 171
- Dr. Jerry Jenkins, Northwest ESD 189 (did not attend dinner/business meeting)

**ESD Board Members**

- Brad Gingerich, ESD 123 and President/Chair
- Robert Bauer, ESD 101
- Bill Gant, ESD 105 alternate (did not attend dinner/business meeting)
- Bill Baumann, ESD 112
- Darlene 'De' Stickel, ESD 112 board member (attended dinner and business meeting)
- Dr. Howard Coble, ESD 113
- Katie Proteau, Olympic ESD 114
- Charlie Staadecker, PSESD 121 (did not attend dinner/business meeting)
- Larry MacGuffie, North Central ESD 171
- Merle Kirkley, Northwest ESD 189 (did not attend dinner/business meeting)

**Others in Attendance**

- Jim Shoemake, AESD Executive Services
- Marcia Fromhold, AESD Executive Services/OSPI Liaison
- Cindy Sands, WSSDA Staff Liaison to AESD

### **Approval of Minutes and Adoption of Agenda**

Moved/Seconded/Carried/Coble/Bauer to approve the Minutes from the October 12, 2009 meeting. To revise the order of business in the Agenda by moving item III (B) OSPI Liaison Report to follow the Legislative Report under item II (A)(2).

### **Legislative Report**

Jim Shoemake shared the updated legislative priority positions with the board. Those 2010 priorities are:

1. ESD Core Funding
2. School District Fiscal Stability
3. System of Early Learning Support
4. Dropout Prevention/Intervention
5. School Safety Corps

Shoemake extended his appreciation to the ESDs who helped in compiling and printing the position materials. Meetings are currently taking place within each ESD. No bills will be proposed at this time — the focus is to “stay at the table.” Core funding will be a flat request; the only appropriation from the state to the ESDs is \$5 million. Randy Dorn has submitted a line item in his funding request for ESD fiscal officers. ESDs also support early learning and drop out prevention legislation. Walt Bigby was hailed for his work on the school safety corps. Thus far, this is not within a policy bill but part of the budget. Marcia Fromhold added that gang prevention and intervention is another initiative on the table.

Shoemake stated if ESDs desire, he or Fromhold could accompany them to visit with legislators. Session begins January 11<sup>th</sup>. The position papers will be finalized in December and provided to the superintendents for the legislative assembly days. Dorn is asking that the math and science coordinators be delayed and a press release has been issued.

Bill Keim noted that four out of the five positions involve new dollars so there was concern about “messaging.”

### **OSPI Liaison Report**

The AESD is currently working with the Department of Health on tobacco funding and whether there is a potential role for ESDs in either the Race to the Top proposal and/or the Title I/School Improvement Grant proposal. Fromhold was commended for doing yeoman’s work with OSPI. She commented that by the time the budget comes out, the state will have a \$3 billion dollar deficit. She explained that parts of the budget are protected, such as portions of basic K-12 education. Others parts are at risk of being cut, such as non-basic education. Unless there is a constitutional requirement or federal requirement, the funds are at risk..

Both Bigby and Bill Keim have worked diligently on tobacco prevention/intervention. Fromhold added that because this is the short 60-day “supplemental” session, it will be an extremely difficult one. The Governor has declined to call a special session. There is talk of additional revenue sources through levying “sin taxes” and eliminating some of the current tax exemptions. There has also been talk of establishing the levy base as if I-728 and I-732 had been funded. The implication is that the legislature will continue districts’ ability to set levy bases as if it had been funded.

In meeting with legislators, board members were advised to approach them distilled message. Talking points can be provided.

### **2010 AESD Annual Conference Update**

Twyla Barnes gave a brief report on the April annual conference set for April 22-24, 2010 in Vancouver with ESD 112 hosting. They have secured a sponsor, David Lawrence, who is a journalist by trade who is highly regarded and has been editor of two major newspapers. He has been awarded humanitarian of the year, doing whatever is necessary to support children and is a huge supporter of early learning.

### **Progress on Network Implementation**

Gutting reported they are distinguishing which ESD programs/services fall under assured services, statewide services or local services (which is business as usual).

### **Math/Science Changes**

Monte Bridges discussed the Math/Science report on evaluation. These would be an assured set of services and assessment activities across the state. He recently gave a presentation to the superintendents and assistant superintendents.

### **Fiscal Report on Fiscal Officers' meeting**

Bigby and Rich McBride provided a fiscal report on fiscal officers meeting. Fiscal services to districts would be an assured service. A matrix was distributed that showed the services offered such as description, procedure/guidelines/practices, outcome and evaluation/assessment. Currently, this is done differently in every ESD. There is a need for uniformity and consistency in some areas and they will incorporate data around accountability. Jerry McDermott of ESD 101 is the lead on this.

### **Advance Data Processing and Management**

Twyla Barnes and Bill Keim reported on the advance data processing and management. WSIPC is a \$40 million dollar operation and is the oldest co-op in the state, and demands on the system are increasing. Recently, there have been software changes. There are several competitors such as Skyward. Currently the system deals with basic student and financial reporting but there is another side that needs development. There is a two-year effort to make the service more effective and ready for the future. In response to whether fees would increase, Barnes stated it was doubtful due to competition from private competitors.

Howard Coble expressed strong concerns that while districts were being asked to cut expenditures, WSSDA was requesting a dues increase.

Bruce Hawkins reported on Network Staff Support. Monte Bridges and Michael Dunn are the other superintendents involved and they will continue to develop a workplan. For contact in terms of questions, all of the AESD documents list Jane Gutting, Marcia Fromhold and Jim Shoemake. The first report will be in January and led by Bill Keim.

### **Entrepreneurial Ideas**

Charlie asked whether the AESD website ([aesd-wa.org](http://aesd-wa.org)) could have an exchange area where ideas are developed. Response was positive for a blog. Howard Coble said the subscription to WSSDA's E-clips gives him ideas where ESD might be of assistance. Such a discussion board or blog could inform ESD board members on further about pending issues. McBride said he and Eldene Wall will explore this and report back. Cindy Sands was asked to include "entrepreneurial followup" for the February agenda. The idea of having an ESD volunteer corp of retirees was raised, but Jerry Jenkins reminded members that due to prohibitions in collective bargaining agreements, this idea was not possible.

Howard Coble announced that the WSSDA Board of Directors had recently approved the firm, Hagel & Associates to perform its search for an executive director.

Coble was also concerned that members were unaware of ongoing ESD elections. Gutting also said that it was important that superintendents take a more active role around ESD elections.

There was general discussion on the issue of whether the ESDs wanted to adopt any of the WSSDA board standards was raised. ESD 113 said they were in favor of adopting the individual board standards for themselves; PSESD 121 commented that they did not see the issue of diverse cultural standards included; North Central ESD 171 suggested the standards were favorable; ESD 189 said they saw no relevance between the standards and what they do as a board; ESD 112 said they had taken no action yet. Twyla Barnes suggested that ESD boards could adopt their own and use the WSSDA one as a model. Bruce Hawkins raised concerns about the ESD boards endorsing the standards that would then impact their boards. He said it was not their role to do that. He said while it was quality work, it was not their place to endorse the WSSDA standards.

Prior to the break, Gutting announced that Paul Rosier will discuss OFM's recent presentation on the budget after the evening dinner. The meeting recessed at 2:46 p.m. and resumed at 6:50 p.m. after a 6:00 p.m. dinner.

Paul Rosier reported on the Leadership Academy and its partnership with ESDs. Twenty districts are participating in this two-year program. Instruction curriculum has been developed and regional training at the ESDs is available. There will be \$900,000 appropriated by the legislature next year, plus there are private/public sponsorships.

As for Race to the Top, most districts are unsure what's going on. It was suggested that ESDs serve as a backbone due to the problem of practice. There are districts that are working on their own specific problems in their own districts and are using data to align the system.

The Governor's supplemental budget will be released mid-December. There was discussion on the huge deficit the state is facing which will likely reach \$3 billion. There are ideas floating on potential budget cuts and potential revenue fixes. The revenue forecast has declined to its steepest level in 20 years. Rosier explained that 70% of the state budget (which cannot be cut) are protected by constitutional or federal requirements. Those protected pieces include K-12 *basic* education, debt service/pensions, mandatory Medicaid/foster care, and a part of higher education. The 30% balance that is subject to reduction includes human services, non-basic education programs, juvenile and adult correction facilities and other general government. This is the worst the state has seen.

Ideas to raise revenue include: levying an income tax on high-end income citizens, imposing a graduated state income tax coupled with a reduction in property taxes and B&O taxes, increasing property tax, increasing the sales tax temporarily; and/or extending sales tax to candy, gum, consumer, business and financial services; and/or spending the Rainy Day fund.

### **Next Meeting**

The next AESD Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 8, 2010.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Cindy Sands  
Recording Secretary