

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 April, 16, 2009
Marcus Whitman Hotel, Walla Walla - Renaissance Ballroom

Minutes

Call to Order: President Bill Baumann called the meeting of the executive board to order at 12:15 pm.

Quorum

A quorum was established. Those attending were:

ESD Superintendents

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

ESD Board Members

Bill Baumann, ESD 112 and President/Chair
Robert Bauer, ESD 101
Maggie Perez, ESD 105
Dr. Howard Coble, ESD 113
Jean Wasson, Olympic ESD 114 (substitute)
Charlie Staadecker, Puget Sound ESD 121
Brad Gingerich, ESD 123
Larry MacGuffie, North Central ESD 171
Merle Kirkley, Northwest ESD 189

Others:

John Gott, ESD 113 board member
Jim Shoemake, AESD Executive Services
Martharose Laffey, WSSDA Executive Director
Paul Rosier, WASA Executive Director
Eldene Wall, Executive Assistant, North Central ESD 189
Cindy Sands, WSSDA Staff Liaison to AESD

Approval of Agenda

Moved/Seconded/Carried/Wasson/Coble to approve the Agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Moved/Seconded/Carried/MacGuffie/Wasson to approve the Minutes of the February 9, 2009 meeting as presented.

Introductions

Howard Coble introduced his guest, John Gott, chair of ESD 113.

Financial Reports

2007-08 Budget Year End Report – Dr. Gutting reported that the AESD expected a net loss, but Bruce Hawkins has indicated that it may have a profit. The estimated revenue by the year-end (8/31/09) will be \$15,416. The expense is estimated to be \$16,800 or \$1,384 greater than the revenue. With a beginning balance of \$42,600 and an estimated loss of \$1,384 in 2009, the fund balance remaining (cash available) will be \$41,216. This will be the beginning balance in 2009-10 fiscal year.

The beginning balance (cash available) at the end of 2009 is estimated to be \$41,216. The draft budget for 2009-10 estimates the revenue to remain the same as the previous year totaling \$15,416. Expenditures are estimated to be \$21,400 for the year. The result is a net loss of \$5,984 for the year. The fund balance at year-end 2010 is estimated to be \$35,232.

Gutting cautioned that the proposed budget was based on the data we have available currently. This will likely change, however. After looking closer, the budget was updated by removing the \$5,000 conference fee because it was not needed. However, it will remain in the proposed budget in case it is needed by an ESD.

Moved/Seconded/Carried/Coble/MacGuffie to recommend to the body that the financial statements and proposed budget be approved.

Under old business, the executive board shared the success of the 40th Anniversary Celebration. Dr. Twyla Barnes was commended for her part in planning the event, as were others. Those working to make the event a success will be recognized at the business meeting on Friday.

Additionally, Gutting and Baumann clarified that the ESD Coordinating Board would hold a meeting in June.

The executive board recessed for lunch at 12:30 p.m. and resumed at approximately 1:00 p.m.

AESD Accreditation

Under new business, Bill Baumann reported on the AESD Accreditation Subcommittee. He reported that the committee consisted of Kim Carlson, Rick Anthony and formerly, Patsy Callahan, who has resigned from the committee. She has been replaced by Barbara Peterson (Puget Sound ESD 121) who was unable to attend the conference this weekend.

AESD Conference – Discussion on suspension of annual conference

President Baumann opened up the floor for discussion on whether the conference should be suspended for one year due to ESD budget cuts. He said it was important to have the conversation because of tough economic times. Charlie Staadecker shared that it was the consensus of the Puget Sound ESD board that

while attention must be given to budget matters, postponing the conference sends the wrong message, that new ideas not be discussed and doing so was not proactive. Also, the collegiality and networking opportunities are lost. It was not in the best interest of the stakeholders. Howard Coble added that the item of training and conference attendance is one that is often cut, and while districts are aware of this, it was important to not be excessive with travel and training and we should still remain committed to thrift during these times. Merle Kirkley said he strongly agreed with Charlie that skipping a year would do a disservice to our districts. Jean Wasson echoed that it was the one time a year we all got together. Robert Bauer said he was in favor of keeping it because of the large body of knowledge we share with each other. Plus, if you stop something it's hard to get it going again. Gutting added that as an AESD, an annual meeting was required regardless of the conference status. Baumann expressed his appreciation for the discussion and that the ESD 112 is the ESD host for the 2010 conference, with plans in the works for Vancouver as a site at the Hilton. He assured the board they would be prudent on expenses next year.

Both Paul Rosier and Martharose Laffey were acknowledged and thanked for joining the meeting.

Additionally, the item of thinking "outside of the box" and creating new entrepreneurial ideas was led by Charlie Staadecker. The purpose of the discussion was to figure out ways to save money and explore new revenue sources for their respective school districts. He shared a news article from the New York Times of a venture between a business who recycled items to schools. Monte Bridges added that as the AESD establishes itself as a statewide network, we will be implementing these types of ideas together. Under the innovation and planning, Saturday morning offers a forum to put ideas on the table.

AESD Network

Dr. Gutting led the report on a review of the superintendent's proposed 2009-10 Network budget and services. There was a recommendation from the AESD Executive Board back to each of the nine ESD boards for approval.

Jane Gutting reviewed the February actions and the budget sheet that set out a 50-50 equal share and a prorated share by each ESD. There was a recommendation that the executive board implement the funding stream for the network. Currently, the Network is not in a position to hire an executive director. Thus, next year's work will be through contract. Additionally, the amount of \$55,000 has been budgeted for any facilitation for needs assessment, strategic planning, measurement system and value-added stories. This will be further addressed at the June meeting. Monte Bridges commented that the measurement enabled the Network to measure the Network's efficacy and effectiveness. That will be important for legislators so they know the ESD's impact. Bill Keim most grants require a set aside for measurement. The Network must be able to show "that was a good investment." Next year, the value added stories will be important. At some point, they'll need a director, but currently the roles of the ESDs are listed. Assignments have been made according to who has the strongest relationship with legislators and were not based on regional lines.

The roles of the Network Governance were discussed. Gutting distinguished between the AESD's operating budget (AESD) and the Network Budget (currently with ESD 101); and the ESD Superintendents group. She stated the more organized the body becomes as a network, that more will be expected and the more they would be criticized. Board members will be more involved. She asked that the body agree on the concept and that the superintendents take this back to their individual ESDs for a firm commitment of one year. ESD superintendents will flesh out detail.

There were questions as to the impact that had on the relationship with the Superintendent of OSPI. Monte Bridges, Bruce Hawkins, Bill Keim and Jane Gutting met with Ken Kanikeberg and Randy Dorn.

At the end of the meeting, Dorn was interested in working with the ESD System. Bridges reported there was a collaborative relationship with OSPI and they have invited ESD superintendents to be involved in the OSPI cabinet meetings. Gutting asked for feedback from the board members. Gutting distinguished collaboration from cooperation. Bill Baumann reminded members that as the ESD boards go down this path, it was important to continue sharing information.

Moved/Seconded/Carried/Kirkley/Wasson to have each board member take the Proposed AESD Network Budget and Services for 2009-10 back to their respective individual ESD boards and ask for their support; bring that response back to the AESD Executive Board's next meeting.

Legislative Report

Jim Shoemake commented on the upheaval of this session. He reminded members of last year's goals. This year's goal moved from trying to get something to trying not to lose something. Considering the circumstances, they have done quite well.

Core funding – The Senate's version is better than the House version. \$17.2 million for ESDs. Included was a continuation of science/math coordinators (\$6.5 million). The two years the AESD has spent building the notion of an ESD network has had a positive impact.

Fiscal technical assistance – The Governor had \$2 million in her budget for this. The small schools loan for schools was in the red. Rep. Haigh was a supporter of this and now we have the support of the budget writers who understand that fiscal stability is the right thing to do. This would fund an ESD person to assist with this.

Capital funding study- They met with Rep. Hans Dunshee who suggested that they bring this back next year in bill form so that is what they will do.

Drop out prevention/intervention – Rep. Kagi supported HB 1418, which was supported by ESDs. Along the journey, however, ESDs were removed and workforce group was substituted, then switched back again. The bill moved but there was a request for a fiscal note. The OSPI fiscal note amounted to \$1 million annually, increasing yearly. That fiscal note was based on the fact that a student reentering school would be allocated their BEA and if more students came back in, then the amount would go up yearly. Currently, the bill is in Ways and Means. He said he thinks HB 1418 will probably die this year.

HB 1879 passed, but ESDs will not be held responsible for the costs. The center provides technical assistance to the ESDs on deaf and the hard of hearing.

SB 5410 addressed online learning. The ESDs took no position initially. The money went to the Digital Learning Commons and would have taken ed tech money away from ESDs. It will establish a department within OSPI to do the work and kept the ESDs in a good position in the bill. He thanked Twyla Barnes, Monte Bridges and Barbara Mertens of WASA for their help on dealing with this bill.

HB 2343 addressed assessment and testing. Sponsored by Rep. Haigh. This bill would have authorized ESDs in this area.

Next steps – Shoemake said it was important to begin work on next year's platform and have it in place by summer/early fall. It needs to be ready when the legislature holds its assembly. He urged more involvement of board members. Monte Bridges has a survey and that will be used to find out who has a relationship with whom and build on that.

Howard Coble asked when the ESD was going to seek a change in their authorization and change in the statutory authority to move ultimately towards an executive director. The answer was that they had opted not to take that up this year.

At this time, it was uncertain whether there would be a special session.

Other Business

In other business, Martharose Laffey reported that a WSSDA task force was developing board standards for individual board members. Bill Keim serves on that task force. She reported that WSSDA was adding to its cadre. Additionally, staff was working with Jenelle Newman and Bill Rossman with districts in need of improvement. There are plans to participate in an in depth training with about five boards based on the Lighthouse study from Iowa Schools Boards Association. The Association is developing a technology service for our members and has requested the NSBA to perform an operations review of WSSDA. She told members they may be contacted. Finally, our Annual Conference proposals are being accepted until April 29.

Laffey also shared that we have found that many teachers were wanting district reserve money for salaries.

Paul Rosier expressed his relationship with the AESD and ESDs. Most districts budgets will have an 8-9% reduction in their budgets and most districts' fund balances are not good. Merle Kirkley said it was important to support the people on the front lines.

AESD Conference – Bruce Hawkins reported on the conference and reviewed the program for the weekend. They were able to secure generous sponsors.

Jane Gutting expressed her appreciation to Bill Baumann for his leadership this past year.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Sands
Recording Secretary