CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Ms. Carol Van Noy, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Van Noy, Ms. Oviatt, Mr. Edwards, Ms. Fletcher, Mrs. Parnell
Student Representatives: Cedric Nagata, Sierra Owens

OATH OF OFFICE – STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs. Van Noy, Board President, administered the Oath of Office to new Student Representative, Sierra Owens. Ms. Owens briefly told about herself, reasons she applied, and how excited she is to be part of the Board.

COMMUNICATIONS, AGENDA ADJUSTMENT, AND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Board Communications

Student Representative Cedric Nagata said he went to New Orleans over the summer to visit relatives and helped his aunt, who is building a house there. He just started his senior year. Cedarcrest had their first assembly last Friday, which he helped with. He is looking forward to a fun year!

Ms. Bechtel said she thoroughly enjoyed the Welcome Back Ceremony for all staff. Austin Jenckes did a wonderful job as our performer/guest speaker and Mrs. Parnell was awesome and her speech was amazing. Ms. Bechtel welcomed new Student Representative, Sierra Owens. Ms. Bechtel also reported that she will miss the next two meetings and Stacy Cook will be filling in for her.

Student Representative Sierra Owens showed her dairy cows and chickens at the Evergreen State Fair this summer. She also went on a road trip with her grandfather to Wyoming and Montana. Then she won Grand Champion at the Evergreen State Fair for dairy showing, which was a fun experience. She is getting settled back into school.

Mrs. Parnell welcomed Sierra to the Board. She commented that Sierra is our first dairy show grand champion! Mrs. Parnell said it was really an honor and privilege to give the Welcome Back speech. She has been getting her daughter ready for college and her youngest son ready for his senior year at Cedarcrest. She will be attending Cedarcrest’s Curriculum Night as a parent.

Ms. Fletcher just returned today from a 6,000-mile road trip. She stopped off in Montana and spent some time with former Superintendent, Conrad Robertson and his wife Nancy.

Mr. Edwards welcomed Sierra to the Board. Welcome Back – what can we say? Mrs. Parnell did great; Austin Jenckes topped everything off. He was amazing and the staff said this was awesome.
Mr. Edwards said a couple of days ago he came to the Riverview Educational Service Center to attend a Celebration of Life for Sam Schumacher, former Cedarcrest graduate who tragically died in an accident. There were nearly 400 people in attendance. Mr. Edward’s son, Wyatt, who was deployed to the Persian Gulf was able to attend this. It was an amazing event and Mr. Edwards is grateful to the district for opening up the Assembly Hall for this event.

Ms. Oviatt explained that our Board gets involved in our WSSDA (Washington State School Directors’ Association) and Mr. Edwards is running unopposed for Vice President. Mrs. Parnell is on the WSSDA Nominating Committee and Ms. Oviatt is on the WSSDA Planning Conference Committee and IAC (Interscholastic Activities Committee). Ms. Van Noy is a past WSSDA President, and we have Ms. Fletcher join us on lots of things along the way. Ms. Oviatt commented that Mrs. Parnell’s speech was amazing and along the whole focus on student engagement and the student impact. Also, bringing Austin Jenckes, a former student, back to share his story. His story back in high school was not the best stories in life because his father died by suicide; in fact, we lost two fathers that year to suicide on the football team. It was a challenging year, so having a student come back that has been successful and can real kick us off right is really amazing. Going back to the WSSDA Annual Conference, this year all of our keynote speakers are all Washington residents and/or former WSSDA members.

Ms. Van Noy explained that she works for the SVCN (Snoqualmie Valley Community Network) and today is World Suicide Prevention Day. They have a suicide prevention program called “How to Help a Friend” that is taught peer-to-peer by students in high school to other students in high school and middle school. They are having their first ever “Text to Give” campaign and if anyone would like to help support us, we would love that. Ms. Van Noy welcomed Sierra and welcomed Student Representative Cedric Nagata and Ms. Fletcher back. She was unable to go to Welcome Back because her husband had a stroke; he is doing very well right now. She and Dr. Smith spoke to new staff at their New Employee Orientation, which was pretty wonderful. Tonight, the Board held a Board Work Study on WSSDA Board of Distinction application. We have earned this award for the last five years in a row and are hoping to achieve State Board of the Year for the second time. This summer we found out that we qualified to present at the NSBA (National School Board Association) Conference on the RSD Ambassador Program. Welcome back and we will continue to move forward with our theme of student engagement.

**Hearing of the Public**

Jennifer Harrison is a parent of two daughters in Riverview; one is Jemma, a fifth grader at ERMA (Eagle Rock Multi-Age) and Joey, who is an eighth grader at Tolt Middle School. Her husband, Mark Ward, is a teacher and a coach at Cedarcrest High School. She came forward to talk about the Tolt Middle School pre-honors language arts appeal process. Joey has been in the pre-honors language arts program for two years. She has a strong academic record. She did have a minor dip in her grades during second term last year, where she received a C+. You must maintain a B- for all terms in order to automatically remain in the program. We understand that. The appeal process is somewhat a mystery to us. We’ve inquired at the building level exactly what is the criteria for selecting those students that actually appeal to be placed in the pre-honors language arts program. We’ve been a little bit shocked by what we’ve discovered, and I’d like to share that with you tonight. Tolt does not maintain any documented evaluation criteria for the appeal process. This means there is no objective criteria applied equally to all students and students may be selected based on “likeability.”
Hearing of the Public (Continued)

Likeability should not be the criteria for our education standards. In addition, there is no documentation reflecting the decision-making process, for example who actually makes the decision. We have been informed that there is a committee, however we have not been informed who actually sits on that committee. There is actually an unwillingness to share that with us at the building level. In addition, there are no documents or reports or notes reflecting what was discussed during my daughter’s appeal. Nothing, nothing at all. There is a concern here, in our minds, the decision makers could be making decisions based on bias, unconscious or otherwise. I raise this point specifically because Joey last year raised serious concerns about sexual harassment on the campus at Tolt. We don’t want to believe that Joey is being retaliated against for raising those concerns but given the lack of objective criteria applied in the selection and also the inability of the building to share with us any information about the selection process, we are very concerned. We are very, very concerned. And again, Joey has a strong track record in the pre-honors Language Arts program. She had three A’s and a B in sixth grade pre-honors; and in seventh grade she had an A first term, a C+ the second term and then she turned it around to a B+ and a B, clearly indicating that she is capable of doing the work in pre-honors Language Arts. We just don’t understand why she wasn’t approved in the appeal process and with the lack of transparency, it just raises our concerns even higher.

We’ve also been trying to work at the building level to learn more about this process, but the teachers have been prevented from communicating directly with us. We have been trying to reach out to them – we started reaching out to them last Tuesday. We’ve had three email attempts. We finally received acknowledgement yesterday that they had received our requests, but that they were not going to communicate with us and that communications will come to us via the district office. And I am working with Robert Gallagher on this matter, so I do expect that we will hear more. It’s just a bit surprising to hear that kind of communication coming from our teachers at Tolt. And to us represents a culture of complacency at all levels in Tolt Middle School.

Here’s our call to action to the Board: We really would like this Board to reconsider Joey for placement in pre-honors Language Arts, based solely on her academic record. We’ve been told there is space in the room, so that shouldn’t be an issue. More importantly, we would really like this Board to take a look at the criteria that Tolt is using in their selection process and mandate that they document some objective criteria, document the selection process, and who is actually making this decision. We think that will help in the transparency and the partnership that we believe this district is trying to foster to support the mission of educating our children. I really do appreciate you all letting me come to speak to you tonight and I hope you will really consider my call to action. Thank you.

Ms. Van Noy thanked Ms. Harrison for bringing her concerns to the Board and for sharing her personal story. It really means a lot to us to hear from you. I know that Dr. Smith and our team will be looking into this. You brought a lot of things forward that need to have attention paid to them. Documentation is one of the biggest things that we need to make sure we are covered. You will be hearing back from the district office and once again, we really appreciate you coming tonight.

CONSENT AGENDA

A list of routine agenda items will now be considered in a single motion. Board Members have received and studied background information on all items.
CONSENT AGENDA (Continued)

Motion 19-41: To approve the September 10, 2019, Consent Agenda, as presented (Ms. Oviatt and Mr. Edwards). Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Regular School Board Minutes for August 27, 2019; and Board Work Study Minutes for August 27, 2019.

Approval of Warrants.
General Fund Warrant No. 209057 through No. 209112 in the amount of $378,000.63; and direct deposits of $15,887.77 and $1,458.01 for a total of $17,345.78. Capital Projects Fund Warrant No. 209113 through No. 209118 in the amount of $35,078.78. ASB Fund Warrant No. 209119 through No. 209122 in the amount of $2,229.80; and direct deposits of $9,953.38. Total Payroll for August 30, 2019, was $3,117,420.67, which includes General Fund Warrant No. 209123 through No. 209127 (Employee Warrants) in the amount of 7,402.72; and General Fund Warrant No. 209128 through No. 209172 (Payroll Vendor Warrants) in the amount of $1,077,933.45; and direct deposits of $1,495,534.59.

Approval of Personnel Actions.

Approval of Service Contracts.

Approval of Donations.
Mr. Edwards noted the generous donations of $1,000.00 from the Washington State FFA Foundation for a travel stipend for Cedarcrest FFA members and $4,536.82 from the Red Wolves Football Boosters for Hudl (instant replay) for Cedarcrest Football.

Approval of 2019-2022 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Riverview School District and Riverview Education Association. Ms. Oviatt said she is glad to see this being approved tonight.

Approval of the Revised School Calendars for 2019-20, 2020-21, and 2021-22.

BUSINESS

Resolution #19-04, Waiver for One Day for Grades 6-8 for Parent/Teacher Conferences in 2019-20, 2020-21, and 2021-22

As part of the 2919-2022 Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Riverview Education Association, students in grades 6-8 will have a day off in October to conduct parent/teacher conferences. This will eliminate the three half days of conferences in November for grades 6-8 only. This actually increases student contact time for grades 6-8, since we eliminated the three half-days of parent conferences.

Motion 19-42: To adopt Resolution 19-04, adopting three-year waiver from the minimum 180-day school requirement of the Basic Education requirement for students in grades 6-8 by one day. This will occur in the 2019-20, 2020-21, and 2021-22 school years. This motion was made by Mr. Edwards and seconded by Mrs. Parnell. Motion passed unanimously.
Minimum Basic Education Requirement Compliance (SBE Form)

Sandy Bechtel, Executive Assistant, explained that every year, the State Board of Education collects compliance information annually through online iGrants from each school year. They require that our compliance information is presented to the School Board prior to that time. The requirement is to have either a district-wide average 1,000 instructional hours in grades 1-8 and a district-wide average 1,080 instructional hours in grades 8-12, which may be calculated as a district-wide average of 1,027 instructional hours in grades 1-12. This year we have an average of 1,035.99 hours for grades 1-12, which is above the required 1,027 hours. This is a reduction in hours, due to students in grades 6-8 only going 180 days.

First Reading, New Policy 4025, Title I Parental Involvement

Dr. Randy Stocker, Assistant Superintendent, has reviewed WSSDA’s (Washington State School Directors’ Association) recommended policy, as well as OSPI (Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction) guidelines, for Title I parental involvement and adapted it for our district. This would eliminate the procedures for this policy, since it is included in the main policy.

Motion 19-43: To approve Policy #4025, Title I Parental Involvement, for first reading, as presented (Ms. Oviatt and Ms. Fletcher). Motion passed unanimously.

First Reading, New Policy 5150, Maintaining Professional Staff/Student Boundaries

Sandy Bechtel, Executive Assistant, reported that Robert Gallagher, Director of Human Resources, and Buzz Porter, District Counsel, have recommended adding this policy, which WSSDA also recommends. Our former policy on Sexual Harassment covered a small part of this, but it is recommended to keep the two policies separate.

Motion 19-44: To approve Policy #5150, Maintaining Professional Staff/Student Boundaries, for first reading, as presented (Mr. Edwards and Mrs. Parnell). Motion passed unanimously.

Board Agenda Items

The Board reviewed upcoming agenda items and made the following additions:

- October 10th – Board Advance – all Board members need to attend this
- September 25th – Snoqualmie Valley Governments Association meeting – Dr. Smith and Ms. Van Noy are attending
- Add Board Work Study for February 25th and March 10th – create and prepare for NSBA (National School Board Association) presentation on RSD Ambassador Program
- Add two Work Studies on Roundtable with Principals and Students

Ms. Van Noy said the Board enjoyed having Board meetings start at 6:00 PM in the summer and are considering changing our 7:00 PM start time during the school months as well. She asked our Student Representatives Cedric Nagata and Sierra Owens if they prefer 6:00 PM or 7:00 PM for a start time. Both indicated that either time works for them. This would push Board Work Studies to 4:30 PM.
**REPORTS**

**Enrollment Report**

Dr. Smith reported that we are down 53.96 students after having projected and budgeted for a 1% growth, but we are down around 2%. Compared to what was budgeted, in grades K-3 we are down almost 81 students; grades 4-6, we are down 3.14; grades 7-8, we are down 22, which was expected because of roll-ups; while grades 9-12 are up 6.06 students. We are down 105.93 students from what was budgeted. That is approximately $600,000 less if this trend continues. October’s enrollment is typically up from September’s enrollment. He expects our enrollment to pick up in October. If we do not pick up during the year, we should consider allowing students to transfer into our district. There are many people waiting to get into the district. We will check and monitor this throughout the school year.

**Superintendent’s Report**

Dr. Smith reported on the following:

- Super excited about all the new staff. We had our first Ad Team meeting this morning and my one word after going to all the schools and attending the first football game of the year is “Enthusiasm.” That was all the way from the elementary schools, middle school, and high school. That was really wonderful.
- August was a busy month with hiring. We hired approximately 40 classified and 40 certificated positions.
- In August, we had exceptional professional development for our staff.
- He attended CCS (Center for Collaborative Support) Powerful Learning Conference, which is a joint effort with Riverview, Mercer Island, Issaquah, Snoqualmie Valley, and Tahoma. The conference was amazing.
- Welcome Back – I echo all the sentiments from the Board and everyone that attended. I got so many emails and not only was the performance great by Austin Jenckes, but his words were very inspirational. I heard that over and over again from staff members. Along with Mrs. Parnell’s speech, the whole day was incredible.
- Announcement: With the $125 million bond coming up in February, the Riverview Schools Committee (RSC) will meet here at 6:00 PM on September 18th to provide RSC and anyone else that wants to attend, information about the upcoming bond, including Public Disclosure Commission laws, the laws regarding elections. We have invited PTSA and others to attend and also, whether you are involved with RSC or are someone interested in attending, let Sandy Bechtel know so we can provide dinner for the evening. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- Updates:
  - Property across from Cedarcrest High School – we will be purchasing two parcels and annexing them into the City of Duvall.
  - Our other property is above the housing development on Big Rock Road for a proposed elementary school. We have met with consultants and city officials (including Toll Brothers) to prepare that property so when and if we pass the bond, we can start working the very next day on the property.
  - We will be presenting all over the community on the upcoming bond and will answer any hard questions people may have. If people prefer to call and ask questions, either myself or Meisha Robertson, Director of Business and Operations, will be available.

Ms. Van Noy thanked Dr. Smith for his report.
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Ms. Van Noy, Board President, adjourned the September 10, 2019, Board meeting at 7:52 PM.

Carol Van Noy
Board President

MINUTES PREPARED BY

Sandy Bechtel, Recording Secretary to the Board of Directors