

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
Thursday November 15, 2007
Mayflower Hotel – Seattle, WA
Work Session 2:30 – 5:00
Business Meeting 6:00 – 9:00

MINUTES

Call to Order: President Robert Bauer called the executive committee meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. A quorum was established. Those present were:

ESD Superintendents

Dr. Terry Munther, 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

ESD Board Members

Robert Bauer, President, ESD 101
Maggie Perez, ESD 105
Bill Baumann, ESD 112
Dr. Howard Coble, ESD 113
Katie Proteau, Olympic ESD 114 (replacement for Jean Wasson)
Ken Seng, Puget Sound ESD 121
Bev Abersfeller, ESD 123 (substitute for Brad Gingerich)
Randy Johnston, North Central ESD 171
Gordon Griggs, Northwest ESD 189

Others Present:

Jim Shoemaker, AESD Professional Services
Tom Kelly, AESD Professional Services
Eldene Wall, Executive Assistant, North Central ESD 171
Paul Rosier, WASA Executive Director
Ron Schmidt, ESD 101 Board
Martharose Laffey, WSSDA Executive Director (business meeting)
Cindy Sands, Staff Liaison to AESD
Terry Bergeson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction (business meeting)
Cathy Davidson, Asst. Superintendent, Superintendent of Public Instruction (business meeting)

Introductions were made by all present. Katie Proteau will be replacing Jean Wasson as the board member for Olympic ESD 114.

Approval of Agenda

Moved/Seconded/Carried/Coble/Seng to approve the Agenda as presented.

Approval of October Minutes

Moved/Seconded/Carried/Proteau/Coble to approve the Minutes of the October 3, 2007 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Gates Grant and Systems Study

Bill Keim reported on the status of the Gates Grant and Systems Study. He distributed a report on the grant, stating the proposal would be considered by the Foundation in their January time frame. The proposal has been revised based on the new timeline. Jane Gutting and he met with Kimberly Mitchell of the Foundation and the meeting was positive. The Foundation has submitted questions on regulatory duties regarding teacher support. Keim reported that the Foundation is committed to the goal of all students graduating from high school "college-ready." It is hoped a decision on the grant will be made by January. Additionally, a two-day retreat of the nine ESD superintendents and Susan Leddick will be held in November or December. Keim emphasized that it may become necessary to fund the project independent of the grant. The amount of startup would be \$125,000. ESD 101 has agreed to be the fiscal agent.

Both Keim and Gutting were commended for the work they have put into this project. Members were reminded there has been a commitment of \$10,000 from the AESD budget; plus each ESD will fund up to \$3,000.

Report from Superintendents on Performance Audit

Jerry Jenkins is the chairman for the audit. Terry Munther, Bruce Hawkins and Jerry have been looking at multiple drafts for a recommendation to the state auditor on the performance audit. Members were reminded that prior to July of 2008, each ESD must take formal action and report on any progress. Members were asked if they wanted to hold a special meeting of the ESD Coordinating Board in April, during the AESD Annual Conference. The subcommittee will report back to the AESD Board at its February meeting with recommendations. All were asked to discuss this within their own ESDs. The consensus was that April would be a good time to address it.

Professional Educator Standards Board Decision on Certification Fees

Keim reported that the certification fee issue has been in the works for about a year. The ESDs are losing money in the certification office. Last year, there was a \$300,000 deficit across all 9 ESDs. That's because the initial certificates have moved to the universities; the remaining fees must go towards professional development. The money is split between the ESDs and OSPI. While there is consensus for a change in statutory change, there is a lot of resistance from PESB. After a survey of constituents, many were supportive of keeping the certification office. The big challenge will be when PESB writes the WACs.

Legislative Report

Jim Shoemake reported on the status of legislative activities, and distributed a report. Both he and Tom Kelly have met with OSPI and received Dr. Bergeson's budget proposal. There is a line item of \$50,000 for each ESD to assist in the process of automatic online certification process. Regarding core funding a report was provided on the allocation formula and shortfalls. Meetings have been held with Amy Scay? And Julie Salvi; further meetings are planned with the two budget writers for both the Senate and the House.

Technical assistance – It was reported there will be five districts in “binding conditions” (i.e., those where their budgets go into the red and remain). Those in the red must prepare a 5-year plan and work with the ESD and OSPI to alleviate it. In these cases, the ESD has final authority over the expenses. A proposal to avoid this situation is to have districts at risk work proactively with the ESD. One fiscal assistant for each ESD is proposed to help avert this type of situation. ESD 112 has developed a modeling tool that forecasts where a district may be in five years. This service would be offered to districts.

Dropout Prevention/Intervention – A meeting is set with Sen. Rosemary McAuliffe on this issue.

Capital Funding Study is proposed that will study the facility needs of ESDs.

Supt. Bergeson's proposed budget contains five areas that directly impact ESDs:

- \$50,000 for ESDs for automatic online certification
- Feasibility study for facilities and ways to fund it
- Administrative support to complete health assessments
- Adolescent Reading Initiative –
- Improving school safety
- IT

Shoemake reiterated that the message received from the Governor's office was that she does not plan to fund any new initiatives. There is a plan to restore I-732 and to start to level off the grandfathered districts.

Terry Munther inquired as to the stability of funding in the proposed budget for those ESDs that have juvenile facilities. Asked where in the budget that was placed? Shoemake replied he would find out and email that to those four ESDs where that is an impact.

Tom Kelly reported that they had met with Jennifer Priddy and Bob Butts and reviewed Bergeson's budget. They plan to meet next week and periodically thereafter throughout the session. The Washington Professional Development Coordinating Council (which is an executive agency as opposed to long-term policy development) composed of K-12, higher ed, SBE, PESB is meeting. They will look at the math professional development by first taking an inventory of professional development activities. After they receive input, action will be taken. Then, the Council will look at science. Keim reported that Monte Bridges represents the AESD on the coordinating council. He also stated that Cathy Davidson seems highly committed to this process. Jim Shoemake handed out a draft 2008 AESD legislative brochure to executive board.

AESD Conference Update

Jenkins shared a draft program and asked Gordon Griggs to review the format of the conference. The conference will be held in downtown Everett at the Holiday Inn hotel beginning the afternoon of April 24 through April 26. On Thursday, the AESD executive board will be held in the afternoon, followed by an ESD Coordinating Board meeting. A reception and dinner banquet follows. On Friday morning, a buffet breakfast will be followed by a general session with keynote speaker, Andrea Peterson, the national teacher of the year. Three concurrent sessions will then be offered, followed by lunch. After lunch, attendees will board a bus and travel to the Future of Flight, to listen to Dr. George "Pinky" Nelson talk about professional development for science educators. Attendees will then split into two groups and will alternate hearing the legislative update and taking a tour of the center. Members will elect new officers and have a business meeting on Friday afternoon. Friday night dinner is on your own and Saturday morning, Dr. Brian Talbott will provide an update of what's happening nationally with ESAs. Boeing tours are available for families and spouses, if they wish to take them.

Howard Coble recommended recognizing Merle Kirkley for his contributions to the AESD. For those who have served 30 years or more, members will be recognized during the business meeting.

The board took a ten minute break and resumed meeting at 4:10 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Accreditation Discussions with Northwest Association of Accredited Schools

Keim opened discussion on the accreditation issue and asked Terry Munther to comment. Munther reported that the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools (NAAS) is interested in working with the AESD, rather than being a competitor. The NAAS has stated, however, that they believe the AESD is not authorized to provide accreditation, only evaluation. Keim announced that Terry Munther and Jerry Jenkins will serve as the subcommittee to meet with NAAS group representatives to continue discussions with them and explore the issue further. He noted that the AESD had received an informal attorney general opinion on their right to perform accreditation, on the same level as the NAAS.

DSHS Fingerprinting Request for Proposal and Possible ESD Response

Keim reported on an RFP opportunity (December 20 deadline) to perform stateside digital fingerprint services for DSHS. The revenue would bring in approximately \$30,000 a year. Members discussed the pros and cons of the ESDs working together on such a project.

Pros: It would bring in a definite, predictable revenue stream; it would reinforce ESDs as a regional system; this is an opportunity and shutting the door might shut other future opportunities. Cons: Is this really central to the ESD mission and would it initiate mission creep?

Keim reported the proposal contains much complexity, so the ESD superintendents were bringing the issue (4 supported consideration/2 opposed consideration/3 abstained) to the executive board for consideration. Keim shared that Marty Daybell had suggested it was a good opportunity and that the vendor might take on the load of writing the proposal. The basic plan would require the use of a portable unit that would provide fingerprint services to those who contract with DSHS in a 50-mile radius of that ESD area. A toll-free 800 system and online system that is accessible to disabilities in multiple languages would be a requirement also. Jane Gutting stated that they involved their fiscal officers in analyzing whether this was viable. Howard Coble stated he did not have enough information to make a determination. One question was whether this aligned with the ESD mission. The need for

fingerprinting around early learning services was raised — and could the proposal be limited to early education? Overall, the board agreed that we should respond, if at all, on our own terms. Coble suggested the vendor put a response together to the RFP, protect it with sufficient resources and then make a decision. Keim stated he would check with Marty to see if that was a possibility. Monte Bridges reminded stated there would be impacts to ESDs in or near rural and urban areas due to isolation and high numbers. Gordon said he wanted to talk to his colleagues. There's at least one private entity who will respond.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is served by Howard Coble, Ken Seng and Brad Gingerich.

Resolutions Committee

There were no reports from the resolutions committee.

OTHER BUSINESS

Jane Gutting announced that the simple majority had received approval.

A report from Steve dal Porto was distributed.

RECESS FOR DINNER

The executive board recessed at 4:45 p.m. and resumed its business meeting and dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Robert Bauer introduced Martharose Laffey (WSSDA) and Paul Rosier (WASA). Laffey expressed her appreciation to the ESDs who had contributed scholarships to the Leadership WSSDA. She reported on the student achievement task force and their development of a position paper and data dashboard for school boards. She reported that their board is potentially looking at board certification or board standards for school board members. They are also addressing board-superintendent relations and are working with Paul Rosier with Tim Waters on stability and student achievement. She also reminded them that our new director of Leadership Services is Phil Gore who has oversight of conference and board training. She noted also the coalition work between the executive directors of PSE, WEA, AWSP, WASA and WSSDA executives to address the definition of basic education. She reported on a meeting she and Marilee Scarbrough had with Bill Keim on the systemic review of the AESD. Recognizing the overlap between the ESDs and WSSDA, she requested that the ESDs work collaboratively with the school directors' association around board training.

Paul Rosier expressed his thanks for the AESD's work in partnering with WASA. He reported that Rich McBride is the new WASA president. Rosier reported on the Gates funding secured for the Leadership Academy and that a new director had been hired, Dale Kinsley. They are also working with McRel and with the SBE on a Meaningful diploma. He said there will be issues of funding during the upcoming session. It was the consensus to raise those areas of agreement and focus on them. HJR 4204 was a great example of 28 groups working together. Rosier added if we can't get a fix to the current funding system, need to get the TRI issue settled, as it has caused a lot of dissention.

Terry Bergeson and Cathy Davidson both arrived and introduced themselves. Dr. Bergeson commented on the funding issue and reported that several legislators are working to fix the way money is allocated. She commented on the Federal Way court decision and that the judge's opinion that the salary distribution was based on history alone, and was not based on any legal, rationale. She commented on

the NERC issue, the need for transportation fixes and stated that special education improves by improving basic education.

Bergeson requested she be provided information on the funding model that ESD 112 has developed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Sands
Recording Secretary

Approved:

Robert Bauer, 2007-08 AESD President