

AESD Executive Board Work Session
The Mayflower Hotel-Waverly Suite
2:00 – 5:15 p.m.
November 17, 2005

MINUTES

Call to Order: AESD President, Maggie Perez, called the meeting of the Executive Board to order at 2:10 p.m. The following were in attendance:

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, ESD 114
Monte L. Bridges, Puget Sound ESD 121
Bruce Hawkins, ESD 123
Rich McBride, North Central ESD 171
Dr. Jerry Jenkins, ESD 189

ESD Board Members

Robert Bauer, ESD 101
Maggie Perez, ESD 105
Ann Campbell, ESD 112
Howard Coble, ESD 113
Jean Wasson, ESD 114
Ken Seng, Puget Sound ESD 121
Gordon Griggs, Northwest ESD 189

Other ESD board members

Bill Bauman, ESD 112
Bev Abersfeller, ESD 123 (alternate for Brad Gingerich)
Ed Daling, North Central ESD 171 (alternate for Randy Johnston)

Others Present

Norm Wisner, AESD Legislative Liaison and Facilitator
Eldene Wall, Executive Assistant, North Central ESD 171
Cindy Sands, WSSDA Staff Liaison to AESD

Unable to Attend

Brad Gingerich and Randy Johnston

Agenda Revision: Members and guests introduced themselves to one another. Ken Seng requested a change in the agenda by switching items (A) and (B). Members consented to the change. The floor was then open for discussion on item (B) the executive director/facilitator-proposal to sustain and coordinate the statewide ESD system.

Discussion on Executive Proposal: Twyla Barnes expressed her appreciation for ESD input on the proposal. She reported the ESD superintendents had met earlier and reviewed the feedback. She reported support for a position but there are questions that remain unanswered. It was their consensus that any potential contract be formed through WASA and that Norm Wisner's involvement continue.

There are questions as to how the position would be governed and supported. Barnes suggested that a subcommittee be formed to work out details, such as a job description and a transition period and that it could be ready to implement by late Spring.

Bill Keim proposed that a subcommittee define the definition of the position for executive staff services, prepare a job description, a budget, and bring forward a proposal to the February meeting.

Members were directed to return to their ESDs with this information; meanwhile, a subcommittee could be appointed to determine the necessary criteria needed and have a draft proposal on the position developed by December 15, 2005. The draft would then be reviewed during the February meeting, with an interim report and draft in March and a final report ready by April.

It was the consensus of the executive board, that a subcommittee study the feasibility of an executive director for the AESD. Additionally, Gordon Griggs requested that legal counsel be consulted to ensure legal compliance regarding any contract with WASA to ensure compliance with state statute.

Seng commented that this would be a good opportunity to increase the visibility with board members and superintendents through this process.

Some of the issues that need to be addressed are like services that ESDs offer and a determination as to where "gaps" occur.

Moved/Seconded/Carried/Wasson/Campbell to authorize the appointment of a subcommittee comprised of three board members and three superintendents to study/define the executive director/facilitator/services as described above.

Members then moved to Item (A) and discussed the AESD goals and strategies.

Discussion on Strategic Goals & Strategies:

The preliminary goals are as follows, with discussion following each goal:

Goal #1 – Create partnerships of those involved in the welfare and services of students pre-K-12;

It was clarified that the current changes being considered are an addendum to the strategic plan that was adopted when Ann Campbell was President.

There was discussion to replace the word, “Create” with “Expand.” There was consensus to adopt the foregoing change.

There was discussion on the use of the word, “children” instead of “students”, which would state as follows: “...children birth through grade 13.” It was the consensus of the members to adopt the foregoing change:

Goal 1: Expand partnerships of those involved in the welfare and services of children birth through grade 13;

It was the consensus of the group that (a) and (b) are strategies rather than goals and should be reworded into two separate goals, Goal 2 and Goal 3, as follows:

Goal 2: Build a funded, regionally-delivered statewide system to support school and district efforts for improving student success.

Goal 3: Build a regional academic intervention model for students in the class of 2008 and beyond.

Goal 3 is then renamed as Goal 4.

Goal 4: Develop an AESD communication plan utilized by all members to advocate for AESD systems, goals and strategies.

Components of a model addressed in Goal #3 would consist of: diagnostic assessment, teaching units or strategies linked to assessed needs; logistical plan, motivational psychology and marketing plan. A plan addressing remediation and retakes will need to be developed in conjunction with OSPI. Modules will need to be developed for those students who border between passing 2 and passing 3 of the 4 units of the WASL. Additionally, the OSPI has asked the ESDs to give a presentation during their January OSPI conference.

Concerning the strategic plan, the timelines on specific goals will be further developed by the ESD superintendents. They will give a preliminary report on the strategic plan. Additionally, members were reminded that telephone conference calls on legislative strategies will begin in January when session convenes.

Legislative Update: Norm Wisner was asked to provide the AESD legislative plan for 2006.

AESD PRIORITIES

Policy Issues

1. Expand regional delivery system to facilitate school improvement & increased student achievement.

Fund staffing at each ESD to:

- Operate building-based school improvement.
 - Analyze student data, develop and implement school improvement plans.
 - Create and implement a comprehensive school safety plan.
2. Develop system necessary to implement Early Learning initiatives.
 3. Expand the funding for “Core Services” to a level consistent with state requirements.
 4. Support the Special Education formula change for increased funding.

Specific Programs – Funding

1. Learning Assistance
2. Focused Assistance
3. Laser
4. Paraprofessional training
5. Math Helping Corp
6. Technology
7. Nurse Corp

Norm Wisner stated that the legislative priorities are derived from the strategic plan and some address specific funding items. The first items list address policy issues and the second specific programs item lists specific types of funding. He requested that members provide input on items that are important.

(Each item was discussed and is followed by a brief comment.)

1. Expand regional delivery system to facilitate school improvement & increased student achievement.

Fund staffing at each ESD to:

- Operate building-based school improvement.
- Analyze student data, develop and implement school improvement plans.
- Create and implement a comprehensive school safety plan.

Wisner clarified that funding from the legislature will be requested to fund the ESD regional delivery system – currently funded by user fees.

2. Develop system necessary to implement Early Learning initiatives.

It is expected that early learning will be funded per the Washington Learns recommendations. He referenced the white paper that demonstrates how ESDs are able to implement early learning.

3. Expand the funding for “Core Services” to a level consistent with state requirements.

Funding for core services is needed. It’s currently under-funded with less than a range from 2-9% of the total budget among the various ESDs.

4. Support the Special Education safety net formula change for increased funding.

A change has been made in the safety net formula. Apparently, maintenance of effort is no longer a requirement of the district.

Specific Programs – Funding

1. Learning Assistance
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Washington Learns Report: Terry Munther was asked to give his report on the current work of Washington Learns. Munther reported on the recommendations to the legislature. He reported that the main focus was on transition of students to the world of work issues and dropout prevention. There's a focus on three areas: improving the availability of early learning resources; reducing dropout rate and preparing students for the world of work; and, improving the statewide system. There is discussion around more funding for college in the high school and providing apprenticeship opportunities in the trades.

The next focus of the study is whether K-12 school districts are using their funds efficiently. This will be done by an independent contractor. Washington Learns' next meeting is November 29th. Their final recommendation report to the Legislature is due November 2006.

Constitutional Committee Report: Howard Coble reported on the work of the constitutional committee. He thanked the committee () for their work. A proposal (Draft #3-dated 11/5) was distributed to members. Coble asked Gordon Griggs to review the proposed changes.

Griggs reviewed the draft and amendment process, explaining the necessity of a 2/3rds vote of the regular members to change the constitution. The final draft should be submitted to the executive board at the February meeting, and if approved, forwarded to the entire membership 30 days prior to the April meeting.

He noted that the biggest change will be in Article V, addressing OFFICERS.

Generally, constitutions are supported by bylaws. It was suggested that if the Constitution is amended, a set of bylaws can be developed afterward.

Article XI FINANCE (4) regarding Executive Secretaries bond, it was requested that Cindy Sands find out if WSSDA offers bonding for its employees.

A change in officer structure was discussed. There was discussion on the value of the past president serving in an advisory capacity. It was clarified that the past president to serve in an officer capacity would be the *immediate* past president.

Campbell discussed her recollection that the body at its Leavenworth business meeting had approved the concept that officers serving on the AESD first be members for 2-3 years initially.

Additionally, there was discussion of having the ESD superintendent and the ESD board members serve for a two-year period—and have concurrent terms.

It was suggested by Ed Daling that should the executive director idea evolve, that person can help with some of these issues. The issue was tabled until the next regular meeting to be held in February.

It was desired that the Constitution be voted on by the executive board at February's meeting.

Griggs inquired as to the mission statement, of which there are two samples. It was the consensus to use mission statement alternative #1, which read as follows:

The purpose of the Association of Educational Service Districts shall be to provide communication and coordination among ESD Boards for educational advocacy; for fostering leadership and partnerships; and for collaboration within the educational community.

Moved/Seconded/Carried/Seng/Bauer to use the language from alternative #1 as the Constitution's mission statement.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m. to reconvene at 6:30 p.m. at the Westin Hotel for its regular meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Cindy Sands
WSSDA Staff Liaison

Maggie Perez, President