

# Press Release



## Battle Ground Public Schools

Director of Communications: Gregg Herrington, (360) 885-5337

PO Box 200 • Battle Ground, WA 98604-0200 • Office Location: 11104 NE 149th Street • Brush Prairie, WA  
District Switchboard: (360) 885-5300

May 21, 2011

### Mavis Nickels named to BG School Board



#### **Mavis Nickels, Battle Ground Public Schools' newest School Board Member, appointed May 21, 2011**

The Battle Ground School Board of Directors Saturday elected retired teacher Mavis Nickels from a field of three candidates to fill the Board vacancy created by the April 30 resignation of Sam Kim.

“We are five,” Board President Steve Pagel declared following the 4-0 vote by him and fellow directors John Idsinga, Monty Anderson and Ken Root.

Except for the day Kim resigned, the Board has been one short since March 26 when Karen Lehman resigned. Ken Root was elected on April 30 to replace Lehman, but at the end of that meeting Kim resigned, creating the vacancy that was filled Saturday.

Kim’s term, like Lehman’s, ends in December. Root and Nickels will serve until then. To continue beyond that they must win election to a full four-year term this fall. Root is in Director District No. 2 and Nickels in Director District No. 4.

Nickels taught math and science in the Battle Ground School District from 1976 – 1999, the last 20 years at Prairie High. She served on the Washington State

Mathematics Commission as a trainer and a writer and editor of math-assessment tests.

After retiring in 1999 she worked another 10 years as a consultant, coordinator of student assessment and teacher mentor for Battle Ground schools and taught at Concordia University in Portland. She raises blueberries and is an official with Village EcoSystem, a nonprofit corporation.

In public meeting Friday evening the Board interviewed all three applicants – Nickels, Eric Silvey and Dominic Webber -- and then discussed their qualifications in a closed session. They voted in an open-meeting Saturday at Battle Ground High School.

Idsinga stressed that the decision was not easy and that all candidates had strengths. He and the other Board members urged Silvey and Webber to be involved with the school district in some capacity, saying there is always room for volunteers.

Both Lehman and Kim stepped down for work-related reasons. Lehman is an educational consultant who often works in the Southwestern United States. Kim is an information and technology executive with Harrah’s Entertainment in Las Vegas.



The Battle Ground School District provides equal opportunity in programs and employment and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin/language, creed/religion, sex, sexual orientation-including gender identity, disability, or the use of a service animal by a person with a disability, age, marital status, honorably discharged veteran or military status and HIV/Hepatitis C status. Diana Gilsinger, Marcia Christian and Jane Mercier are designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination. They can be reached as follows: Maria Christian, Title IX Sexual Harassment Coordinator, 360-885-5415, christian.marcia@bgds.k12.wa.us; Diana Gilsinger, Deputy Superintendent, 360.885.5338, gilsinger.diana@bgds.k12.wa.us; Jane Mercier, Section 504/ADA Coordinator 360.885.5318, mercier.jane@bgds.k12.wa.us or by letter to one of them at Battle Ground School District, PO Box 200, Battle Ground, WA 98604.