



Battle Ground Public Schools

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BG Board, Briefly

School district budget and policies OK'd

The Battle Ground School Board Saturday, Aug. 28, wrapped up its 2009-2010 fiscal-year business in a meeting that included approval of the district budget for the coming year, action on two district policies and briefings on state test-score results and capital projects. The Board also set its 2010-2011 schedule for regular meetings. All members were present, Karen Lehman via speaker phone.

Capital projects

Kevin Jolma, facilities and operations director, updated the Board on projects in the works or recently finished, including the hookup of **Prairie High School** to the Clark Regional Wastewater District sewer line. The school had been on a septic system since the it opened in 1979. This project clears the way for refurbishing the old drain fields in the coming year for use in athletics.

Jolma also reported on changes to the **Prairie High** parking lot, for safety and efficiency. He said the new 119th Street driveway will be closed for several days as part of the project but will be open again before school starts Sept. 8. In the meantime, motorists will have to enter via Northeast 117th Avenue. Other projects described by Jolma included new carpeting and painting at **Laurin Middle School**, improvements to the loading dock at the **district warehouse**, moving of refurbished portable classrooms to **Amboy Middle School** and installation of new surface for the track at **District Stadium**.

Scott McDaniel, director of technology services, reported on installation of new video surveillance and access controls at some schools in the district.

Test scores

Bruce Kelley, director of assessment and research, reported to the Board on results for the district of state testing in grades 3 – 8 and high school and where the district and its schools stand in terms of federal Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) determinations. The school district as a whole made AYP. However, all schools are graded individually in reading and math and in various categories of students, including all test-takers as a whole, white, Hispanic, English language learners, special education and low income. For Kelley's two-page narrative summary of district results, see the district Website, battlegroundps.org, or, if receiving this via email, see the attachment. The complete report will be released to the public by the state Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction on Tuesday, Aug. 31, and will be accessible at www.k12.wa.us.

Appointments

Marcia Christian, assistant superintendent for human resources, introduced **David Kennedy**, the new principal at Glenwood Heights Primary School. Kennedy had been assistant principal at Daybreak Primary.

Battle Ground High School math teacher Heather Noren introduced BGHS senior **Jason Conner** as the school's representative to the School Board.

Board Calendar

The school board set its schedule for regular meetings for the coming school year. Times, dates and places will be posted on the district's Website at battlegroundps.org, but these are the dates: Sept. 18, Oct. 23, Nov. 13, Dec. 11, Jan. 22 (2011), Feb. 11, Feb. 26, March 11, March 26, April 30, May 20, May 21, June 17, July 16 and Aug. 27.

New policies

The Board discussed and adopted two new policies. Jill Smith, director of teaching and learning and alternative high school principals Paul Bardzik, Colleen O'Neal and Mark Clements discussed the status and potential for various forms of on-line and distance learning. This follows a study last year by an online learning committee, whose members were introduced by Smith.

Scott McDaniel, director of technology services, presented revisions in a policy to ban so-called "sexting" by students on telecommunications devices on school property and at school-sponsored events.

Budget

The Board approved the district’s budget for 2010-2011. The action followed two public hearings on the proposed budget. For an at-a-glance look at the budget and a more detailed printed PowerPoint presentation by Assistant Superintendent MaryBeth Lynn, go to the district Website at battlegroundps.org or, if receiving this via email, check the attachments. It was noted that depending on changes in the district’s financial picture as a result of action by federal and state governments, the district could return to the Board with proposed adjustments.

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