

SULTAN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 311
MINUTES OF STUDY SESSION BOARD MEETING
January 03, 2011
SULTAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY
501 Date Street, Sultan WA
7:00 PM

Roll Call

Board Members Present

Craig Roesler
Patty Fountain
Steve Fox
Tracy Cotterill
Russ Sumpter

Superintendent Present

Dan Chaplik

Board Members Absent

Visitors Present None

Student Rep Absent

Zack Day

Staff Present: Dave Moon, Layne Anderson *note Laura Moa taking minutes due to Jackie Whaley being out-of-district.

Audience
Input

None

Call to Order

Chairman Roesler called the study session meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Mid-year
budget
reductions

Superintendent Dan Chaplik discussed the mid-year budget reductions from the legislature:

- Some actions the Governor and legislatures took in December 2010 may cause some reductions in funding during the current school year.
- General fund may be offset by approximately \$150,000 in the negative.
- January 11 is when the new legislative session should begin.

Enrollment
Discussion

Superintendent Chaplik gave the board the December Enrollment Report. The charts and graphs show the history of enrollment in the Sultan School District. While we had several students enroll today in our schools, history shows that there will be a decline in enrollment during the remainder of the year. This is mostly due to upper grade students leaving the district.

Overall for the year, on-site enrollment is down one whole classroom spread out over the district. Superintendent Chaplik explained that from September to December, the district is paid through apportionment on the budgeted enrollment numbers. Starting in January, apportionment starts paying from the actual enrollment numbers and, if enrollment is lower than budgeted, then our January payment will go down to offset what we may have been overpaid.

Russ Sumpter asked how the district compares from year to year and where the students are going that leave our district. Russ stated that he has talked with other districts and this seems to be a trend, they are all losing students.

Superintendent Chaplik stated that there are various reasons for students leaving: online schools, home schooling, moving to more metropolitan area with more job opportunities for the parents, as well as students dropping out of school altogether.

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Budget
Discussion

Layne Anderson, Director of Fiscal Services, gave an overview of the December 2010 Expenditure Report. The district applied for and received the Education Jobs federal funding grant of \$450,000. This money will offset the amount the state plans to take away from the district from January through May 2011.

ALE
Expenditures

In looking over the expenditure report, Chairman Craig Roesler stated the district should take a closer look at the Alternative Education expenditures as 46% has been spent YTD and that seems higher than most other YTD expenditures. Layne explained that part of the answer to the higher expenditure was caused by a higher enrollment than was budgeted resulting in more payments to CVA passing through the account which showed up as expenditures. Russ Sumpter asked that the district look into it further and Superintendent Chaplik plans to research the expenditures and report back to the Board of Directors.

Steve Fox summarize his thoughts on key points of the meeting; revenues may be lower than expected as enrollment continues to decline and next year may have a whole new set of financial set backs that the district should plan for. The Board may need to think of ways to re-work programs without losing the integrity and great work that is being accomplished within student learning.

Levy
Equalization

Superintendent Dan Chaplik stated that the levy equalization dollars for 2012 will be 95% of the total allotment we are eligible for, but will still be approximately \$150,000 more than we have received in the past. In addressing the budget challenges, Superintendent Chaplik stated that the district will proceed with a budget input committee in mid-March and ask for involvement from the staff, PTA/PTO and community members.

Superintendent Chaplik asked for input from the board on what format would be useful to them in understanding budget information being presented.

Lighting
Project

Superintendent Dan Chaplik informed the Board of Directors that the lighting contractors are currently on-site in the high school gym. Tracy Cotterill requested the outside lighting at GBE be enhanced as well. Dave Moon informed the board members that the lower light works well with the cameras at that school; however, it was noted that dim lighting makes it difficult for persons driving by to see if something was going on.

Adjournment

Being there was no further discussion; Chairman Roesler adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Jackie Whaley
Recording Secretary

Dan Chaplik, Superintendent

Craig Roesler, Chairman