



LA CENTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 101 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**BOARD WORKSHOP  
MINUTES**

**Tuesday, May 9, 2023  
7:00 PM  
HS Library**

Board Members Present: Eric Lindberg, Win Muffett, Dorri Oldham, Craig Whited, Amanda Miller  
Board Members Absent:  
Superintendent: Peter Rosenkranz  
Administrators: Nancy Carner, Lauri Landerholm, Michelle O’Neil  
Staff and Guests: Josh Soske  
Minutes taken by: Tammy Lichliter

The meeting was opened at 7:00 p.m.

1. Michelle O’Neil began the meeting by giving an academic and assessment update. In her April board report, she discussed reading data. It included links to progress reports to understand the reading levels of students. The progress reports help paras and teachers connect with students to set goals. Information from assessments help teachers to see where instruction help is needed. They also share the reports with parents. Her May board report will dive into educational technology.

Mr. Muffett asked, ‘How do we assess teachers?’ The district uses the Danielson Rubric. The teacher goes through the rubric with administrators for their evaluation. The district has had teachers that are “distinguished” by practice as measured by the administrators for a long time. Mr. Muffett commented that distinguished means nothing if you have low scores. The public cares about our scores. Mr. Whited said he would like to see more students meeting standard by “teaching to the kid.” Michelle said that that is part of the equity policy to design lessons that give access to all kids. Mr. Rosenkranz added that teachers set goals for themselves based on the rubric. Teachers and principals work through the evaluations together to support the teacher.

Mr. Whited asked if there is something that can be done to involve parents. Mr. Rosenkranz said that progress monitoring provides tools to help parents at home as was done with the reading program. Now the district will move on to math. Professional development for teachers is much more organized now. Assessments are being used not only at the state level, but the screeners the district uses drives the work. Michelle added that she has a plan to connect Star assessments with a digital platform to help students and parents catch up in math since covid learning loss is still an

issue.

Mr. Muffett asked if teachers are watched to evaluate their performance. Michelle said that principals visit the classrooms and she herself visited almost every classroom last year. She added that the math curriculum came with an instructional coach to help improve instruction. She believes the district should have an instructional coach and we will get there someday. Mr. Muffett added that it is important for staff to feel valued (relating to evaluations) but they need to want to do better.

2. Healthy Youth Survey Discussion- The board discussed the Healthy Youth Survey. Mr. Muffett said that he is in favor of administering the survey. The questions change every year, and there are some questions about gender identity. Mr. Muffett added that he is a fan of finding out what our kids do and think. The HYS gives us data to help understand students, and we need the data if we want to help make changes. Josh Soske said that the HYS is administered every other year to grades 6-12. He said that La Center United could create their own survey, but it would not process the data as efficiently as the state. The HYS does a great job of showing the characteristics of students who are depressed or suicidal. He added that some grants require the data as well. Pete is doing a follow-up meeting to discuss the questions on the survey. The district now has to do a waiver process to remove the questions that used to be optional questions for grades 8-12. He added that the district cannot make changes to the core questions. Mr. Muffett added that the survey is anonymous, parents can opt their children out, and any question that the students do not feel comfortable answering can be skipped by the student. He added that if we want parent support, we need to be sure that they are aware that they can opt their students out, or let them know their child can skip any question that they are uncomfortable with. Parents support us because we involve them. Teachers have a script that they read to the students before they take the survey. The survey is administered online.

Josh Soske added that our students are confident in not answering certain questions. He noted that roughly half (51%) of students did not answer the question about gender identity on the last survey. Mr. Rosenkranz added that we can defend using the survey as the data is anonymous and state-driven, and that the data gives us good information for how to guide resources for our students.

The board would like to know the number of grants that are affected by the HYS.

3. Cispus Fee Discussion- Lauri Landerholm gave an overview of the costs for Cispus and talked about the historical data involving the expenses. Mr. Linderberg said that he values this program and doesn't want the fee to cause any family concern. Josh Soske said that the scholarship foundation pays for kids that cannot afford it. There has not been a student that could not attend solely based on finances because of this scholarship. If a student is in need of a scholarship, the school contacts him. Mrs. Miller asked, "How many scholarships are needed per year?" Lauri said that there are maybe 10 or 12 in a high year and 4 or 5 in a low year. She added that she works with the parents when there is a financial need. Mr. Lindberg added that Woodland and Ridgefield's fees are in the \$150 or \$175 range. The board will consider the fee increase to \$175 per student at the May Board meeting.

4. Parent of the Year Recognition/Criteria – Lauri Landerholm and Michelle O’Neil presented the board with ideas on how to recognize our volunteers. Win Muffett said this idea stemmed from recognizing parents as the first teacher. The volunteers should have a student in the district. This would be a parent-volunteer incentive. He added that the district does have teachers that don’t seem to value parents. He believes this will help the district build relationships with parents. He added when you have healthy kids, parents are involved.

Most parents volunteer when their kids are in the elementary school. Very few volunteer once their children are in middle school. The intent of this award is to recognize those that give of themselves. One idea from the board was to highlight volunteerism in the monthly newsletters by doing a write-up to showcase those volunteers who have made an impact. The admin. team will look at putting together something next school year.

5. Waldon Groves Scholarship- It was discussed that the Waldon Groves Scholarship is not available this year because fund’s principal balance is below \$200,000.
6. Stadium Update- Josh Soske updated the board on the stadium. The permit from the city just received its last extension. The district is talking with Tapani in an effort to try to finish the bathrooms and kitchen. This would be accomplished with funds from LCEF. If LCEF can get the drywall donated, it will be on budget, if not, then the project will be short \$75,000. This would not complete the dance studio or wrestling room. Josh mentioned that a \$150,000 funding match was offered, but fundraising will need to be done to get the match in funding. The cornhole tournament should bring in about \$20,000. Josh said that he said that he can see a path to get \$60,000 to get the funding match

The board then adjourned to executive session at 8:57 pm. under RCW 42.30.110 (1)(f) for a complaint brought against a public employee. The executive session lasted 15 minutes.

The workshop adjourned at 9:13 p.m., no action was taken.

---

Board Secretary- Peter Rosenkranz

---

Board Chair – Win Muffett

---

Board Member-Eric Lindberg

---

Board Member-Dorri Oldham

---

Board Member – Craig Whited

---

Board Member- Amanda Miller