



In attendance: Janel Keating, Mike Dunn, Mike Nelson, Sharon Mowry, Mickey Lahmann, Josh Garcia, Paul Sturm, Jeanine Butler and Kathy Clayton.

Absent: Missy Hallead, Joan Kingrey, Faith Chapel, Carl Bruner, and Madonna Hanna.

I. Call to Order

Janel called the meeting to order and review the agenda.

II. Opening Activity

Each board member shared something that is happening in their district or something special in their personal life.

III. Consent Agenda

Minutes of the November 1st Board Meeting

Minutes were sent to board members in preparation for this meeting.

IV. Board Development

Janel shared insights from a book entitled, The Fred Factor, about the power of relationships and 'going the extra mile' in all aspects of our lives.

V. Strategic Plan and Action Items

A. Financial Summary and Update

Kathy responded to questions related to the revenue and expense reports for the month of September.

B. Strategic Plan Goals

The goals are re-ordered according to discussion and/or action requirements.

1) Goal 3: Programs, Products, and Services

a. 2006 Conference Review – Kathy and Janel provide information about the tribulations and celebrations with regard to the conference in Spokane. While the conference was a financial concern, we focused on the fact that about 350 people gained some fabulous staff development. We also discussed the importance of keeping a strong presence in Eastern Washington and that sometimes it may not be a financial success.

b. WSASCD Professional Development Activities (PDAs) –

Kathy shared information from the January 15th workshop with Joan Moser and Gail Boushey (the 'sisters') in Cheney. This workshop involved 80 participants, and because of good support from Cheney School District, who provided the facility and inexpensive food services, should profit us around \$3000. Kathy also provided an update on the upcoming Jay McTighe workshops and future PDAs. Sharon Mowry indicated that we need to make sure our information gets out to professors involved with Professional Certification.

c. 2007 Conference Update – Kathy gave an update for the 2007 conference, based on the committee’s January 25th planning meeting. The board provided the following input:

- a) An Action Lab related to leadership is needed. It was suggested that the committee seek out Dr. Harvey Alvy.
- b) We should provide complimentary registrations to award winners from other organizations.
- c) To market the Action Labs and Saturday Institutes, biographical information and pictures of the authors’ books should be provided in conference literature.
- d) When the committee has a completed grid for the concurrent sessions, but sure to make it available on the website and possibly send it out through a NewsFlash.
- e) Rather than sending out the conference registration information in February, we will send out a ‘save the date’ post card. The conference registration information will go out in April and September. The ‘call for presenters’ will go to members through a NewsFlash by the third week of March.

2) Goal 5: Leadership and Governance

b. OSPI Report - Mickey provided a packet of information relative to the status of OSPI projects and initiatives. She encouraged the board to continually check the OSPI website for information, especially related to their work with Early Learning, as they are waiting for funding from the legislature. Mickey said we would have information about significant legislative bills after February 28th to know what is still alive. The four national commitments are: Classroom Based Assessments, multiple forms of assessment, professional development, high school reform, and early childhood. Mickey will invite Yvonne Ryans, from OSPI, to our next meeting, as she may serve in Mickey’s place in the future.

3) Goal 4: Influence and Policy

a. Influence Grant – High School Forums: Janel shared that a forum was held at Mount Vernon High School with Representative Dave Quall. Carl Bruner will share specific information at the March meeting.

c. Emerging Leaders– Mike Dunn and Josh Garcia are creating a vision for an ‘Emerging Leader’ program in our state. They will be prepared to share information at the March 30th board meeting.

d. Influence & Advocacy – Mike Dunn will guide a conversation on how to provide our members with information during this legislative session.

4) Goal 3: Programs, Products, and Services

a. Critical Questions Series. Jeanine Butler will write an article related to ‘why educators should be politically engaged.’ The article will go out via NewsFlash during the last week of February, to coincide with the release of information on active legislative bills.

5) Goal 1: Diverse Active Membership

a. Actively promote and seek diversity in all aspects of Board Elections and Membership. Mike Nelson provided a nominations update for the positions that will be vacated by three board members. Gene Schmidt is a candidate for Jeanine's position from the ESD 105/171 area. Dave Colombini is a candidate for Madonna's position representing the ESD 114 area; and Barry Hoonan and Gary Plano are candidates for Faith's position from the ESD 121 North Puget Sound area. Kathy will request information from the candidates in February to prepare for ballots to go out in mid March.

b. Membership Dues – WSASCD is one of a handful of affiliates whereby the membership year is from October 1 to September 30. Kathy share information about the benefits of establishing membership on the anniversary of the initial dues collection. Because we did not have a quorum, and this would be a constitutional change, we will discuss this at our March meeting to determine if we should go forward with this concept.

c. Institutional Membership – This agenda item will be postponed to the March Meeting, where Kathy will guide a conversation on the pros and cons of providing an institutional membership option.

6) Goal 3: Programs, Products, and Services

e. Planning Ahead for 2008 – Kathy shared preliminary plans for the 2008 Annual Conference in Spokane. The new section of the convention center will be completed and this new space will work much better than the cavernous area used for the 2006 conference. The board provided the following names as possibilities for the 2008 conference committee: Helene Paroff, Morgan Surenzia, Pete Hall, Steve Goering, Joni Chambers, Annie Lehinger, Brian Moore, and Jim Howard. They also recommended the involvement of two west side representatives. They recommended Gerrie Garton and Faith Chapel. The board also recommended that we create a theme related to instructional strategies in math, science, and/or assessment. For speakers, the board recommends Bonnie Dunbar, an astronaut; and Gerald Bracy, who questions statistics, telling the truth about negative press.

VI. Special Board Focus

Math Instruction – As an organization, we strive to assist our members to develop capacity for teaching and learning, and improve classroom practice and student achievement. Invited guest, Kris Lineblad, Math Specialist from Spokane Public Schools and member of the Urban Math League, provided information on the issues facing our math educators today. In general, Kris says there is no math war. Math educators just need to ensure that students build a skill set at a conceptual level; then serve as a facilitators, through questioning, so that students construct their own learning. Following were the highlights of the conversation:

A. Three significant foundational changes occurring within our state with regard to teaching mathematics

- 1) State Standards
 - a) Process strands – How to use in conceptual application
 - b) Curriculum – Level of rigor ‘what does that mean?’
 - c) Measurement – Level of abstract application – Need to focus more on application and less on the algorithm
- 2) Math Education for all students - The questions we’re asking now are not the same as they used to be. Teachers need to understand assessment and process with focus on ALL students. We need a systematic way of looking at the GLEs, more specifically from K to 12.
- 3) Accountability – Districts need to focus on assessment
 - a) Align curriculum to GLEs – create unit assessments as a district
 - b) Classroom-Based Assessments to match expectations of WASL

B. How Spokane Public School has responded to the changes

- 1) Adopted aligned curriculum –see <http://www.k12.wa.us/curriculuminstruct/>
- 2) Wrote common aligned assessments and base instructional decisions on results for all courses
 - a) Curriculum Maps
 - b) Testing - Item analysis Ask the question, “Why did our kids miss this?”
 - c) Look for strategies that increase transfer of learning
- 3) Provided teacher supports – professional development, coaches, curriculum and program guides
 - a) Professional development is key. Teachers need training on constructivist approach to teaching mathematics – Know how to ask questions and evaluate answers for process. Best assessment is, “Why do you think that’s the answer?”
 - b) Writing in mathematics is different than writing in literacy. Need to make sure students are writing about the right things. (i.e., in math, the big idea is the last sentence – in social studies, the big idea is the first sentence)
- 4) Implemented summer modules (with teacher training in pedagogy)
- 5) Designed support courses for double dosing and /or supporting students
- 6) Conducted action research with Cognitive Tutor, ALEkS, labs
Instituted third year math requirement
- 7) Made changes in hiring practices to centralized early hiring
- 8) Provided professional development for administrators focused on math strategies

C. Changes Needed Across the State (taken from Kris’ handout)

- 1) Fundamental changes in instruction
 - a) from teacher-centered to student-centered
 - b) engagement with curriculum
 - c) deep understanding and implementation of formative assessment strategies
 - d) changes in our belief system
- 3) deeper content knowledge for teaching

- 2) Changes in instructional leadership
 - a) move from evaluations based on classroom management to
 - b) evaluations based on instructional practice
 - c) provide opportunities for teachers to reflect with an instructional leader about their practice
 - d) opportunities for teachers to observe others' teaching practices and work together on strategies
- 3) Changes in interventions for students
 - a) interventions systematically applied *before* a student enters high school
 - b) construction of good intervention materials
 - c) a range of intervention possibilities for students
- 4) Recruitment and preparation of math teachers
 - a) work with universities to align teaching programs with realistic expectations
 - b) incentives??
- 5) Communication with Washington community
 - a) clear and constant communication with parents, business leaders, political leaders about the changes in mathematics as they align with the changes in our economic position and our increased knowledge about how students learn

Next Board Meeting: Friday, March 30, 2007
 Puget Sound ESD
 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Focus for Next Board Meeting

- 1) Mathematics: How do we influence practice?
- 2) Celebrating our website