

## Wenatchee School District Board of Directors Workshop

Minutes of October 6, 2020  
Virtual ZOOM Meeting – 1:00 p.m.

### CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Directors Workshop was called to order by Board President, Laura Jaecks, at 1:00 p.m.

### ATTENDANCE

Present:

Laura R. Jaecks, Board President (via remote access)  
Martin Barron, Board Vice President (via remote access)  
Dr. Michele Sandberg, Board Director (via remote access)  
Julie Norton, Board Director (via remote access)  
Maria Iñiguez, Board Director (via remote access)  
Dr. Paul Gordon, Board Secretary

### Also Present:

Staff members (via remote access)

Diana Haglund, Communications Director, provided an update on the community-wide testing that is occurring, encouraging Board members to take part in the testing and to share information about the testing on social media and with their friends and families. She noted that elementary school employees and selected PreK-2 families will also be invited to take part in the testing, to provide a better understanding of the prevalence rates of the virus in that group.

### STRATEGIC PLANNING

Dr. Gordon expressed his appreciation for the work done by the Board at the September 21st Workshop and provided an overview of today's agenda. He went on to review roles and responsibilities of the Board and others involved in the strategic planning process, and the communication feedback loop that will be utilized throughout. He emphasized that a strategic plan needs to be owned by the entire community, including school staff, administrators, parents, students and Board members, with all participants having a voice in creating the best possible Vision and Mission for the Wenatchee School District.

Mrs. Haglund provided a summary of the Board's "Just Cause" discussion around the categories: For Something, Inclusive, Service Oriented, Resilient, and Idealistic, which will serve as a starting point for today's conversation. She then reviewed previous information compiled relating to District Priorities, including results from a stakeholder survey, a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) Analysis, and the Superintendent's six month Listening and Learning process.

Dr. Gordon then presented a padlet outlining the Just Cause work, along with community priorities and SWOT Analysis feedback. He reminded Board members that the work they are doing currently revolves around the creation of a Vision Statement. After a Vision Statement is created, the work will move towards identifying strategic priorities and action steps. The pathway for the work will be: Vision, Strategic Priorities, Mission and Learner Profile. Once the strategic priorities are identified, staff will then be reengaged around actionable steps to reach those priorities. The Action Steps will be presented to the Board and then shared out to the community and at some point, metrics will be assigned to the strategic priorities.

Board members then asked questions, had conversation, and participated in an exercise to work towards identifying the Vision for the District. Dr. Gordon indicated that this work would be brought to the Strategic Plan Committee for their thoughts, then looped back through the feedback groups to review and refine.

Dr. Gordon then explained characteristics of effective strategic priorities and methods Board members could use in identifying those priorities for the Wenatchee School District. He asked Board members to enter into a dialogue and identify three to four strategic priorities (Big Ideas) for the District. Following lengthy discussion, Board members identified strategic priorities as:

- Academics
- Partnerships
- Facilities
- Communication
- Social/Emotional

Dr. Gordon noted that traditional Big Ideas for organizations include Finance and Facilities. He added, however, that the Board may choose non-traditional or traditional ideas at their discretion. Hard choices must be made by the Board in terms of what they want the District to be hyper-focused on. Board members discussed this concept, noting that fiscal responsibility is always in the background and is a means to get to some of the other priorities.

At the conclusion of discussion, Dr. Gordon explained that this is hard work and that the Board would review these Big Ideas, try to narrow the list down to three or four priorities, then focus on providing concrete guidance under each priority at the next workshop on October 19th. Following that meeting, all the work done by the Board will be provided to the Strategic Planning Committee. Mrs. Haglund added that the Strategic Plan website will be updated to include information regarding our process, and will include a form for individuals to submit to express their interest in serving on the Committee. She will share that link with Board members when the updates have been completed.

Dr. Gordon responded to questions from Board members and provided a brief update on where the District is at in terms of reopening schools. He is working with doctors from the Chelan-Douglas Health District to make sure we have the right processes and protocols in place to open. The Moses Lake Superintendent, Dr. Josh Meeks, will also be speaking to the Chelan/Douglas team of Superintendents to share how things have been there since they opened in a hybrid model. Questions and answers regarding testing, returning to school, and updating the Continuous Learning 2.0 plan to incorporate new guidance followed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Jaecks reminded Board members of upcoming meetings and adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

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President Date

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Superintendent Date