

League of Women Voters of Pullman Observer Report

Name of Agency: Pullman School Board Date: 27 February 2019
Observer Reporting: Carol Ndambuki Length of Meeting: 1 hour 15 minutes
Members Present/Absent: ALL PRESENT Others Present (i.e., media, public): No Others Present

Content

Superintendent's Report, Action Items and Discussion Items:

Construction Related

- The new elementary school, Kamiak, is on schedule and on budget, most of the teachers have been selected and the few remaining open positions will be posted soon
- The district is putting together a proposal for state of Washington grant monies to build a 20,000-foot facility in conjunction with Colfax and Palouse who will join the transportation and maintenance cooperative. The cooperative makes it possible for the combined districts to have enough students to meet one of the criteria for the grant.
- The district has already put out requests for designs for the LMS remodel and several very promising inquiries have come in from around the country.

Finance Related

- The school auditor's organization has sent guidance to the district for a plan of sustainability to address the shortages created by the new funding formulas and regulations anticipated over the next four years
- The audit is to be conducted this spring
- Projected enrollment for the 2019-2020 school year, this year the out-of-district openings was capped, there was no more room. It is anticipated that there will be demand for spots at the new elementary school, but it is anticipated that there will be no room. Enrollment is projected to be 2806 using the cohort projection model and based upon the October count of the last five school years

Quality Education and Job Training

- Enrollment ended up lower than the projections for the year, some discussion ensued about why, part of it is explained by an increased number of students doing full running start at the community college
- There was significant discussion about changes at the State level requiring districts to change their policies regarding discipline, discouraging removal of students from the classroom, the Superintendent shared the on-going training in Positive Behavior with its focus on Social Emotional Learning, the increase in the number of counselors and the school design that includes safe spaces where students work together to problem-solve, the new policies will be rolled out over the next two years

Public Meetings of interest to League

New Elementary School (Kamiak) Tours for the public in the spring with the dedication in August, specific date TBA

Process & Protocol

Executive session for 45 minutes and adjournment to be announced at its conclusion.