

## League of Women Voters of Pullman Observer Report

Name of Agency: Pullman School Board

Date: 14 October 2020

Observer Reporting: Ndambuki

Length of Meeting: 2 hours

Members Present: Jim Evermann, Allison Munch-Rotolo, Susan Weed, Amanda Tanner, Nathan Roberts, Bob Maxwell, Roberta Kramer, Diane Hodge, Joe Thornton, Chris Franklin (CTE Program Coordinator), Jim Bruce (Principal Jefferson Elementary)

Members Absent: none

Others Present (e.g., media, public): No public joined via zoom as previously signed up; held over zoom

### Business pertaining to League Positions or topics of interest:

#### Quality of Instruction:

- **Public Health Officers presentation** to staff earlier in the week. There were a lot of attendees and did a good job of answering questions.
- **Teachers at Jefferson** have done incredible work with students and keeping aligned with the core standards, putting parents' minds at ease during these trying times who have been incredibly supportive and have provided positive feedback
- **Career and Technical Education** from Middle and High School students aligned with professional standards for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, focus on leadership skills, fulfill graduation pathways (two consecutive classes in a pathway and receive a certificate counts)
- Some are **dual credited** with college credit through Walla Walla Community College (about ten classes)
- 1400-page document for **Kamiak Commissioning Resolution** (discussion item tonight)
  - Report to be sent to the state when projects have used state funds
  - Ensures safeguard to make sure all systems (electrical, etc.) designed and installed properly
  - Takes time to work out any small glitches, a year to work through all is not uncommon
    - Example, duplexed outlets, one is connected to the motion sensors, if no one is in the room, that will shut down the lights and so on, complicated system
  - There are a couple of minor issues, waiting for parts to get that corrected
  - One-year warranty on the construction of the systems in general but many systems have longer time periods of warranty (e.g. windows)
- **Stages of Reopening**
  - All other Whitman County schools are back in person K-12
  - Draft document for public outlining how district will pass through the stages
    - Working directly with the Whitman County Department of Health
    - Slow transition to maintain safety
      - K-1 first to add other grades slowly
      - There are a number of parents that have indicated that they want online for the rest of the year
        - At the elementary level, having a class of online and others in person can be staffed, at the secondary level it will be more difficult
  - Decision will have to be made on a semester basis or perhaps the entire year
    - District currently surveying grade spans to anticipate staffing needs
  - Potential transition schedule: Group A Monday and Thursday; Group B Tuesday and Friday, no students in person on Wednesday

### **Responsible Use of Public Funds:**

- **CTE Perkins Grant** Approval, total amount has been increasing steadily, should be around \$20,000 this year
  - Based upon local needs analysis
- **Active construction projects LMS** on time, trusses in place. Starting moving dirt at the transportation cooperative.
- **Enrollment decrease** this year, due to Covid-19
  - Choice into Pullman, down slightly
  - Choice out of Pullman, about 70 total: mostly at elementary and middle only 17 at high school level
    - Many are going to online programs or districts that are offering in person
  - Home based instruction went from 60 to 143, the hope is that number will reduce once students are back in person
  - Decreases the budget due to lower apportionment
    - Will we be reaching out to the families
    - Most due to Covid-19 but the trend has been increasing
      - Looking into the partnership with families like other larger districts do

**Public Meetings of interest to League:** **Surplus sale** time again, coming to the Board with a list of items, turned to action item, passed, will advertise for two weeks, and then hold the sale one week after that, look for advertisement in local paper

### **Your additional comments/opinions:**

- District is doing a great job of making the zoom board meetings smooth, it is actually easier to see materials from the board packet in the zoom format.