

League of Women Voters of Pullman Observer Report

Name of Agency: Pullman School District Date: 25 September 2024
Observer Reporting: Ndambuki Length of Meeting: 1 hour 44 minutes
Members Present: Nathan Roberts, Amanda Tanner, Craig Nelson, Lisa Waananen Jones

Other District Personnel Present: Diane Hodge, Roberta Kramer, Bob Maxwell, Juston Pollestad (Director of Operations), Dom Ventresco (Assistant Director of Special Services), Evan Hecker (KES Principal), Kelly Pollestad (2nd grade teacher KES), Madison Hodges (core + teacher, KES), Katharine Covill (PHS Orchestra Teacher)

Others Present: PHS Orchestra students

Members Absent: Arron Carter

Business pertaining to League Positions or topics of interest: *Include in this section 1) issues discussed that relate to League priorities or positions. Do you recommend local league action? If so, please refer to the League position that supports your suggestion.*

Quality of Instruction:

- Parent resource partnership
 - Special Education Department
 - Initial survey with parents/guardians
 - Sent out through parent square
 - About educational evenings, how many times/year to have them
 - About special education services
 - Using the survey results to drive planning and organization for the new Assistant Director of Special Services
- Board makes final recommendations for the DEIB (Diversity Equity Inclusion and Belonging) task force membership

Responsible Use of Public Funds:

- Good progress on the interlocal agreement (1993) and the Aquatic Center, additional meetings are scheduled
- Career and Technical Education (CTE)
 - District responds to comments from CTE teacher at a prior school board meeting that explains that someone is on a continuing contract (it has to be renewed each year, if it is on .8 with a one year .2 additional contract, that only lasts that one year)
 - CTE has to “live within its budget”
 - \$35,000 over-spent last year
 - Over \$200,000 over budget on salaries and benefits (very, very experienced CTE staff, so the state allocation doesn't cover the full salaries)
 - Meeting with CTE to find ways district can support more student interest in the CTE offerings
 - Home school students join CTE classes
 - In spring, CTE decrease b/c students are trying to make up credits
 - Cross crediting CTE with credit required classes
 - Track CTE budget more closely throughout the year
 - CTE supply costs have also greatly increased
 - Per student/per class funding through the state