

NOTES FROM THE BOARD

PORT ANGELES SCHOOL DISTRICT

MAY 2009

SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH PROGRESS

We conducted extensive interviews with the two superintendent finalists, Dr. Ray Terry on May 12 and Dr. Jane Pryne on May 13. Each candidate participated in a day of scheduled opportunities to meet with various community shareholders, beginning their day with Superintendent Gary Cohn at 8:00 a.m. and ending with an open community forum at the Port Angeles Senior Services and Community Center at 8:00 p.m.

Several open forums were conducted within the district each day in order to provide time for teachers, staff and students to meet and ask questions of the candidates. This process was driven by our commitment to provide an open and transparent process and ample opportunities for community participation. We are extremely pleased with the number of people who attended the sessions, the quality of the questions posed to the candidates, and the excellent feedback provided through the comment forms distributed at every session.

We wish to extend our sincere appreciation to all who have taken part in the search process. Input and participation through surveys, open meetings, phone calls, emails, and street chats have all been crucial throughout this process and continue to guide us through our decision making.

We have scheduled a May 28 special session board meeting and hope to make an announcement soon after. See Superintendent Search: www.portangeleschools.org for updates.

SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET

After lengthy discussion and several adjustments, we approved \$2.56 million in reductions for the 2009-10 budget year at our May 4 meeting.

The plan eliminates all class size reduction from the lost I-728 funds and moves the district back to extended day kindergarten from the full day model that has been so successful this year. The plan also reduces or eliminates various grant and specially funded programs cut by the legislature. There are many other reductions, most of which come directly from the district's Fiscal Advisory Committee recommendations. Visit **Administration**, then **Budget/Fiscal Responsibility** at www.portangeleschools.org to view our budget progress.

Thank you for your patience as we and district leadership work to complete the 2009-10 budget. These are most definitely difficult times for our district schools' and staff.



Promise Scholar finalists from Stevens Middle School. Left to right: Brianna Webb, Kailee Wise, Robert Stephens, Justin Bradley, Taylor McCallister, Spirit Cooper and Samantha Wimberly

Please know that we appreciate the great work you continue to perform daily on behalf of our students' success.

BUDGET 101: DO YOU KNOW?

How much revenue does the district receive per student?
In 2008-09, the average basic education revenue earned for each student's enrollment is \$5,354.37.

What is the enrollment forecast for next year and beyond?
The average annual full-time equivalent student enrollment is projected to decline by 142 students in 2009-10 and by 139 in 2010-11. Kindergarten enrollment is an unknown as the information available to the district has not proven to have a direct relationship to the number of children that enroll in the program.

Full Day Kindergarten Options

We've requested that Superintendent Gary Cohn prepare options for tuition-based full day kindergarten for our consideration. Staff members have already begun initial research on tuition structures and rates in place in several other districts. We've asked for additional funding options, and will share resulting information and our next steps for possible future program options.

Enrollment Projections Update

The business office projects that K-12 enrollment, excluding the Skills Center and Running Start will average 3,669 students, approximately 142 FTE students lower than 2008-09. The projections are based on the enrollment history in the district, as well as the increase or decrease in students moving from one grade to the next averaged over four years. Enrollment in the Skills Center is projected at 150 and Running Start at 85. The total 2009-10 enrollment is projected to be 3,904 with the Skills Center and Running Start included.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 2

PAHS Concert: Choirs
7:30 p.m.

PAHS Performing Arts Center

June 4

PAHS Concert: Jazz & Percussion Ensembles
7:30 p.m.

PAHS Performing Arts Center

June 8

Regular School Board Meeting
7:00 p.m.

Central Services Building

June 8

Elementary School Music Concert
7:00 p.m.

Roosevelt Elementary Gym

June 12

PAHS Graduation
8:00 p.m.

PAHS Gymnasium
Entry by ticket only

June 15

Lincoln High Graduation
4:00 p.m.

North Olympic Peninsula Skills Center

June 16

KONP Radio 1450
PASD Interview
1:05 p.m.

June 17

Last Day of School!

June 22

Regular Board Meeting
7:00 p.m.

Central Services Building

ELIST

Sign up to receive school district news by email newsletter.

Visit www.portangeleschools.org. Look for MAILING LIST on the home page.

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CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU!

We know that the reason for student success is largely due in part to teacher and staff support, so let's celebrate our students, and your, success!

Washington Association of School Administrators Region 114 honored Andrew May, Mike Rauch and Theresa Rauch, all education "activists" in the Port Angeles community, at the region's awards dinner. Each was presented with a Community Leadership Award, an award presented annually to community members in honor of their outstanding community work on behalf of students and education.

Over 200 students from grades five through eight gathered at Stevens Middle School for the Math Olympiad. Vicki Helwick reported that 52 teams participated in the event, with teams coming from Marvista Elementary in Seattle, Mt. Baker Middle School in Mt. Vernon, and the remaining teams from Port Angeles and Sequim. Thanks to Vicki for her leadership and the many volunteers that made this event so successful. "Medals of honor" were awarded to a Stevens team, Danielle Schimschal, Molly Riser and Elizabeth Helwick, the only team to medal in the long problem exercise.

Congratulations to all strings students and Ron Jones, Mary Marshall and Ellen Woodward for another successful All-City String Review on May 7. Students, grades four through 12, performed together in this annual concert. Amazing performance!

Good luck to PAHS students Riley Lee-Card and Matt Taylor, gold medalists at the Washington State SkillsUSA conference, who will now attend National SkillsUSA June 20-27 in Kansas City, Missouri. Kudos to their advisors, Marcus Logan and Dan Helpenstell!

PAHS students, Alex Anderson, Amanda Wasnock and Corbin Brabant, competed against 54 teams in the international DECA Chapter Awards Project competition. "They won Top 10 in Presentation, Top 10 in Written, and Top 10 Overall," said DECA advisor Lora Brabant. Great work!

Roosevelt Elementary celebrated its 23rd Annual Safety Fair in May, a tradition sponsored by the PTA and begun at the former Fairview Elementary. Thank you PTA members and paraeducator JoAnn Lewis for organizing this successful event!

Stevens Middle School eighth graders Spirit Cooper and Robert Stephens were awarded the 2009 Gladys Christopher Pollanz Promise Scholarships. The two received the promise of a \$24,000 college scholarship each, \$6,000 per year for four years, providing that they meet scholarship criteria and graduate from Port Angeles or Lincoln High Schools. Other finalists from Stevens for the scholarship were Justin Bradley, Taylor McCallister, Brianna Webb, Samantha Wimberly and Kailee Wise. Please congratulate all finalists!

Twenty-one finalists from Port Angeles schools, including Franklin, Jefferson, Dry Creek, Hamilton, Roosevelt, Queen of Angels and Olympic Christian Schools, advanced to the city-wide bee at the Port Angeles City Hall Council Chambers. The top speller outlasting all competitors was Lexie Peabody from Jefferson Elementary. Ellie Engel from Olympic Christian won second place, and Holli Butler from Franklin Elementary won third place. Congratulations to all finalists, their teachers and families! Thank you fourth grade teachers and Soroptimist-Jet Set for organizing this event for students!

PAHS art students, Rebekkah Curtin, Heidi Eberle, Bryanna Gentry, Nicole Harrison, Kelly Hennessey, Kayla Hurley, Torrey Jakubcin, Molly Schermer, Hannah Spaulding, Amy Thomson, Donavon Walker and Mike Wiley are showing their work in the ArtPaths exhibit at the Fine Art Center through June 28. This is a must see! Congratulations to students and thank you to Barbara Slavik, director of education for the center, and art instructor Jenny Steelquist for your work on behalf of our students!

Congratulations to Olympic League Champions: PAHS teams: Boys Tennis, Girls Swimming, Girls Basketball, Boys Swimming and Girls Golf. 3A Olympic Division Champions: Fastpitch and Girls Tennis. Individual Awards: 152 Scholar Athletes (40 were 4.0), 1 League MVP, and 27 Athletes given Olympic League recognition.



Left to right, Amy Thomson, Nicole Harrison, Barbara Slavik, Torrey Jakubcin, Michael Paul Miller, Jenny Steelquist (art instructor at Port Angeles High School), Molly Schermer and Mike Wiley prepare for ArtPath exhibit.