

Port Angeles School District
216 East Fourth Street, Port Angeles, WA 98362-3023, 360.457.8575

Minutes- Elementary Transition Team
Wednesday, October 4, 2006 Notes

Attendees:

Kate Wenzl, Jeanne Wolfley, Michele Haworth, Doug Hayman, Kathy Millar, LeAnn Johnson, Nancy Pack, Debra Roos, Holly Juskevich, Gunnar Thomason, Karen Fox, Michelle Olsen, Theresa Schmid, Vicki Helwick, Kat Dadd, Leah Bauman, Ron Jones, Mary Morgan, Stephanie Gochmour, Theresa Rothweiler, Nolan Duce, Julie Smith, Linda Williams, Doug Gailey, Mary Hebert, Mary Marshall

Correction to Agenda:

The fourth item on the agenda read: "Review of Brand X Handout." It should have read: Review of Option D. Sorry for the inconvenience. Janice

Meeting Opening:

Ms. Hebert opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for their attendance and continued support and commitment.

Ms. Hebert acknowledged the work that Ron Jones has done in preparation for this meeting regarding Band/Strings/Music. The discussion on music will be started tonight.

Ms. Hebert welcomed Linda Williams, Director of Special Services and Doug Gailey and Mary Marshall, music staff members, to tonight's meeting.

Work Plan:

Ms. Hebert and the members then reviewed the *Elementary Transition Team Work Plan*. As stated on page 2 of the Work Plan, "The goal of the transition team is to complete its work and recommendations to the school board by the March 12 meeting." Ms. Hebert hopes that the team will be able to meet this deadline, but reassured them that if necessary, they would continue to meet to accomplish their goals.

Ms. Hebert reminded the members that there had been 42 options reviewed before Option D was chosen and that the team would be using Option D to find solutions and meet their goals. She reassured the members that she welcomes the members to share their ideas and suggestions with her. She in turn will share them at the meetings. Any suggestions and ideas should be emailed to Janice at janice_giordano@pasd.wednet.edu.

Ms. Hebert stated that she has been and will continue to work on personnel matters with representatives of the 5 associations/groups. Some of these matters concern staff placement. Ms. Hebert acknowledges that personnel matters and instructional matters all have an impact on

the decisions to be made by the members. The concerns are being addressed and considered but will not be addressed at this meeting.

Review of 9/27/06 Meeting – including MAC issue:

What was discussed: At Franklin, move 2 special education classes to Roosevelt. Consider moving MACs – Multi Age Classrooms - to Roosevelt.

Ms. Hebert then invited members to share their thoughts regarding the 9/27/06 meeting. Some of the comments made were as follows.

Ms. Haworth realized that preschool is not included in the transition with regard to special education for Option D. She also realized that Title One is not part of special education.

Vicki Helwick stated that in her opinion, the MAC program currently involves grades 2-5. She suggested that in order to make Option D a viable solution, a K-6 configuration must be adopted. She questioned whether the MAC program will continue to be at Franklin only or will it be made into a district wide program. She also suggested that we continue to discuss the issues concerning the MAC program.

Ms. Pack asked what will happen to a child who is now out of the district but has been at the same school for several years when we do the redistricting. Will s/he stay at the same school?

Ms. Juskevich stated her concern about any repercussions that may result if the MAC program is eliminated.

Questions and discussion continued on the MAC issue. Essentially, there would be a 2 unit system for grades 1-6, with a third unit as a MAC unit. One of the issues raised was the impact for the students after again moving the MAC classrooms – this time from Franklin. (The MAC program had been moved from Monroe to Franklin when Monroe was closed.)

Ms. Pack reiterated that if Maria White's special education class remains at Franklin, more space is needed. Mr. Duce then discussed the various suggestions/choices/costs to gain the additional space needed.

Principal's Walk/Tour:

Before the actual tour, Doug Hayman, Principal of Fairview, reviewed the map of Roosevelt with us. He stated that Roosevelt is a facility with enough room to make Option D a reality. He gave some suggestions regarding how some of the spaces can be used to best advantage.

According to Mr. Hayman, there are 3 'flex' rooms that can be used for other purposes. The members then toured Roosevelt's classes, shops, gyms, music rooms. They were shown 2 large shops that are now being used only when the children have projects to be completed. He suggested that these shop rooms can also be utilized for other purposes – including classrooms. He pointed out that one of the two gyms has a 'stage' that can be used for choir practice. He stated that the second gym was four times larger than that of an elementary school gym. He suggested that a curtain be used to divide the gym. A physical education class can use the gym,

while at the same time; the second half could easily be used to serve lunch. As they toured the music rooms, Mr. Hayman noted that with the quality of the facilities and the available equipment, elementary children's educational experience will be further enhanced by their musical education.

Music Discussion Begun:

Mr. Jones handed out the *Scheduling Band, Orchestra, Choir/General Music for K-6* informational sheets that were then reviewed and discussed. He reminded the members that his assigned task had been to meet with other music staff and prepare a music schedule in conjunction with Option D using current staff.

He also prepared a slide show that included a *Staffing Summary* that consisted of a current staffing and anticipated staffing under K-6 configuration. Mr. Jones informed the members that on his slide presentation, he 'plugged' in staffs' names only as a tool to help him visualize and prepare for the possibility of the K-6 configuration under Option D. He then instructed the members that they must not misconstrue this information to be the actual staff assignments for the future. After Mr. Jones and other music staff met and reviewed all the information, they made a suggestion that another person be hired with a .5 FTE to meet the K-6 configuration needs under Option D.

Mr. Jones's presentation was followed by a question and answer session. Ms. Hebert reminded the members that they will continue the music discussion at the 10-11-06 meeting.

Option D (10/4/06 Update) Discussion:

Members then reviewed Option D – Current Programs vs. Proposed Programs, as prepared by Michele Haworth on 10/4/06 with information provided by Ms. Hebert.

Discussion followed and Ms. Olsen made a correction on Jefferson's information. She is anticipating that Jefferson is 'even' with regard to rooms available and rooms needed, but reiterated that another portable will be needed.

On page 3, under 'Current units of grades by schools,' Ms. Hebert pointed out the bulges/bubbles that have occurred. She noted that there will be space issues and flexibility will be needed within the buildings. She also noted that it is important that we continue to watch and update the enrollment numbers since enrollment is one of the pieces that will drive our decision making.

Hearing Schedule:

The hearings start next week. Hearing 1A will be held at Stevens Middle School at 6:00p.m. on Thursday, 10/12. Hearing 1B, also held at Stevens Middle School on Thursday, 10/12/06, will be at 7:00p.m. Ms. Hebert invited the members to attend the hearings.

Meeting Closing:

Meeting ended at 8:15 p.m.