

**Port Angeles School District**  
**Elementary Transition Team**  
*Report 4*  
**January 8, 2007**

The Elementary Transition Team met December 6, 2006 to review the determination decision by the Board of Directors and to move forward in accordance with the Elementary Transition Team Work Plan (Report 2, Appendix A). The Transition Team will meet next on Wednesday, January 10, 2007.

The ETT acknowledges that a committee has been established to review Option X and that recommendations may be forthcoming that could inform actions or decisions to be made that would change the implementation of Option D.

**SIXTH GRADE TEAMING**

At the December meeting, members considered a request by sixth grade teachers to continue the option for teachers of sixth grade to team when they transition to elementary schools. The request to allow sixth grade teachers to continue curriculum delivery and group teams of teachers accordingly at their new site for the 2007-08 school year has personnel implications for building assignments. The teachers recognize that the existing teams may be altered but request that teachers who are interested in teaming be assigned to work together. Benefits of teaming include:

- The development of strong relationships with more than one teacher and the student.
- Teacher planning time is focused on one content area and allows the teacher to “specialize”. Additional training through staff development may be required in content areas if the sixth grade teachers become self contained.
- The team approach to support students with multiple teachers has been a successful collaborative strategy for the school and the families as noted in conferences with parents and students.

**PLANNING TIME, SCHEDULES, COLLABORATIVE TIME**

Background information was provided to the team for future discussion and decisions that will impact planning time, schedules and collaborative time. It is in the interest of the district and the association to implement viable schedules that provide equity and quality services to all students and alleviate disruptions to the educational process.

The staffing allocation for general music, strings, band and physical education is dependent on student enrollment at each building and equitable opportunities using existing specialist staff within each grade level. Using these parameters, the Elementary Transition Team will determine how many PE, strings, band and general music sections will be offered. It is recognized that the result of the February 6, 2007 Port Angeles Maintenance and Operations Levy will also impact the opportunities for students and staffing.

**STAFF SURVEY**

In December a staff personnel survey, created collaboratively with the association and the district, was provided to all teachers. The survey requested teachers to express their plans for returning next year and all teachers were given the opportunity to share their top three assignment requests for the 2007-08 school year. The survey allows for planning of voluntary moves within grade levels and/or content areas that would potentially provide options for displaced staff and allow for professional growth opportunities within the school system.

Through the survey teachers, who will be displaced as a result of the school closure, were given the opportunity to express their personal requests for reassignment in the realignment process.

**NEXT STEPS**

The transition team work plan will be adjusted to include discussion and make recommendations on the following:

- Placement of special education programs
- The make up of the third section of Franklin enrollment and the MAC Program
- Enrollment for each school and placement of bubble classes
- Tentative schedules for physical education, music, strings and band programs