

WAMLE BOARD MEETING Minutes

September 18, 2010

From 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM

St. Joseph School

Seattle, WA

1. **Welcome Present:** Rick Boyle, Brian Jones, Ben Talbert, Cindy Knisely, Steph Strow, Janie Overman, Debbie Haskell, Dotty Shireman
2. **Old Business:**
 - a. Approved minutes from June 26, 2010 board meeting
3. **New Business:**
 - a. Welcome to new Board member, Janie Overman
 - b. Treasurer's Report – Rick. Approved
 - c. Trustee Report from NMSA – Stephanie. Approved
 - d. Report from Portland 2012 NMSA Conference Committee – Cindy. Approved
 - e. Affiliation with Raikes Foundation - Debbie
 - f. First review of final revisions of Constitution and By-laws – Approved.
 - g. Inventory of WAMLE supplies – Debbie listed in packet
 - h. Confirm accuracy of contact information **Fixed**
 - a. Advocacy – Janie & Ben took course: *Right to Advocate* by Murray Harkins Bill **Center for Strengthening the Teaching Profession**– 5 emails from teachers is a windfall, can sway educational matters in Olympia; worked with educators, how to get ideas out there; power of a blog.
 - b. Cindy – Suggested we have list of model middle schools statewide. Success in the Corps – schools with teaming. Debbie -National Forum – Schools to Watch - show schools with pieces that work. <link on NMSA website> Model – no one school has everything, but many have some components.
 - c. Ben - Success at the Core – successatthecore.com free
 - d. Website – do we want to develop a blog? Look at NMSA

Debbie – Free online surveys

1. Update on survey for teachers and administrators – Stephanie
Report from AWSP Conference, Legislative Scholars Program, etc. – Ben
2. Possible dates to meet with Randy Dorn –Friday, November 19th or December 3rd. (Nationals Nov 3-6) Purpose: Establish line of communication/ create relationship; start dialog about issues, discuss mutual priorities. Steph, Cindy, Ben, Debbie & Rick;
3. NMSA Advocacy instrument – *Success in the Middle: A Policymaker's Guide to Achieving Quality Middle Level Education* –use 5 goals and state actions as a guide for our work – Debbie

What would be most important to tell Randy Dorn? – Tell about uniqueness of kids, why this group is important, why should be elevated. Perhaps have at conference, 15 minutes.

Bethel and Puyallup – big school districts, they have to sell middle level. Even if school can't maintain structure, want to support middle level philosophy. Want to provide staff development.

Ben - Something for new educators – getting into the game; trying to make link with colleges

Cindy: What do we do so we don't burn out? Alan Burke: Find someone who's got enthusiasm, new person. Look for research. Graduate students.

We're mostly from west of mountains; east of mountains – void except for Debbie.

Next meeting: agenda: discuss specialists to post on website.

Next meeting – October 16, 2010 – Black Hall, CWU, Ellensburg