

**GOLDENDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 404**  
**BOARD WORKSESSION MINUTES**  
**JANUARY 3, 2017 – 6:30 p.m.**

**D-2b**

- Board Members Present: John Hctor, Deborah Heart, Virginia Amidon, Alex Gorrod, Beth Schroder and Mark Heid, Superintendent.
- Others Present: Kay Hill-Business Manager, Lori Hackbarth-Executive Assistant, Dave Barta-MS Principal, Jennifer Telford-MS History Teacher and Laura Thayer-HS English Teacher.
- Worksession Discussion: Mr. Barta, Mrs. Telford and Mrs. Thayer shared information on the Native American curriculum taught at the middle and high school. The middle school covers topics that include all tribes in our state, their history, movement, economy, sovereignty, tribal government and tribal fisheries for the science perspective. A local spokesperson from Yakama Nation provided a presentation for the students. The high school curriculum covers topics that include the coastal and plateau tribes, explorers, the fur trade, missionaries, religion, wars, statehood era, reservation land sales/transfers, WWII, dams, civil rights, salmon issues, and state policy.
- Discussion was held regarding Gov. Inslee’s budget proposal and how that might affect our school budget. The legislative session will also create a proposal or delay addressing the issue of the full funding of public education by our state. The Governor’s proposal would reduce the levy percentage our school can propose but increase the funding per pupil.
- Mr. Heid noted various personnel changes and upcoming retirements for staff.
- Discussion was held regarding the School Board’s Self-Assessment and what steps the board members would like to take next. Since last year’s assessment was completed by fairly new board members with little exposure to this role as yet, it was decided to take the self-assessment again this year and review those results to use for planning. Discussion topics for the Board to consider include board member mentoring, improve communications, learn about the curriculum selection process, learn more about technology and facilities maintenance, look for best practices by school boards, provide written goals to the superintendent and review resources to close achievement gap. Ms. Heart noted that it is important to improve upon the wide range of Boardmanship duties but not micromanage. The members felt the trainings provided this past year from WSSDA and Clear Risk Solutions have been very helpful.
- The first three sample policy series from WSSDA are ready for the Board to begin reviewing. Ms. Heart and Mr. Gorrod will begin the review with Series 0000, Strategic Planning. In February, the annual evaluation of the superintendent will be discussed; Mr. Heid provided the evaluation tool to each board member. Mr. Heid noted that we are expecting snow next week so there may be school delayed start.
- Discussion was held on adding a high school student to the Board to help represent our student body. The Columbia Gorge Head Start Coalition and the Ambassador Program were also mentioned to possibly participate in.
- Adjournment: There being no further discussion, the work session was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

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Board Chair

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Secretary to the Board

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Recording Secretary