

Excerpt from January 8, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes, Item 6.B:

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B. Business Services - Acceleration of Empowering Puyallup Rollout; Mark Vetter, Executive Director Digital Instructional Technology and Corine Pennington, Chief Financial Officer

Dr. Yeomans said our next presentation speaks to a request from the board. He introduced Mark Vetter and Corine Pennington. Pennington said she is co-presenting tonight with Mark Vetter, our Executive Director of Digital Instructional Technology. They are here to talk about a plan for accelerating the Empowering Puyallup timeline. She said she believes from the very first presentation of Empowering Puyallup the board has asked for one thing: can you do it any faster? This is a pretty big deliverable, but after some careful consideration and planning, we believe that we can. Mark will walk us through the details of that, and then she'll follow up with some next steps.

Mark Vetter reminded the board that our original plan had us completing the Empowering Puyallup rollout in the fall of 2021. Our plan includes take-home computers in grades 7-12, grades 4-6 with 1:1 computers that stay in the classroom, and K-3 classroom carts per grade level, so access as appropriate. What we've done is looked at accelerating it. He showed a chart and explained the classes in black are additional grade levels for that school year. So in the fall of 2019, just 18 or so months away, we'll be rolling out grades 10-12 at the high school level, and then for the board's consideration, in grades 4-6. We have looked at it; we say substantial completion in fall 2019. It will take us a while to turn around some computers that are still very usable at the high school level to move down to the K-3 level, so we have budget in here to help us refurbish those computers and carts to turn them around. So he is not going to say that it is going to be totally done, but substantially completed the fall of 2019.

With this great of a change, we also have the change factor for our staff, so we are also proposing two additional instructional coaches (TOSAs) to help prepare the staff for this change.

Some of the financial implications, the additional computers: we are scheduled currently to purchase two grade levels of computers per year. That summer, it will be six grade levels of computers. That is why the additional \$4.5 million. The instructional coaches are funded for two years only, at a cost of \$440,000 (\$60,000 per year each), and then that summer is going to be a very busy summer. In addition to accelerating Empowering Puyallup, we are supporting the opening of four new schools and moving Pope to Firgrove, so the summer workers, those are our high school kids, college kids that we bring back, will be doing the majority of the work this summer, as well as refurbishing those high school computers to go down to the elementaries.

We originally planned the project with rolling out of costs through 2021. Some of those costs will be accelerated. The primary cost is our filtering and licensing. Right now we have an RPF for student filters. We'd love something that empowers our parents more than we have. We are working through this process literally this week and next week. So we will have an increase, hopefully on the lower end of that, but until that is determined we'll have to keep that budget piece a little bit open. The total additional project cost for the cost of the project through completion in 2021 is approximately \$5.5 million.

Pennington said she feels we are in a position to fund this financially. She recommends she returns at the next board meeting to present this in a resolution for the board's consideration so that we could formally designate the \$5.5 million in the general fund fund balance. She asked if the board had any questions.

Director Ihrig said he appreciates her comment that one of the question the board had asked was could we do it faster. The question before that was, "How important is this to align our expectations to drive excellence within the organization, and the impact it can have on students?" The answer to that question is, "This is really important, this is a game changer, this is transformational." Because that was the answer, then the request was, "How can we expedite this?" He would like to applaud the team for finding ways to make this happen. Writing a check for \$5.5 million is never easy. Writing a check for \$5.5 million becomes easier

because people have worked line items within the budget to make that happen. So he is extremely proud that, first, we are addressing something that is a huge need that is very transformational, and he is ecstatic that it is moving faster, but he also wants to acknowledge that we are doing it in a stewardship way; we are not driving down the freeway at 85 mph, we are staying within the speed limit to get to where we need to go. Ihrig said it is that balance from start to finish that he would like to acknowledge and appreciate, so thanked them for that.

Director Keaton said he is also really happy that since we are using the HOV lane now, we actually have two other grades/classes that will be able to use this and we are able to bring them into the 21st Century with us. So this is really good. He is really happy about it.

President Yang also expressed her thanks and said it is amazing we can do this, and without another tech levy. She really appreciates everyone's mindfulness with resources and working so hard to make this happen.

Dr. Yeomans said this is an informational piece, just a report. On January 22 this will return to the board for consideration. Again, he thanked the board, and said the one thing our board does an exceptional job of is making sure that the vision and the focus is out in front of us. It makes it very manageable for us to work throughout the year to make sure that the finances and the support are available. Dr. Yeomans also thanked Mark Vetter, Corine Pennington, and the team as a whole, for putting this together. He said we look forward to having that back on January 22.