

**Highlights of the October 15, 2015 NMSD  
Regular Board Meeting**  
*Provided by Denise from the North Mason  
School District*

Complete meeting minutes are available @ School Board Meeting Material.

<https://app.eduportal.com/boardmeetings/1106542>

A Videographer was not available to record this meeting.

NMHS' request for a new club called the Anime Club was approved as presented.

**Fee:** The amended School Fees for 2015-2016 and the Library Fees were approved as presented.

**Levy:** Superintendent Rosenbach explained the need to move forward with a levy request to replace the current expiring levy, even with the possibility that the McCleary model may remove the need for levies. If the need for levies were removed, it would not go into effect until 2018 at the earliest. If that were to come to fruition, districts with levies would not collect on remaining levies. The Board instructed Superintendent Rosenbach to provide possible dates for a community forum and to begin development of advertisement with a simple, clear message.

**Math Night:** Belfair Principal, Dan King, and Sand Hill Principal, Mallory Blankenship, presented their School Success Plans. Each elementary school will host a Math Night Thursday, October 22nd, to present the new Eureka Math curriculum to parents and the community. The school success plans will soon be available on the district's website. Success Plan, and program and budget implications for the new school year.

**Letters From the Board.** In an effort to efficiently and effectively communicate with the community, the school board publishes a letter every month in the North Mason Life. Those letters are now posted on the school district web site. Please click here to read current and past letters.

<http://www.nmsd.wednet.edu/Content2/276>

**Upcoming Meetings.** The next regular school board meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 6:30pm at the NMSD Administration

Office Boardroom. This date change allows the Board to attend the Washington State School Director Association Annual Conference.

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**Mary's highlights from October 15 school  
board meeting**

*(NOT INTENDED TO BE A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT)*

**School Board:** Laura Boad, John Campbell, Dinah Lee Griffey, Leanna Krotzer, Art Wightman (Chairman)

**Consent agenda item I. Facility Use Fees (Procedure 4260).** *The Board will consider approval for increasing the cost of renting some spaces in the new high school facility. Fees for renting other facilities in the district have not been changed. These fees are a part of policy Procedure 4260P. Procedures are not approved by the board but school district fees are.*

<http://app.eduportal.com/documents/view/556641>

Herb Gerhardt spoke in regard to keeping the rental fee down so community groups could afford to rent the facility. John Campbell supported Herb's comment. Anything we can do to get the community in, to have a closer relationship...it's a great idea.

**3.a.ii. Replacement Levy (Possible Action).** *Our Educational Support and Operations Levy is expiring and the NMSD will ask voters to approve a replacement levy in February 2016. In addition, the NMSD may want to consider a Capital Projects/Technology Levy to ensure our students have the resources they need in a 21st century learning environment. The Superintendent asks the board for direction so we may prepare a Resolution for the November meeting.*

Superintendent Rosenbach met with some members of the levy committee two nights ago. Even with the McCleary decision, we are not to the point where there won't be levies anymore. If it becomes law, phasing down wouldn't start until 2018. The levy funds more than 12 full time teachers and operation and maintenance costs. Additional technology devices are needed and we will need to train staff as well as kids on how to use them. We'll need to get out in the community to explain what we're asking for. Intend to survey the community (using Survey Monkey), then share the results with the levy committee. Will bring results to the board in November. Would like the board to have a work session in November prior to the regular meeting. In order for this to be on the February ballot,

the board will have to approve at the November meeting. Costs will be shared by all school districts with levies on the ballot in February, reducing NMSD's ballot cost.

Dinah suggested having a town hall meeting for those who don't do on-line surveys to voice their opinions about the levy.

Superintendent Rosenbach said she hadn't thought of that but said that could happen around the first week in November maybe.

Art said the McCleary decision and what that means for levies should be explained to the community.

**3.a.iii. Teaching and Learning Update (Presentation).** Belfair Principal, Dan King, and Sand Hill Principal, Mallory Blankenship, presented their School Success Plans.

**Sand Hill Elementary School Success Plan -**

<https://app.eduportal.com/documents/view/557937>

Blankenship said math looks different now. There will be "Math Night" for parents on October 22 at 6 PM at both elementary schools to help parents understand this new math.

John asked if students are being overtested?

Blankenship said as a school district we are really looking at that. The district doesn't want to overtest, but the tests we give are powerful.

Dinah asked about technology. Kindergarteners are being trained on computers but not all families have computers at home.

Superintendent Rosenbach said Troy Jasmine and other individuals and businesses are working to make sure all areas of Mason County are online.

Leanna asked if there is a way to help people get online when they can't afford it.

Superintendent Rosenbach said internet companies already do this.

**Belfair Elementary School 2015-2015 Success Plan -**

<https://app.eduportal.com/documents/view/557806>

King said the Belfair Elementary School plan has received input from everyone in the building. They are training to be leaders, from the principal on down, including building leadership skills in students. Talked about Stephen Covey's book "7 habits of highly successful people" and "Leader in Me."

Strengthening a school's instruction program centers on writing. Discussed ELA Common Core assessment - reading and writing together.

Parent and community involvement is vital. Bolstering communication with parents and community.

Supporting the PTA. More parent nights. Use the readerboards and web site.

King said he is there to try to change the culture so staff, parents and community are working together to support students.

Dinah asked if cursive handwriting is being taught.

It is not part of the curriculum or standards anymore. Many 4th and 5th grade teachers think it's important and try to fit it in.

Leanna said she hears from people who want school districts to opt out of Common Core.

Superintendent Rosenbach said there is no opting out of required state standards for public schools unless they want to lose all federal funding. Private schools are not required to follow state standards.

King said Common Core is all about building 21st Century citizens. Creativity and innovation is necessary. Students are taught to collaborate, plan and construct -- students learn how to research. King really believes in Common Core -- a higher quality educational experience.

Leanna wants to understand Common Core. Some people like it. Some people hate it.

King said he is willing to come to a meeting and explain Common Core and is willing to have the community be involved.

**3.a.v. Senior Slowdown (Information).** The superintendent and high school leadership met at the request of the Washington Department of Transportation to discuss the Senior Slowdown tradition. Five agencies were present at the meeting. It was determined the agencies would work together to support safety and communication around the event.

WSDOT, MCSO and WSP met to discuss the annual Senior Slowdown. They intend to put big signs on the road on the day of Senior Slowdown warning people to take alternate routes. Agencies will agree to let kids continue doing what they have done for the last 30 years. They will work to make it safe yet still be fun, and to be as nondisruptive as possible. If kids are stupid there will be appropriate responses.

**3.c. Complaint.** The district has received a complaint about board member conduct. Superintendent Rosenbach recommends the board discuss the complaint and take action as they determine necessary.

## **TWO COMPLAINTS FROM KEN VANBUSKIRK, 9/21/2015**

\* 1. On February 26, 2015 NM school director John Campbell testified before the Washington State House Appropriations Committee regarding House Bill 1684. He testified in favor and is listed as representing the North Mason school district and Mason County Transit Authority.

NM school district has not provided me with any responsive public records and writings that indicate he was authorized or even discussed with the school board that he was going to speak and represent NM school district and MTA's position on this bill. Please consider when evaluating this complaint.

Please refer to page 5 of imbedded link. (Persons testifying in support).

<http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bill%20Reports/House/1684%20HBR%20APP%2015.pdf>

As a potential outcome I would like to see the school board rebuke or censure Mr. Campbell. His actions are outside his oath of office and the duties of the legislative representative as defined in your governance process.

*John Campbell's testimony before the House Committee on State government regarding HB 1684. February 3, 2015, listen from 1:01:05 to 1:07:46 -*

[http://www.tvw.org/index.php?option=com\\_tvoplayer&view=video&layout=detail&id=2015020075](http://www.tvw.org/index.php?option=com_tvoplayer&view=video&layout=detail&id=2015020075)

*John Campbell's testimony before the House Appropriations Committee on SHB 1684 (Charges for Public Records. Concerning charges for the cost of providing public records in response to public records requests). February 26, 2015, listen from 1:24:30 to 1:26:50 -*

[http://www.tvw.org/index.php?option=com\\_tvoplayer&view=video&layout=detail&id=2015020228](http://www.tvw.org/index.php?option=com_tvoplayer&view=video&layout=detail&id=2015020228)

\* 2. On May 21st at the NM school board meeting I attempted to read my public comments into the record. When I got to my comments about Theler, the hazard trees and liabilities of our school children I was rudely and inappropriately gavelled down by President Wightman before I could finish my important comments. Watching the video of the meeting Superintendent Rosenbach started pointing at her watch when I was only two minutes into my comments. At the last school board meeting on September 17, Ms Ross was allowed to dialogue with the board for well over three minutes. I feel this is a violation of your oath of office regarding partiality.

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Art Wightman has decided John did not misrepresent the school district. His testimony was important. He provided disclosure of who he was. He didn't claim to represent the school district, just himself. People don't need permission to represent themselves. There is no basis for the complaint and Art plans not to do anything further.

Regarding complaint #2 (which was about Art) Art said it was not inappropriate. It is my duty to control the meeting. The superintendent pointing to her watch was irrelevant. Art doesn't think he needs to apologize about that. He does admit he was harsh. The school board allows 3 minutes for each person from the public to speak. The state doesn't require school boards to take ANY public comments at board meetings. Art says he plans to offer an apology for being harsh, but he doesn't owe an apology for gaveling Ken down. Also, the testimony Ken was giving "was not new."

Leanna to Art: I agree and trust your judgment. I appreciate what you said about Ken. It is your job. But you were a little harsh.

Dinah: I haven't seen the video you refer too and therefore I cannot agree with you. Dinah was very upset with how Art handled the incident; he treated Ken very harshly and she was appalled. She does not want to be a part of any apology.

Art apologized to Dinah.

Laura: That's your job as chairman. Some people could talk forever. Business meetings are not the place for public discussion. Ken should have given the information to the superintendent. He'd brought it to the board meetings more than once. As for John, he was not speaking for the board.

John: He intends to respond to the "slander" from Ken.

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### **MARY'S COMMENTS:**

\* I recorded the complaint segment of the meeting. The sound quality is poor because I was sitting in the back row, but it is possible to make out what is being said if you listen closely. The last few seconds of the video catch John waving to the audience. Kaye Massie went up to him after the meeting and asked why he was waving at her. He said he waved because "someone" was recording.

\* The board, Superintendent Rosenbach and finance director seemed visibly happy not to have Mason Web TV there to document the meeting. In my opinion, this attitude seems to reflect the growing scorn of public officials at all levels toward public opinion and habitually shuns the transparency at the heart of the Open Public Meetings Act. The same imperial attitude is reflected in the District's "alleged" non-compliance with the Open Public Records Act that prompted Ken's lawsuit.