

**Riverview School District
Board of Directors' Roundtable
December 5, 2017
Riverview Educational Service Center
Duvall, Washington**

The Riverview School District Board of Directors held a Board Roundtable on Student Voice with Tolt Middle School Students on December 5, 2017, at the Riverview Educational Service Center in Duvall, Washington.

Board Members and Students Present: Carol Van Noy, Lori Oviatt, Sabrina Parnell, Dr. Anthony L. Smith, Patrick Reddy (7th), Megan Gray (8th), Swara Savagaonkar (8th), Sarabeth Amble (6th), Isaac Oliveros (6th), Zachary Carlson (8th), Megan Walker (7th), Connor Taplin (7th), Abigail Delorey (8th), Isaiah Del Degan (8th), Allyson Smith (8th), Jacob Del Degan (8th), Elijah Oliveros (7th), Aria Amador Watson (8th), and Aric Backman (7th)

Ms. Van Noy began the meeting at 5:00 PM.

RSD School Board Protocol for Roundtables

Purpose: Meet with the group, get input and updates, and better understand their needs and roles.

Process: Open dialog with group.

Payoff: For the RSD Board to make better decisions by understanding the needs and roles.

Agenda and Minutes:

1. Introductions by the Superintendent (Dr. Anthony Smith, Introductions) and facilitator (Ms. Carol Van Noy, Explanation of Process)
2. Student Voice (input)

Guiding Questions:

The School Board and Superintendent are interested in getting feedback on the following questions, including any questions and/or comments you may have.

1. What are your positive experiences as a Riverview Student?
 - For example, classes, experiences, programs, opportunities.
 - *Classes are great and the teachers are nice. (7th)*
 - *Energy is high, sport opportunities are great. (8th)*
 - *Teachers are very nice and the classes are fun and more hands on learning than other schools I have been to. (8th)*
 - *Teachers have a positive attitude plus they provide many opportunities to go beyond even what they know. (7th)*
 - *More hands on learning that what I expected. (8th)*
 - *Teachers are good in tech – Mr. McFarland will explain things. (8th)*
 - *Teachers give extra time to help us. (8th)*

- *Teachers, instead of saying just focusing on the results of tests, work on helping you get better. (8th)*
- *The technology, and teachers do hands on things, and break things up, and the sports program is open to everyone. (8th)*
- *The teachers relate to topics that are of interest and understand technology and look at my interests such as Instagram. (8th)*
- *Teacher really care about us and our futures. (7th)*
- *We have a lot of electives to choose from, all the coaches are good, and it is good that there are no cuts. (7th)*
- *The teachers help you improve. (6th)*
- *Teachers are nice. (6th)*
- *The teachers make it fun to learn. (7th)*
- *Coming to Tolt for 6th graders? How was that?*
 - *It was good, our 5th grade teachers kind of scared us about it. (6th)*
 - *After a few days it was great. (6th)*

2. Based on your education in Riverview, what would you like to see improved?

- *For example, classes, opportunities in the school, programs, experiences.*
 - *Even more hands on learning. (8th)*
 - *Even more experienced coaches that really understand the sport they are coaching. (7th)*
 - *A water fountain outside by the fields, by the concession stands. (7th)*
 - *More sports available to 6th graders. (6th)*
 - *Pathway from main gym to the locker rooms to the breezeway in the back needs a covered area (by the kitchen). (8th)*
 - *More electives that you can take for the full year. (7th)*
 - *Get lockers. (7th)*
 - *No hygiene dispensers in girls bathrooms. (8th)*
 - *Coaches need more experience and at times be more respectful and not as mad (8th)*
 - *Have a study hall or homeroom to work on school work or a project to not have as much homework at home. (8th)*
 - *My old middle school had a couple of days where they had Falcon Time where you could work on work at school. (8th)*
 - *Outside basketball court lines are really faded. (8th)*
 - *Would like a 10-minute break to talk to friends like the high school. (7th)*
 - *Longer passing periods – I have to sprint to class – add a minute. (6th)*
 - *I would like to take art all year. (7th)*
 - *One teacher did not know how to work the computer program in an elective I took. (8th)*
 - *We should be allowed to have our phones out at lunch and before and after school – we should be able to use phones during this time. (8th)*
 - *I would like more short days to give us a break. (8th)*
 - *I think we should individualize education more to go at the speed you want. To help those that move slower or faster. (8th)*
 - *I would like Home Economics where you would learn skills, such as social skills. (8th)*
 - *A soccer goal or soccer ball at lunch so I can play soccer. (8th)*
 - *The no shoulder rules for girls is too much – it gets too hot and you could use the “fingertip rule” like at my old school. (8th)*

- *I feel like the dress code is pointed toward girls and not toward guys – the guys wear muscle shirts and are just fine. (much agreement around the room on this point) (8th, 7th, multiple)*
 - *Sometimes hats are not allowed by guys and allowed by girls. (6th)*
 - *The planner states don't wear things that are revealing and it is obviously pointed toward girls. (6th)*
 - *Some of the adults break the dress code – like with hats, we can't wear them but they can. (8th)*
 - *Some bullying in class is allowed and should not be. (8th)*
3. Overall, do you feel respected and treated fairly by students, teachers and staff at Tolt? Could you provide some examples?
- *I've seen a lot of bullying during class time and it gets ignored by teachers during class. For example, some students will try to humiliate or intimidate certain other kids. Another example is in PE, is the teacher stating that he never got my fitness emails when I was in Idaho, and I sent them. (8th)*
 - *I think we get treated very fairly and the teachers are very respectful about giving us enough time on assignments and they are there for us – they give more time and are fair and respectful. (8th)*
 - *I agree with the previous person about the teachers being very fair. (8th)*
 - *I mostly feel respected except for the hypocrisy around the dress code and stuff. (8th)*
 - *Reducing the stress on 8th graders for the amount of homework – I get panic attacks sometimes. There are times when it is a lot from every teacher. Balance it out and make it more even during the year. (8th)*
 - *Yes, I am treated fairly by the staff, but some of the students constantly pester me and things like stealing my backpack for a minute and then giving it back. (7th) Do you have a way to communicate that to an adult that will listen? I know we have those avenues, but I don't they will work.*
 - *I notice some social bullying like a pack leader and making fun of someone that has a disability and I don't think that is cool at all. (8th)*
 - *I feel like there are groups with some form of ring leader that bosses everybody around and they do things for a few laughs.*
 - *A lot of the teachers are nice, but some teachers say no soda in class, and they drink it themselves – one teacher called me pothead doctor which I did not like (this student is from India).*
 - *The amount of teasing and name calling in our school is really bad – especially the “popular kids” do it. They think they have to be mean to be cool. (7th)*
 - *I feel that I have been treated respectfully by students and the teachers.*
 - *Overall, I feel treated respectfully by all people, but also feel that the popular kids are more disrespectful. (6th)*
 - *I feel overall that I have been treated fairly by students and staff, but have one teacher that is not that way. (7th)*
 - *Overall, I feel respected, but some kids have kicked my backpack and stuff. (6th)*
 - *I always feel respected a lot – I never feel disrespected. (7th)*

4. What are your future dreams and how is Tolt helping to prepare you for them?
- *Medical Engineering and I have been able to advance in math at this middle school unlike my last middle school. (8th)*
 - *I would like a drama club or a drama class and would like to participate in musicals to be able to do that as a career. (8th)*
 - *Tolt has helped me be organized with my planner and that is key. (7th)*
 - *I want to be a neuroscientist and would like more resources open to students like talking to other people that are involved with neuroscience, etc. (7th)*
 - *I am interested in computer science and neuroscience – I am getting what I need in those areas. (7th)*
 - *I know I want to do something like a chef or artist and if not, keep that aspect in my life and I would like those opportunities available. (7th)*
 - *Singer and actress and show choir helps – we need a drama club. (6th)*
 - *I want to play basketball when I get older – Tolt is helping with that and showing me how people are going to be when I am older. (7th)*
 - *Why would we have a stage when we hardly use it? It was used all the time when I was in elementary school. (8th)*
 - *The stage is used more for detention than it is for performances. (8th)*
 - *I want to be an astronomer when I grow up and my science teacher knows about that and helps me. (8th)*
 - *We need a drama class or club. (8th)*
 - *A veterinary class or day would be great. (8th)*
5. Any other comments?
- *Bring more focus to diversity – don't say retarded about people – some kids don't understand because of their lack of being around people of diversity (girl of India descent). (8th)*
 - *Continue to use a combination of personal devices and paper. (8th)*
 - *Wi-Fi needs to have a stronger signal so my computer can update for Office 365. (8th)*
 - *At lunch we can't use our laptops at the table. (8th)*
 - *When we got our laptops, we used them a lot, but after the first five days hardly at all. (7th)*
 - *Some students are too obsessed with Minecraft. I have mixed feelings about it.*
 - *I think that a mix of laptop and paper is really nice. We should have foreign language available in middle school because it is easier to learn when you are younger.*

Conclusion: Facilitator Carol Van Noy thanked everyone for their input.

There was no action taken.

The meeting ended at 6:30 PM.

APPROVED BY THE RIVERVIEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT THEIR REGULARLY HELD MEETING ON DECEMBER 12, 2017.