

School Board Meeting Synopsis 03/11/2008

All the Woodinville schools were well represented in the standing room only, 4 hour long, Northshore School Board meeting this evening. There was anger, anguish, lots of emotion, and strong evidence that the findings in the 9270 are hasty and careless. With old data and charts, the projected growth and demographics are not truthfully portrayed. The nursing program is also on the threshold of being cut. We were told about the wonderful nurses of Sorenson who are instrumental in allowing many children to be integrated into the mainstream.

Larry Francois, our new school superintendent, was introduced to the community. He will officially assume office on July 1st 2007. He stayed only briefly, before returning to his duties in his Lakewood district. We are hoping that he will be the one who is ultimately instrumental in this decision making process. You can reach him at:

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Tim Brittell, the union representative for the teachers, set the tone for the evening, by summarizing the concerns that the teachers and members of the community have.

- Proposals in the 9270 are flawed
- Children in our schools are being thought of as numbers and not people.
- The Spanish speaking community will be extremely impacted, leading to the demise of the dual language program.

The NSEA agrees that there needs to be a school closure, but Woodin is not that school, the human factor needs to be taken into account.

There were many compelling and convincing statements made by Wellington and Woodin teachers, parents and children. The questions being asked to **budget @nsd.org** are being evasively answered, and there is no long range plan in sight. Portables were also brought into question, as well as, once again, the demographics.

So many questions still have to be answered, and information needs to be updated. We need to make sure that our elected officials are **listening** to us, that they are **hearing** us, that they will talk to us. That they think of our children, and their educators, as people and not numbers.