

North Kitsap School District #400
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
June 11, 2015
District Office
18360 Caldart Avenue NE
Poulsbo, WA 98370

MINUTES

Board Members

Beth Worthington, President

Cindy Webster-Martinson, Vice President, and Legislative Representative

Scott Henden, Director

Bruce Christen, Director

Bill Webb, Director

Patty Page, Superintendent

Kori Henry, Recording Secretary

1. **Call to Order 5:15 p.m.**
2. **Executive Session:** An executive session was held to discuss personnel complaints. No action was taken.

The regular meeting will reconvene at 6:00 p.m.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance led by Superintendent Page**

4. **Agenda Changes**

None

5. **Communications**

5.1 Retiree Recognition/Teacher of the Year Recognition

The North Kitsap School District Board of Directors wishes to recognize our amazing retirees who have dedicated their careers to supporting the education of children in North Kitsap. Thank you for the many years of service.

Debbie Nazarino, President of the Teacher of the Year Organization presented the Teacher of the Year award to Barbara Pixton and Peggy Dunbar.

5.2 Superintendent Comments

- Thank you to all the staff that has served the children in the North Kitsap School District. It all takes a lot of heart and they do it because they love children and want to serve our community.
- Yesterday was the deadline to sign up for summer school. Our K-8 program had 280 students sign up for summer school, which is the largest ever. Secondary

sign ups were advertised a little late so we did not get enough students to offer enrichment classes but we will begin advertising earlier next year.

- WAKIDS is required for all day Kindergarten schools, and it appears now that four or five of our schools may be funded for all day Kindergarten. Teacher training will be required. There is a three day waiver for Kindergarten student's that is automatic to allow parents and teachers time to meet and discuss pre-kindergarten for each of the students.
- The legislature is still up in the air. Both house and senate are discussing additional funds for K-2 or K-3 and could potentially change our staffing at the elementary schools.
- We had 1400 participants in the Thought Exchange process and we will be getting the overview out to the public on Tuesday. Our principal's and staff have had a chance to look at the results so that they could discuss feedback received. As a leadership team we will be reviewing the comments for themes both positive and negative at a future retreat.

5.3 Public Comments

Laura Kessler made public comments regarding concerns about cuts to the Agate Program.

Claudia Alves made public comments regarding recognition of Barbara Pixton as an Educator of Poulsbo Elementary School.

5.4 Legislative Report- Superintendent Page

- The Legislature continues to meet. The House was in session today and a very important House Bill 2214 that deals with assessments was passed that will allow a waiver of the Biology EOC for students that do not pass since the test will no longer be offered. This will still affect some students this year.
- Another bill was introduced House Bill 6130 that would change the compensation of educators. Senator Rolfes is a sponsor of this bill. The bill is very confusing and would start in 2018/2019, which would be the transition year. It modifies the school districts from using levy funds for staff salaries. It changes the definition of basic education and brings in salaries under basic education. There are no revenue sources that have yet been identified to support the bill.

5.5 Board Comments

Beth Worthington excused Bill Webb and Cindy Webster-Martinson from tonight's meeting. Beth was in attendance at the Kingston Highs Choir Concert, Honoring Ceremony with the Tribe, KHS Senior Award banquet, Mad Hatter Art Display at NKHS, and the Pearson Elementary Play. Research was done on how to improve government transparency.

Scott Henden's youngest son is graduating this year. He can see what efforts the teachers have made for every student. If you have students in the school please share the good stories about the teachers with the Board

Bruce Christen discussed a book by Ken Robinson "Creative Schools" it is a great book and I highly recommend that you read it. It is about the personal nature of education and excerpts of the book were read. The book Finnish Lessons 2.0 written by Pasi Sahlberg is also recommended. GRM, the Global Reform Movement is discussed in the book. The District's mission statement was read into record.

6. Action

6.1 Consent Agenda

Scott Henden makes a motion to accept the consent agenda items 6.1.1 through 6.1.9. Beth Worthington seconds the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by the Board.

6.1.1 The regular meeting minutes of May 28, 2015 were approved by the Board as written.

6.1.2 General Fund Vouchers 111204-111274 and Payroll through May 29, 2015 in the amount of \$4,418,695.07, and ASB Fund Vouchers 42991-42998 in the amount of \$19,215.73 were approved by the Board.

6.1.3 Personnel Recommendations were by the Board as recommended.

6.1.4 Donations were received from BECU School Grant Program in the amount of \$2,500 to support Math Whizz program at Kingston Middle School, The Suquamish Tribe in the amount of \$2,500 to fund Kingston Middle School Fieldtrip to Tacoma Museum, The Suquamish Tribe in the amount of \$10,000 for the purchase Poulsbo Middle School football helmets and gear, and the Suquamish Tribe in the amount of \$10,000 to purchase Kingston Middle School football helmets and gear.

6.1.5 Policies 2421, 2020, 2027, and 5310 were approved by the Board as recommended and written.

6.1.6 Cooperative agreement with OESD for Kitsap County Detention Center Education Program was approved by the Board as recommended.

6.1.7 The Board approved the establishment of ASB Clubs and Accounts for the 2015/2016 school year.

6.1.8 Consumable Math materials that are purchased yearly to support elementary classroom math instruction with our district adopted material; Math Expressions were approved by the Board as recommended.

6.1.9 Contract with ESD 113 to provide instructional services for Traffic Safety Education was approved by the Board as recommended.

6.2 Roof replacement for Kingston Middle School two-story re-roof Project

Dave Dyess, Director of Facilities and Maintenance, is requesting budget authorization to fund the Kingston Middle School two-story re-roof project in the amount of \$124,391.61.

Scott Henden made a motion to approve the roof replacement for Kingston Middle School two-story reroof project. Beth Worthington seconds the motion. The motion was discussed, voted on, and the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

6.3 Policies 2192 and 6100 2nd reading and adoption

Patty Page, Superintendent gave a brief overview of the changes to policy 2192 and 6100.

Beth Worthington made a motion to adopt policy 2192, and 6100 as written. Scott Henden seconds the motion. The motion was discussed, voted on, and the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

6.4 Budget Hearing Date (July 28, 29, or 30), and Budget Adoption Date (August 4, 5, or 6)

The Board discussed optional dates for scheduling a special meeting for the 2015-2016 budget hearing (July 28, 29 or 30), and a special meeting to adopt the 2015-2016 budget (August 4, 5, or 6).

Beth Worthington made a motion to hold a budget hearing Thursday, July 30, 2015, and a special meeting to adopt the budget on Thursday, August 5, 2015. Scott Henden seconds the motion. The motion was discussed, voted on, and the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Beth Worthington made a motion to change the budget adoption meeting to Thursday, August 6, 2015. Scott Henden seconds the motion. The motion was discussed, voted on, and the motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

7. Management

7.1 Reports

7.1.1 State Audit Report

Paula Bailey, Director of Finance and Operations gave a brief overview and provided the Board of Directors with the State Audit Report for 2011.

7.1.2 Title IX Report

John Cervinsky, Interim Director of Athletics provided a brief overview of the Title IX Report.

7.1.3 OESD Drug & Alcohol Counselor Update (2014-2015 school year)

Jeff Sweeney, Director of Secondary Education and Kristin Schutte, ESD 114 provided brief overviews of the OESD Drug & Alcohol Counselor Update for the 2014-2015 school year.

7.1.4 Activities/Athletics Review

John Cervinsky, Interim Athletic Director provided a brief overview of the Activities/Athletics programs.

7.1.5 2015/2016 Athletic Program Offerings

John Cervinsky, Interim Athletic Director provided an overview of the proposed 2015/2016 Athletic Program offerings.

7.1.6 Policies 6512, 6605, 3207, 3241, 4040, and 4040R

Jeff Sweeney, Director of Secondary Education has provided recommended changes to policies 6512, 6605, 3207, 3241, 4040, and 4040R. The policies will be added to the June 25, 2015 consent agenda.

7.1.7 Island Lake Property

Patty Page, Superintendent gave a brief overview of the Island Lake Property and rezoning the property.

7.1.8 Capital Facility Plan

Dave Dyess, Director of Facilities and Maintenance provided a brief overview of the work that is being completed by ESD 112 on updating the Capital Facilities Plan and is recommending moving forward with the recommendations outlined.

7.1.9 Study & Survey Review

Dave Dyess, Director of Facilities and Maintenance gave a brief overview of the changes made to the Study and Survey. The Study and Survey will be added as an action item on the June 25th agenda for discussion and adoption along with the Facility Master Plan, and the Capital Facility Plan.

8. Board Self Evaluation

The meeting went well.

9. Agenda Planning

Move to action the Study & Survey, and the Facility Master Plan, add WAKIDS to action item, and add retreat planning to the agenda.

10. Executive Session

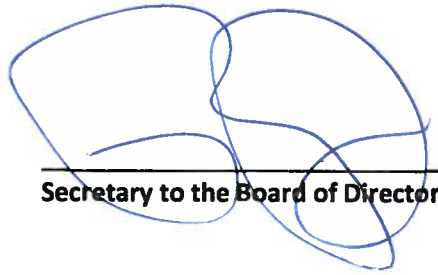
There will be an executive session to discuss personnel complaints, and superintendent evaluation and is expected to last approximately 60 minutes.

A closed session was held per RCW 42.30.140 for approximately 15 minutes.

Closed the public session and open the executive session at 9:15 p.m.
Closed the executive session and open the public session at 10:15 p.m.

11. Adjournment

The regular meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.



Secretary to the Board of Directors



Board President

6-10-15

RE: Change in AGATE class size and/or resources

All board Members
North Kitsap County School District

Dear Sirs,

I am a parent of an AGATE student who will be going into the 5th grade next school year. My son (Kahn) has finally landed in a atmosphere where his gifts are recognized and nurtured and, is by all accounts, successful. He has been successful in great part to the special attention he was able to receive. This attention was not just an outstanding teacher in Ms. Taylor, Ms Taylor's collaboration with Ms. Fairchild but also, the attention which can only be achieved by a reasonable class size.

The program will suffer (as to will my son's education) should you carry through with the plan to not have a specifically "5th grade only" class roster. Though the 3rd/4th grade class is soon to be behind us, not having 2 instructors to share that load could (and likely will) only serve to limit the long term outcome and overall effectiveness of the AGATE program.

You as board members have got to see that these AGATE kids, which the state has spent thousands upon thousands of dollars in administrative time to seek out and recognize, could have a serious roll in our planets future..... this is why they were sought out to begin with! Further, I am not exaggerating their importance by one iota! I am not usually emotional about this kind of stuff and generally choose not to get involved but, this is real and this is important.

You have something good in this current model that seems work perfectly. It would be short sighted to diminish the ability of this model in anyway. Ask yourself: Are you willing to short the world the next Bill Gates?, Steve Jobs? or Barack Obama because of a minor budget crunch?

Work it out, get creative, ask for help, write a letter, sell cookies.....fix it!

I'll pitch in. You want money? You want time? You want me to bake cookies? tell me!

Lets "us" fix it.

Kindest Regards

Robert Kelii
(The Dad)

Thank you for taking time in your already busy agendas to consider the needs of some of the most unique children in our district: those in the AGATE program at Suquamish Elementary. I understand that we are waiting anxiously for the state to decide on a budget and that will answer many questions for next year. The message that you and other school officials have shared is that we should remain calm and patient; that there are many uncertain elements regarding next year. In light of all of those things, I do believe that now is a good time to let you know how the AGATE program has impacted my family.

I would like to start by saying that this past year has been amazing for my kids in the AGATE program with three teachers. I currently have a 5th and 3rd grader enrolled in the program. My 5th grader was in AGATE in 2013-2014 with two teachers, and now in 2014-2015 for my 3rd and 5th graders with three teachers. Although both years were exceptional, there was a dramatic improvement this past year. The depth of the program with 3 teachers was astounding. The play that they were able to produce hit so many curriculum areas and was such a rich learning experience. I know that this type of project is just not possible in a 2 classroom model. Switching back and forth between a 2 and 3 teacher model is not sustainable. We should be growing our program. Perhaps our program needs to be considered a stand alone program with a staffing allocation separate from Suquamish Elementary's?

I'm confident that you are aware of the negative impact recent constricting changes to state law have had on our program. Enrollment in AGATE is bound to decline with each age group as students tend to move in our area, and are not backfilled by other similar children. But there are so many under-served kids in our district. This seems like a unique opportunity to maintain a fabulous program and better serve more children. What changes can we make to this awesome program to ensure that we are serving the maximum number of kids possible? Are we able to recruit kids? Would it be possible to include 4th or 5th grade kids that were on the cusp of making the highly-capable bar, or who declined enrolling in the 3rd grade?

There would seem to be multiple ways to ensure adequate enrollment in this program and maintain the amazing quality we have achieved with three teachers and classes.

Thank you for your time and commitment to our kids. I know that we can reach a solution that will benefit as many students as possible.

Naomi Nichols

June 11, 2015

Dear School Board Members:

I'm writing to you to express my concern with the changes currently scheduled to affect the AGATE Program in the 2015-2016 school year. My son, Gabriel, is a third grader in the program and has grown exponentially in his AGATE classroom this year. The program has been a blessing for us because I was beginning to lose hope that we could find a way to meet my son's needs in the North Kitsap School District.

After two very challenging years at Suquamish Elementary, my son was finally diagnosed with a myriad of developmental disabilities by private practitioners. However, these were masked for many years by his strong cognitive abilities. This nets out to him being "twice-exceptional". Most professionals advised that we seek private school education for him because public schools have difficulty serving these types of children, but I was determined to make things work (or at least exhaust all possibilities). To understand the system and education methods better, I got a Masters degree in Teaching and volunteered countless hours at the school. While this prevented many negative social experiences for him, it didn't help him directly with his social inabilities. Nor did it help him with his dysgraphia which was a great disability in the AGATE classroom which relies heavily on writing.

We spent the first half of the year figuring out how to address his writing issues. Finally, with the help of an amazing team (Karen Knezevich, Heidi Breisling, and Sarah Taylor) he began working on his writing in the Resource Room and growing his mind and spirit in the AGATE classroom for the rest of his work. Once Gabriel became comfortable with writing in the Resource Room and his anxiety began to fade, something magical happened. For the first time since he has been in public school, he knew his classmates names. At the end of the day, he was even able to tell me some of the exciting projects they had been working on at school. He was socially engaged and a part of him that had previously been so stunted began to flourish. It was the type of growth that I had always hoped for but didn't dare expect. To know that he would be able to continue next year where he left off, with the same teacher-team, left me full of hope and joy. 4th grade would be the first year that he wouldn't waste the first 3 months trying to remember the morning routine or the bathroom policy. He could just start learning from day one.

As you can imagine, my heart sunk when I learned that Sarah Taylor may not be his teacher for next year. While Gabriel's experience may not be identical to other students' in the classroom, I know that many will be impacted in a similar way. In addition to the continuity of learning being interrupted for students, some of the other impacts of this decision are as follows: AGATE teachers are able to provide more enriching, project-based lessons when there are 3 teachers rather than just 2; The 3 year AGATE curriculum has been planned with the support of 3 classroom teachers. Reducing the numbers of teachers will directly impact the continuity and quality of the program; with fewer teachers, opportunities for differentiation, especially for the math curriculum, will be reduced; and, with a strong enrollment in the 3-4 grade classroom for the coming year, there is a strong likelihood that the program will require a third teacher the following year (2016-2017). Removing Sarah Taylor from the teaching team will significantly stifle program development.

As this decision has not been finalized, I ask that you consider any options possible to keep the AGATE teaching team strong. Perhaps a few more highly capable incoming 5th graders who haven't been identified by testing could fill in the 5th grade class? Is there grant money or money available to bridge the gap during this temporary time? I am confident that if this becomes a priority, an solution can be found.

Thank you for your commitment to our schools and taking the time to consider my concern. This is such an amazing program and we are so thankful to be part of it!

Respectfully,

Laura Kessler

Dear School Board Members:

I write to you today in order to briefly outline my family's experience with the AGATE program at Suquamish, and to plead with you to preserve the integrity of this world-class program by limiting class size and maintaining the exemplary teaching team of Mrs. Fairchild and Mrs. Taylor.

My family moved to the Pacific Northwest three years ago from one of the poorest, coal-mining counties in Pennsylvania, where I worked as a journalist and my husband taught English in a small liberal-arts university. In contrast to the depressed county we had left in the east, we were delighted with Kitsap County's clean water and air, more progressive attitudes, and of course, the natural beauty with which this region is so gifted.

What surprised us was, that despite the quality of our three daughters' committed teachers' guidance, Kitsap County schools were dramatically underfunded--much more so than our previous economically depressed region in Pennsylvania! Bigger class sizes, lack of money, and program cuts shocked us. Despite the school's financial difficulties, however, our girls found a good educational home here in Poulsbo--all except our middle daughter, Elspeth, who showed signs of being severely under-challenged. She began drifting to the nurse's office during the school day, a pattern we soon recognized was a result not of illness but of boredom. We wrung our hands--what was to be done for our slightly quirky kid who begged for extra homework?

Then we found the AGATE program. This year, Elspeth blossomed. She feels excited to get on the bus to go to school and she is fulfilled and happy at the end of each day. She has not minded extra homework--in fact, she has flourished! We owe her excellent teacher, Mrs. Fairchild, a great debt--her teaching style promotes independence, creativity, ingenuity, and courage. Elspeth engages in

serious work. Her mind and imagination have deepened as well as her reading, math, science, and critical-thinking skills.

I believe the AGATE program is unique and inherently valuable, not just to Elspeth, but to countless students who find their voice and their confidence to be great learners and critical thinkers. The AGATE program produces truly amazing citizens--young people who not only grapple with difficult algebra problems but who are aware of injustice in their own world and communities and who will, as adults, strive to make the world better with their gifts. (Our daughter, Merry, is enrolled in the AGATE program in Poulsbo Middle School, and we admire the same focus on academics and moral courage in her classes as well.)

The interdynamic action across disciplines and between Mrs. Fairchild and Mrs. Taylor, as well as the smaller class sizes, makes AGATE a program I proudly tout to many. The AGATE program *is* truly world-class--its curriculum is focused and intense and the team teaching and cooperation between two gifted and visionary teachers attests to its high standing in the world of elementary academia. As a high school English teacher some years ago, the private preparatory high school where I worked in Missoula, MT, decided to become more cutting-edge and competitive by adopting a new model--interdisciplinary teaching. We traveled to a preparatory school in Seattle to learn from their model. I see this model exemplified excellently by Fairchild and Taylor. I observe this not only through Elspeth's daily testimonials and achievements but through my own observation during classroom visits and once as a presenter sharing my own experiences growing up in Kenya during an African simulation--one of the many innovative experiences Elspeth has been privileged to participate in over this past school year. It would be a great disservice to students to dissolve the wonderful teaching partnership between Mrs. Fairchild and Mrs. Taylor--the old adage that two is better than one is absolutely true in this case.

As a board, your actions are limited by funding and other larger forces--I realize that. My husband, an administrator at Olympic College, understands that as well. But I would entreat you to think creatively about solutions that would preserve the AGATE program as it is now--a truly magnificent place of learning, challenge, and development.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and indeed for all the tireless work you perform on the behalf of our community.

Sincerely,

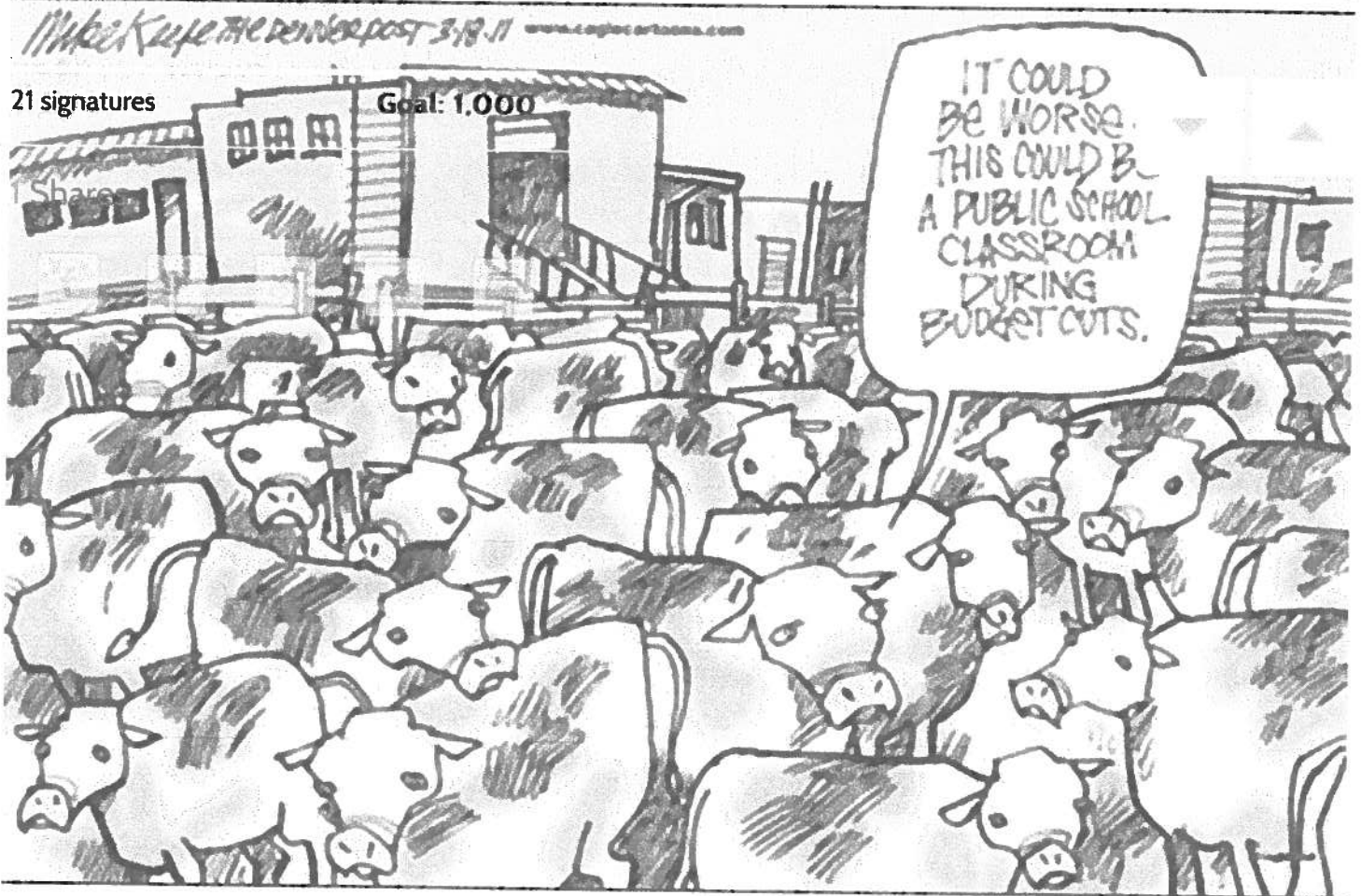
Kimberly Long Cockroft
Martin B. Cockroft

Keep NK AGATE Program strong!

Laura Kessler (Suquamish, Washington (state))

21 Signatures

Goal: 1,000



Due to low enrollment for the 2015-2016 year, it has been proposed that the North Kitsap AGATE Program teaching staff should be reduced from three teachers to two. This would leave only two classrooms to serve at least 57 students with a class size of 28 and 29, respectively. We, the undersigned, are deeply concerned about the impact of the class size on program quality and respectfully request that you reconsider this proposal. Since this is a temporary low enrollment, three teachers will likely be needed the following year and Mrs. Taylor may not be available to teach if she takes another position. As parents, we are deeply vested in this program and request that you take measures to help the program grow, not diminish. Sadly, we cannot rely on Washington state to protect the best interest of our students by keeping class sizes low, so we hope that the North Kitsap School Board and Administration will make it a priority.

Keep NK AGATE Program strong! [view petition](#)

Signatures | Edit Petition | Highlights More ▾



Keep NK AGATE Program strong!

Signatures: 21 (goal: 1000)

Signatures in last 24 hours: 11

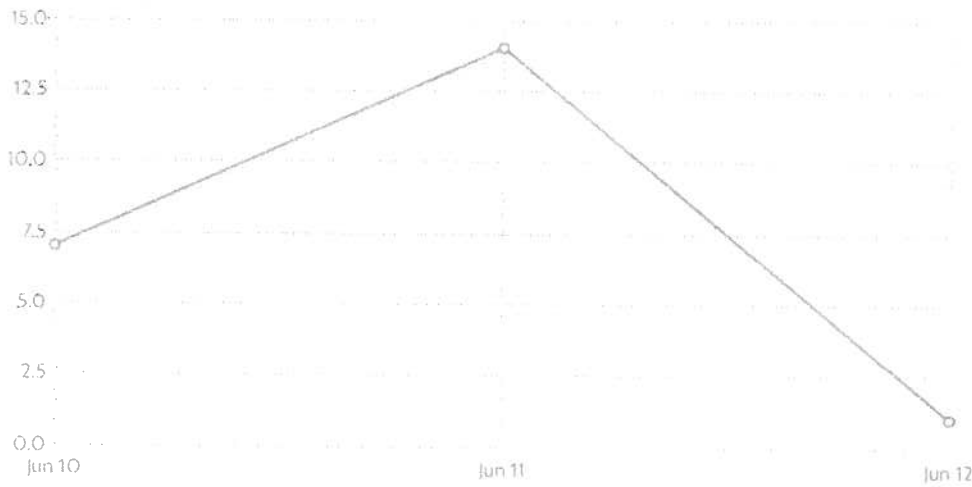
Search for a petition to sign








Sign a petition to me

#	Name	Comment	Created On	Actions
1	Laura Kessler	A class size of 29 is unacceptable.	Jun 10 11:20 AM	

← prev 1 2 3

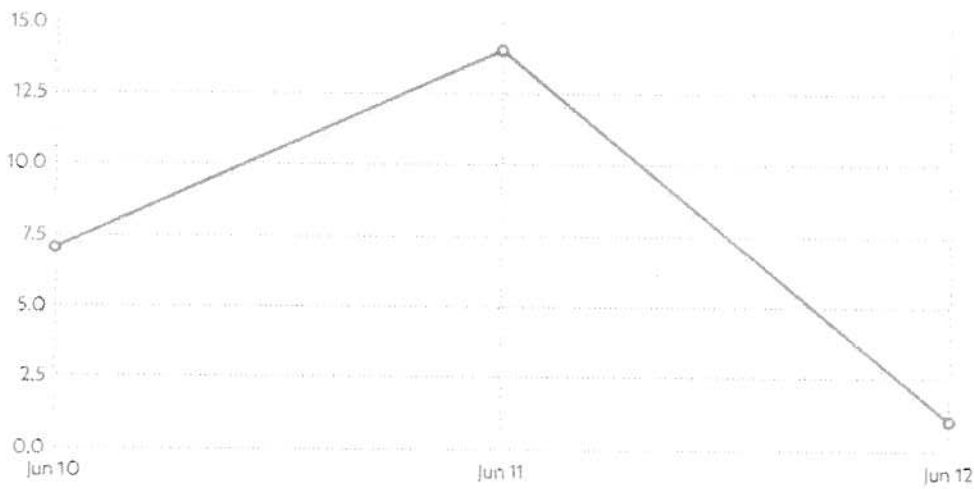
Signature History



4	 Amy Drake	I am in favor of smaller class sizes for next year's Agate 3/4 classes. The small class sizes was a major reason that we decided to attend. Thank you for your consideration.	June 10, 2015 2:34 PM	 
3	Tim Nichols	-	June 10, 2015 7:05 PM	 
2	naomi nichols	-	June 10, 2015 7:02 PM	 

← prev 1 2 3 next →

Signature History



Keep NK AGATE Program strong!

[view petition](#)

Signatures

Edit Petition

Highlights

More ▾

















Keep NK AGATE Program strong!

Signatures: 21 (goal: 1000)

Signatures in last 24 hours: 11

Download petition as PDF file

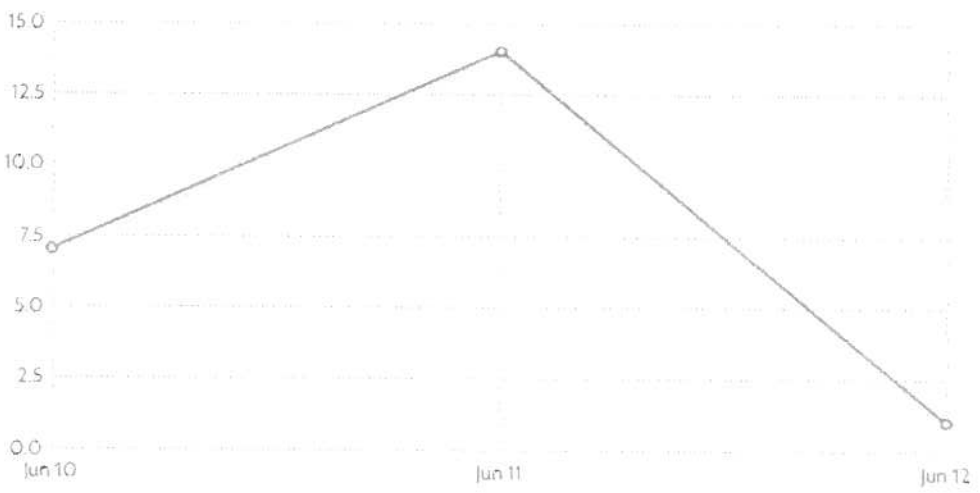
Download petition as HTML

#	Name	Comment	Created On	Actions
11	Lizabeth McComb	-	10/21/2015 12:22 PM	 
10	Luis D'Andrade	Students are in this classroom because they need more enrichment and differentiation. The key to achieving this is small class size and a project-based curriculum. Both will be lost with a class size of 28. Please reconsider the cuts proposed for this classroom.	10/21/2015 12:19 PM	 
9	Jennifer Markaryan	-	10/21/2015 12:17 PM	 
8	Kimberly Cockroft	Please preserve the integrity of this wonderful, worldclass program!	10/21/2015 12:17 PM	 
7	Crystal Klein	This program needs three teachers to handle all of the enrichment and differentiation necessary to teach these highly capable kids.	10/21/2015 12:16 PM	 
6	Melissa Rogers	Please keep class sizes down and the focus on learning high.	10/21/2015 12:16 PM	 
5	Trinity Reyes	I have an incoming 3rd grader who was excited to have Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Fairchild as her teachers next year. She was very disappointed to learn that that might not happen. Two major selling points for us leaving our current school were the two teachers for the 3/4 split and the smaller class sizes (we were told 18 kids per class). Our kids cannot thrive in a classroom with 28 kids. They deserve better.	10/21/2015 12:15 PM	 

	Wilkinson	stays as it is.		
15	Lindsey Kent	-	Jun 15 2015 10:02 PM	
14	robert Kelii	-	Jun 15 2015 10:02 PM	
13	Larry Altenbrun	-	Jun 15 2015 10:02 PM	
12	Jenny Ibarra	-	Jun 15 2015 10:02 PM	

1 2 3 next →

Signature History



Keep NK AGATE Program strong! [view petition](#)

Signatures Edit Petition Highlights More ▾



Keep NK AGATE Program strong!

Signatures: 21 (goal: 1000)

Signatures in last 24 hours: 11

#	Name	Comment	Created On	Actions
21	Allyson Metters	-	1/21/16 12:04 PM	
20	Jennifer LeRoy	We have had the opportunity to see the AGATE program function both with two teachers and with three teachers. The three teacher model was far superior. The gains these kids made this year are amazing. To go back to two teachers for next year would be a step backwards for the program, both classes would be too large for the differentiation needed for these students. Consistency is vitally important for the growth of the program.	1/21/16 12:01 PM	
19	James LeRoy	If you are not already aware, the AGATE program is one of the few educational competitive advantages NKSD has over competing districts. What makes Suquamish AGATE so special is the combination of caliber of students, teaching style / curriculum, and classroom structure. I hope the school board realizes they have a gem in Suquamish AGATE and reject any change to the program that would alter the three elements noted. By changing any one of those three elements, the school board would have normalized an outstanding program and voluntarily eroded a competitive advantage. If this were a business, you would only change things in the program if it would improve the program. Otherwise, hands off!	1/21/16 10:47 AM	
18	Natsumi Peterson	-	1/21/16 10:21 AM	
17	Sally Fleischman	-	1/21/16 10:12 AM	
16	Jenny	We could not be happier with the way this school year went. My son benefited by having time with both Mrs. Tavior and Mrs. Fairchild. I really hope the program	1/21/16 9:02 AM	