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Suggestions:

A. Consider forming an outside advisory panel on school/district turnaround  
During the past three years we sought advice from educators who had or were part of turning around schools and districts, including a WASC accreditor. They were incredibly valuable in understanding the problem and guiding how to move forward.

B. Consider providing examples to staff of the reports that the board needs  
The WJUSD Board of Trustees Governance Handbook mentioned lack of information as one of its top challenges. Based on the WestEd proposal and prior reporting communications, perhaps there is confusion on what is needed. To build clarity, consider articulating examples of the reports the WJUSD Board of Trustees needs (project plan, trustee dashboard, etc.). If clarity is already present, then discuss resources needed to provide and sustain it.

C. Consider engaging staff and the community in assessing high-effect interventions at school  
There are plenty of resources to assess WJUSD's struggling schools. In Dingle in 2022 we wrote a report on how staff were creating their own surveys and not using validated third party surveys or rubrics to assess the school for the SPSA. We called the Yolo County Office of Education who said they could perform surveys and auditing support on request. For examples of surveys and rubrics on high-effect interventions, see Leverage Leadership 2.0 by Uncommon Schools and Visual Learning by John Hattie. Multiple sources recommend these assessments, including school and classroom walkthroughs, be done by teachers, principals, and outsiders (educators from other schools, etc.).

In conclusion, we recommend not approving the board proposal at this time.

Thank you,  
Beja Springer  
Educational Leadership Committee  
Dingle Community FA

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Board President

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Board Clerk

