

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors - Regular Session
Tuesday, October 25, 2005 – 7:00 p.m.
Newport High School
Newport, Oregon

Minutes

PRESIDING: Ron Beck, Chairman

Present: Ron Beck, Chairman; Sue Ryan, Vice-Chairman; Jean Turner, Billie Jo Smith, Brenda Brown, Directors

Also Present: Tom Rinearson, Superintendent, Laurie Urquhart, Supt./Board Secretary; approx. 20 members of the staff, media and interested patrons

Call to Order-Establishment of a Quorum

Chairman Ron Beck convened the meeting and called the session to order at 7:10 p.m. with a quorum of all five board members present.

Introductions- Claudia Webster

Chairman Claudia Webster of the Friends of the Newport Aquatic Center described an effort by the group to fund a feasibility study pursuant to a new pool in Newport. City Councilman Jeff Bertuleit and Newport Parks and Recreation Director Jim Protiva joined her in addressing the Board and asking for support of any kind for their effort.

Communications

Newport News Times reporter Terry Dillman described a new program on which the paper is embarking, "Class Acts" to highlight activities at district schools. In addition, he is working on a youth page where students have an opportunity to be published.

Teacher John Harrington expressed his opposition to the Certificate of Initial Mastery (CIM).

Staff Recognition: Jo Rauch- Oregon PE Teacher of the Year

Curriculum & Instruction Administrator Sandi Williams congratulated Sam Case P.E. teacher Jo Rauch for her designation as Oregon P.E. Teacher of the year. Ms. Williams presented her with a plaque, gift certificate and a signed soccer ball on behalf of the LCSD Board and Superintendent.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Tom Rinearson recognized Kent Hanrahan of SCORE (Service Corps of Retired Executives) for his contributions to the District. Mr. Hanrahan is working with educators in LCSD's north area to increase students' exposure to business ideas and education.

The Superintendent also recognized Toledo Middle School students for raising funds for victims of Hurricane Katrina. The students raised approximately \$491 in a penny drive, which will be donated to the Red Cross.

Mr. Rinearson thanked Altrusa International for all of their efforts in “Project School Bell.” The project includes gathering and distributing school supplies, clothing and prescriptions. Altrusa has assisted students in this manner for over 12 years.

Superintendent Rinearson thanked the Behrens Foundation for the purchase of books, quizzes and computer hardware as part of “Renaissance Place Accelerated Reader” at Taft Middle School.

The Superintendent reminded the Board of parent/teacher conferences this week, and said conference schedules are different around the District. For more definitive schedules, please contact schools directly.

Mr. Rinearson thanked South area principals and staff for the smooth school evacuations both during the inadvertent tsunami warning by NOAA and the planned exercise October 21st.

Approval of the Consent Calendar

Motion 05/06-17

On motion of Director Smith, seconded by Director Brown, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Calendar item, including:

- **Minutes of the 10/11/05 Regular Session.**

Approval of Tobacco Free Environment Policies

Motion 05/06-18

On motion of Director Ryan, seconded by Director Turner, the Board unanimously approved Policy GBK/JFCG/ KGC, Tobacco Free Environment. LCSD previously had three policies dealing with smoking, one in the student section of the policy book, one in the personnel section, and one in the community section. OSBA suggested combining the three into one policy; the new policy also incorporates changes to Oregon Revised Statutes.

A question arose at the last meeting regarding the District’s acceptance of gifts or funds from the tobacco industry. School Operations Administrator Joe Novello reported items received from the tobacco settlement is not considered a gift. The intent of the verbiage in the policy is to prohibit tobacco companies from purchasing things like scoreboards or bleachers (with the company’s name displayed) for schools.

Approval of Policy GBL, Personnel Records

Motion 05/06-19

On motion of Director Turner, seconded by Director Brown, the Board unanimously approved Policy GBL, Personnel Records. The revised policy brings the District into compliance with changes in the law (SB 755), including the release of employee disciplinary actions for persons convicted of certain crimes to anyone requesting them.

Chairman Beck asked if records are kept regarding access to employees' records, i.e., whom looked at the records, the date, and why the records were examined. Director Len Geiger will investigate and report back to the Board.

Approval of Policy GBLA, Disclosure of Information

Motion 05/06-20

On motion of Director Ryan, seconded by Director Turner, the Board unanimously approved Policy GBLA, Disclosure of Information. This policy is a new one for the district, and was also made necessary by passage of the aforementioned legislation (SB 755).

Approval of Policy JHFE, Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse

Motion 05/06-21

On motion of Director Smith, seconded by Director Ryan, the Board unanimously approved Policy JHFE, Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse. District staff are now required to report suspected child abuse to the building principal, in addition to law enforcement and/or DHS. Joe Novello reported the definition of "child" for this policy includes emancipated minors. All district employees are mandatory reporters of suspected child abuse. The policy also states: "When the subject matter of the interview or investigation is identified to be related to suspected child abuse, district employees shall not notify parents." Mr. Novello reminded the Board employees are not allowed to interfere with a police investigation.

Approval of Resolution 2005/06-3, American Indian Heritage Month

Motion 05/06-22

On motion of Director Brown, seconded by Director Smith, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2005/06-3, declaring the month of November as "American Indian Heritage Month." This event is celebrated nationally; a copy of the resolution will be distributed to all schools for posting.

Approval of Attitude Survey

Motion 05/06-23

On motion of Director Brown, seconded by Director Smith, the Board unanimously approved the conduction of a survey as part of the long-range planning process. The intent of the survey is to determine attitudes of the community regarding its schools. The survey will take place in the coming weeks, with a hoped for completion date of late November.

The Board discussed questions on the survey, mainly pursuant to potential new taxes (i.e., wording on the local option question should be broadened; descriptions of the various kinds of taxes should be included; a concern that listing possible choices for a local option tax could be misleading if the funds turned out to be used for something different).

Approval of Resolution 2005/06-4, Delake School Property Title

Motion 05/06-24

On motion of Director Smith, seconded by Director Turner, the Board unanimously approved a resolution to expedite procuring title insurance for the Delake School property. The property was vested in the school board's name; the resolution states the district recognizes it is selling the property as successors in interest to the school board.

Information on Tsunami Preparedness

Safety Coordinator Sue Graves showed a student produced video about preparing for and responding to a tsunami. Students from Newport Middle, Waldport Middle and Waldport High produced the video, under the direction of AGP teacher Teresa Atwill. Ms. Graves also distributed new “tsunami flyers,” produced for each area of the county.

The Board received NOAA radios, made possible by grant funds. The radios will help with tsunami preparedness and will help build a warning network throughout the county.

Discussion on Science Curriculum Guides

Curriculum & Instruction Administrator Sandi Williams presented new science standards guides for all levels. Webwatchers SciGuides, web-based tool kits with links to about 100 web sites screened and evaluated to complement science lessons, were also shared. Waldport 5th grade teacher Ruth McDonald and Newport Middle science teacher Jim Harshfield are the lead science teachers in this effort. Principal Jack Nickerson is the lead principal. The guides may be accessed through the District’s web site, and will return to the Board for their consideration at the next board meeting.

Mr. Harshfield reported the state OSTA (Oregon Science Teachers Association) recently held its conference at Newport Middle School; twenty-nine district teachers attended.

Ms. McDonald thanked C&I Coordinator Darla Zagel for all of her work placing the science guides on the web.

Discussion on Mileage Rate

The Board began a discussion at the last meeting regarding the mileage reimbursement rate to determine if the Board wished to raise the district rate to mirror that of the IRS. After considering the issue, the Board reached consensus to leave the rate as is.

Discussion on 2006/07 Budget Calendar

Director of Business and Support Services Rich Belloni presented a draft 2006-07 Budget Calendar. As presented, the first Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2006, with the budget for the coming year scheduled for adoption June 27, 2006.

The Board discussed a possible local option effort pursuant to adoption of the budget; they will likely consider whether or not to pursue a local option at the December board meeting.

Information on Financial Reports

Director Belloni presented the final financial report for the 04/05 year as well as the year-to-date information for this school year. The district’s ending fund balance for 04/05 was approximately \$1.9 million, with a projected ending fund balance for the current year of just over \$1 million. Because the

district does not have a large enough cash carryover, funds were borrowed to cover the October payroll (Tax Anticipation Notes).

Information on State Report Card and AYP

Federal Programs Administrator Cathy Russell presented the 2004-05 state report card and AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress, required by the No Child Left Behind Act). Across the district, one school (Isaac Newton Magnet School) rated “exceptional.” Twelve schools were rated “satisfactory” and two schools (Taft High and Toledo High) were rated “low.” Five schools were not rated (the three charter schools, Mary Harrison and the Newport Early Childhood Center). The charter schools need four years of data in order to be rated; Mary Harrison and the ECC were not rated as those schools did not have a benchmark testing grade.

The report card includes financial data about the district. The “Central Support” line item on the report card includes retirement costs; many districts place these costs in the “Classroom Support” section. Superintendent Rinearson noted Julie Baldwin will do an analysis of this data; LCSD may change the way it reports these costs in the future.

The state report card also lists classes taught by highly qualified teachers. The Superintendent said the District is “putting our best teachers with the kids who have the greatest need.”

Discussion on 2005/06 Goals/Long Range Planning

Superintendent Rinearson continued the Board’s long range planning by presenting notebooks containing various pieces of the district profile now being developed. ADM projections demonstrate the district could have significantly fewer students in the next five years. If projections for the year hold true, the district could face a shortfall of at least \$250,000 and possibly as much as \$900,000. “We have to watch this closely, and if we are truly \$250,000 down, we will have to reduce soon,” said Rinearson. He noted he would soon be meeting with union leadership to review the district’s financial status.

The notebook also contained an analysis of Toledo High student projections, done to address OSAA realignment. Next year, Toledo High will move to a smaller schools category. Fiscal Services Administrator Julie Baldwin is investigating whether the school can qualify for the small high school grant.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Superintendent

Chairman