

**LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Board of Directors - Regular Session**  
**Tuesday, December 13, 2005 – 7:30 p.m.**  
**Yaquina View Elementary 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, Secretary, approx. 60 members of the staff, students, media and patrons

**Call to Order- Establishment of a Quorum**

Chairman Ron Beck convened the meeting and called the session to order at 7:05 p.m. with a quorum of all five board members present.

**Yaquina View Choir**

Music teacher Chris McKenney noted the importance of music education, and said it had been reduced in some areas of the district. The Yaquina View choir sang three songs for the Board, including “Happy Birthday” to Superintendent Rinearson.

**Student Representative, Newport High**

Newport High Student Body President Anh Ha updated the Board regarding activities at the school, including: •The second six-week progress reports went out recently; •SATs were given recently; •A financial aid (college) workshop occurred; •The school has a “giving tree” for students at Yaquina View and Sam Case whose families are less fortunate; •The Interact Club has started a toy drive; •Student Council is “adopting” a family; •It is hoped a ‘reader board’ will be purchased using funds raised by the student store and elsewhere; •Cheerleaders placed third in recent competition and advanced to Nationals; •NHS teacher Dave Campbell was named Coach of the Year for cross country; •Some classrooms at the school have been remodeled, to alleviate crowding; •Additional course offerings, including distance learning, will begin at the semester.

**Staff Recognition- Marnie Cogswell**

Principal Tom Zandoli congratulated Sam Case teacher Marnie Cogswell for her attainment of National Board Certification. She is one of two teachers in the district to have reached this rigorous goal (the other is Kristin Lavy). Mr. Zandoli presented Ms. Cogswell with flowers, and the audience gave her a standing ovation.

Ms. Cogswell said participating in the program was a “wonderful experience,” and said she learned a great deal about state and local standards, as well as “reaching for the stars.”

## **Board Reports**

Chairman Beck noted funds to support transportation safety (including sidewalks and crosswalks) will be forthcoming from the state.

Director Billie Jo Smith recently attended an ‘arts in education’ meeting with others from several walks of life seeking to support the arts.

## **Consultant Reports**

•**Annual Audit Report.** Kenny Allen of Pauly, Rogers and Co. reported the district received a “clean, unqualified” audit, the highest available. He lauded the efforts of staff, and said the district’s books and records are maintained in a “very professional manner.”

•**Community Survey.** Dean Bolon of Intercept Research presented the “attitude survey” of 400 community members, 100 from each of four areas in the district (Lincoln City, Newport, Toledo and Waldport). Good teachers were cited as the most positive aspect of the district; 58% of respondents reported they would favor a proposed local option levy. Survey highlights will be posted on the district website in the near future.

## **Superintendent’s Report**

Superintendent Tom Rinearson recognized Dr. Rick Letherer for his donation of six eye exams and glasses for students who need them. Dr. Letherer has been doing this since 1994.

The Superintendent recognized West Coast Bank for their donation of an “Into the Woods” theme tree to Sam Case. The tree was purchased by West Coast Bank at the Festival of Trees auction. Tickets to the play will be given to students at the school who will be selected based on the quality of an essay assignment, and porcelain-faced dolls on the tree will be displayed in the school’s media center.

Mr. Rinearson reported students in Ms. Parker’s class at Yaquina View began a stuffed toy drive, which spread to the entire school and resulted in nine large boxes of stuffed toys being sent to New Orleans for children there.

Superintendent Rinearson congratulated Newport Middle/INMS’ Knowledge Master team for the first place win in the Fall competition. Ten Oregon teams competed; the team placed 120<sup>th</sup> of 770 teams competing world-wide. The 30-member team is coached by Teresa Atwill.

The Superintendent reminded the Board of the last day of school before winter break (December 16); school resumes Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## **Approval of the Consent Calendar**

**Motion 05/06-29**

On motion of Director Ryan, seconded by Director Turner, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Calendar items, including:

- **Minutes of the 11/8/05 Regular Session;**
- **Minutes of the 11/29/05 Work Session;**
- **PSA, Kids Zone- \$16,000 (for after school program, Depoe Bay- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools grant);**
- **Regular Personnel Items and Personnel Addendum dated 12/13/05;**
- **Acceptance of 2004/05 Audit Report.**

**Budget Committee Member- Zone 5**

**Motion 05/06-30**

On motion of Director Turner, seconded by Director Brown, the Board approved Patricia Hopkins as the Zone 5 representative to the LCSD Budget Committee. Ms. Hopkins was appointed to a three-year term, to expire June 30, 2008, and is a new member of the Budget Committee. She is a retired educator.

**Budget Committee Member- Zone 1**

**Motion 05/06-31**

On motion of Director Ryan, seconded by Director Turner, the Board approved Leslie Green as the Zone 1 representative to the LCSD Budget Committee, with a three-year term. Ms. Green was reappointed to the Budget Committee, continuing in her position as the Zone 1 representative.

**Approval of Local Option**

**Motion 05/06-32**

On motion of Director Brown, seconded by Director Turner, the Board unanimously approved pursuing a local option levy on the May 16, 2006 ballot. The levy would generate approximately \$4 million per year.

**Approval of Time Period for Local Option Levy**

**Motion 05/06-33**

On motion of Director Brown, seconded by Director Turner, the Board unanimously approved amending the prior main motion to include the length of time the local option would be levied to five years.

Before the Board voted on the levy, Superintendent Rinearson presented revenue and expenditure forecasts for the next five years, pointing out the numbers at the bottom of the columns on that forecast are summary numbers. After five years, the district will be facing a shortfall of approximately \$11 million, if current staff and programs are continued. A local option levy could purchase 36 FTE in teaching staff, more support for athletic programs, and an additional 11.46 FTE in classified staff. Current student/teacher ratios were maintained in this scenario. Charter schools were included using their current maximum enrollment. The superintendent noted the board would have five years to plan for the end of the levy, if it was not renewed.

Chairman Beck noted a local option levy will not solve the financial problems of the district, and said if a local option is passed, it would need to be continued indefinitely. The Superintendent agreed it would not solve the problem, and said the district is losing students, which is having a profound economic impact.

Director Billie Jo Smith said perhaps additional funds should be looked at as “school improvement” rather than FTE money. The Superintendent responded by saying there may be immense pressure to put additional dollars into FTE, and said the District must investigate the cost of charter schools more in-

depth, especially concerning the cost of PERS, etc. He noted forecasting was done use ADM (not enrollment), and said nothing was added to central structure.

Director Brown noted when state representatives are approached about school funding, their first response is “have you tried a local option?”.

Chairman Beck stated decisions were made over the years resulting in the situation the district currently faces, with high employee costs. “It is a hard discussion to have with working folks in Lincoln County today,” said Beck.

Vice-Chairman Ryan said over 50% of the homes in Lincoln City are owned by out of state residents, or by retired citizens. “I know we need the money, but it is not a permanent fix,” she continued. She added she would hate to see the same thing happen to Chairman Beck’s middle-school aged daughter as happened to her grandson his senior year, when significant cuts occurred.

Director Turner expressed her belief the Board needs to pursue a local option for current students. “I am a retiree and live in a community of many retirees whose taxes would go up, but income will not.” She said it would be worse for the students if a local option were not approved; “We can provide a greater education program for all the kids of Lincoln County.”

Director Smith agreed with Ms. Turner, saying current students need help now. She said “We need to work as hard as we can to avoid a catastrophe after the five years.”

Chairman Beck reiterated something must be done about district employees’ costs. “For the record, I am against it, but the voters will have a chance.” He cautioned the Board about “electioneering,” and urged them to “do your homework.”

### **Discussion on Technology Plan**

School Operations/Technology Administrator Joe Novello presented the new three-year technology plan. The plan is a guide for the district pursuant to technology. Part of the vision for the plan states “Students will be technology literate, life-long learners.” The plan incorporates integration of technology in the classroom and continuous professional development for staff. The Board will consider the plan at the January 10, 2006 board meeting.

### **Information on CIP Action Plan**

Curriculum and Instruction Administrator Sandi Williams and Federal Programs Administrator Cathy Russell presented the Continuous Improvement Plan Action Plan. The strategies and activities have been developed to support the two goals of the plan. The first goal speaks to increasing principals’ skill sets leading school improvement, resulting in higher levels of achievement for all students. The second goal is to “identify and shift appropriate district procedures and resources” to increase student performance.

## **Custodial Services Update**

Sodexo area General Manager Terry Branson and District Manager Don Evans updated the Board regarding custodial services provided by Sodexo. The firm serves 77 schools and colleges in the northwest, the most anywhere in the country. They provided an overview of trainings their employees attend (including “hospital grade” safety training), and new equipment provided them. The company offers manager development training as well.

Director Brown asked if custodians “on the ground level” are trained in the inner workings of their respective schools; Mr. Branson replied they are. He said he and Facilities/Maintenance Assistant Tim Kaufman work together to ensure employees have the needed knowledge. Ms. Brown asked if custodians are Red Cross certified; though it is not required, the company has several employees trained in first aid. She asked the turnover rate of custodians; Mr. Branson estimated turnover at about 25%.

Ms. Brown asked if custodians are background checked and drug tested. “We do not drug test,” said Branson. “I have been working with Mark Culver with Mid-Columbia to improve the return time of fingerprinting and background checks.” All custodians are full-time employees.

Director Smith asked if the district’s custodians make a living wage. Mr. Branson replied they start at \$8.50 per hour, with health benefits and a 401K. Pay increases are performance based, and are negotiated with the district. Mr. Evans said “We try to provide a fair wage, with development opportunities, including Sodexo University.”

## **Information on Financial Reports**

Fiscal Services Administrator Julie Baldwin presented financial information as of November 30, 2005. She reported the district is maximizing interest earnings at Umpqua Bank.

## **Site Plan, South Area Schools**

Superintendent Rinearson reported he has had several conversations with Oregon Coast Community College President Pat O’Connor regarding location of the new college. The superintendent said he would like to look at locating the college on the same site as the current elementary/middle school; the concept is a K-14 system. “This approach may help both sides,” said Rinearson. The feasibility of such a plan will be examined; it is not clear at this point if it would be possible.

## **Discussion on Superintendent’s Evaluation Criteria**

Each year the Board evaluates the Superintendent prior to March 1<sup>st</sup>. Criteria for the evaluation must be discussed in public; the Board examined an instrument based on those used in past years.

The evaluation instrument and a timeline will return to the Board for review and approval at the next meeting.

### **Discussion on Long Range Planning**

Superintendent Rinearson distributed additions to the Board's long-range planning notebook, including an ADM/enrollment definition page, and updated five-year revenue and expenditure projections.

### **Other**

Director Brown expressed her appreciation for the school newsletters and site council schedule.

Chairman Beck reported the Burgess building will be incinerated to provide a fire fighting training exercise December 17<sup>th</sup>. Training for departments from several areas has taken place at the building, he added.

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

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Chairman

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Superintendent