

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors - Regular Session
Tuesday, January 24, 2006 – 7:30 p.m.
Newport High School
Newport, Oregon

Minutes

PRESIDING: Ron Beck, Chairman

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

Also Present: Tom Rinearson, Superintendent; Laurie Urquhart, Secretary, approx. 30 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 7:08 p.m. with a quorum of four board members present. Director Turner was excused from the meeting.

Communications

NHS students Olivia Terris and Anh Ha presented balloons and a plaque to the Board in thanks and recognition of School Board Recognition month. In addition, Sam Case students forwarded artwork to Chairman Ron Beck.

Toledo resident Ed Johnston expressed his opposition to the proposed local option levy.

Former district custodian Bill Simer also expressed opposition to the levy. In addition, he stated his disappointment with the practice burn of the Burgess building, saying the community should have had a celebration there before its destruction.

Taft Elementary Secretary Donna Sanders presented student-produced calendars to the Board in remembrance of School Board Recognition Month. The second grade class at the school produced them.

Board Reports

Vice-Chairman Sue Ryan reported north area principals forwarded a letter to the Lincoln City City Council requesting assistance for placement of a school resource officer in north area schools.

Chairman Beck reported he and Director Brown attended a luncheon with Congresswoman Darlene Hooley (Vice-Chairman Ryan and the Superintendent were to attend the next day in Lincoln City). Director Smith said she attended a town-hall forum with the Congresswoman as well, and said some of the progress on IDEA and NCLB legislation was due to Rep. Hooley's efforts.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Tom Rinearson thanked the Lincoln County Cultural Coalition and Sam Case Boosters for their contributions enabling all Sam Case students the opportunity to attend the "Wizard of Oz" play at the Newport Performing Arts Center.

The Superintendent recognized Taft High teacher Pam Simpson, who is now authorized to offer dual credit for the 'Health and Safety for Food Service' course. Also, the Oregon Coast Community College foundation has set aside a scholarship for a graduate of the Culinary Arts program at Taft High.

Mr. Rinearson reported the District received a new 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant from ODE. The grant will enhance learning during hours outside of the regular school day at LCSD middle schools.

Superintendent Rinearson thanked the Yachats Chamber of Commerce for a donation of \$2500 to Waldport Elementary and Middle School to support artist-in-residence activities.

The Superintendent also thanked Lloyd and Marlene Ankeny for their donation of \$1,000 to the District's Homeless Program.

Mr. Rinearson reminded the Board Monday, January 30 is a "no school" day for students (for Records Day). He also reported the sale of the "Waldport Annex" was finalized.

Approval of the Consent Calendar

Motion 05/06-37

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

- **Minutes of the 1/10/06 Regular Session;**
- **Regular Personnel Items and Addendum dated 1/24/06.**

Approval of Supplemental Budget

Motion 05/06-38

On motion of Director Ryan, seconded by Director Brown, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2005/06-7, Supplemental Budget for Fiscal Year 2005/06-06, as amended 1/24/06. A supplemental budget is allowed under budget law when a district faces unforeseen conditions after the budget process has concluded. Two events necessitated a supplemental budget this year: the landslide at Newport Middle School and the decision to self-fund vision and dental insurance. The resolution was amended to correct the change in the amount for the sale of assets (revenue). Though the amount of change noted in the board folder was \$58,600, the correct amount is \$83,600.

Approval of Rate per Thousand for Local Option Levy Election

Motion 05/06-39

On motion of Director Brown, seconded by Director Smith, the Board unanimously approved a maximum tax rate of \$0.89 per \$1,000 of assessed value for the local option levy election May 16, 2006, with a caveat the rate is verified with the County Assessor's office. After a lengthy discussion weighing the pros and cons of a tax rate versus a dollar amount, the Board selected the tax rate method. Ms.

Baldwin reported all local option measures on ballots over the last three years in Oregon have selected the tax rate method. Director Belloni noted that if the proposed local option levy was approved, and a different education entity approved a local option levy in the future, tax monies would have to be divided between the two entities. Several board members expressed the difficulty in explaining the local option tax; Chairman Beck stated the “currency” he has heard most often affiliated with the levy is certified FTE. Director Smith said residents would find the tax calculation sheet helpful in determining their individual taxes. Superintendent Rinearson said the district does not have sufficient cash flow to deal with the “chaos” created by changes occurring.

Director Brown noted she worked in the Assessor’s office at one time, and said re-calculating the local option taxes for each property would be a “huge project.” She said she understood the \$.89 per thousand rate was correct.

Director Smith noted she and other board members attended a recent OSBA workshop on bonds, and said it may be beneficial to include verbiage in the ballot language about how the money would be used. She also said local option funds should be shown separately in the district’s budget documents (which staff planned to do).

Chairman Beck stated the Board’s vote in December regarding the local option levy was a decision to let the voters decide whether or not to support a local option.

Discussion on Charter Schools

Two of the three existing charter schools’ charters will expire June 30, 2006 (Eddyville and Siletz). Eddyville Charter has asked for a three-year extension, with all other terms and conditions remaining the same. Siletz Valley Charter has asked for a five-year extension, with K-8 grade levels at the school, and a 200 student cap.

In addition, the Board received a request to negotiate a separate charter for a proposed “Siletz Valley Early College Academy” high school, with a cap of 100 students. Officials for the proposed new charter will present to the school board February 14th (a public hearing must be held within 60 days after receipt of the proposal). District staff have examined the proposal, and have noted its deficiencies with representatives of the proposed school. The Board has 30 days to approve or deny the proposal following the hearing.

Information regarding potential financial impact of the charter schools will be shared at an upcoming board meeting.

Discussion on Valedictorians, Policy IKFB

The Board discussed current policy IKFB, which defines valedictorian as “all students with an accumulative GPA of 3.97 or above.” School Operations Administrator Joe Novello shared some of the history pursuant to the definition of valedictorian, and said district high schools have used a variety of methods through the years to select them.

Board members expressed a desire to increase the rigor for students to be so designated, with a suggestion to require these students to procure an “honors” diploma. District staff will explore the

request, and will return with a recommendation at an upcoming board meeting. The Board was cautioned to be mindful of the timing of new requirements, especially concerning current high school students.

Superintendent's Evaluation

The timeline for the evaluation of the Superintendent denoted January 24th as the date for the Superintendent to present information requested by the Board. The Superintendent responded to questions posed by Director Turner on the following topics:

1) Highly qualified teachers; the district is at 93%, ahead of the state average, with a goal of 100%. The Superintendent cautioned the Board that, as high schools get smaller, teachers may teach one period outside of their expertise, thus changing the "highly qualified" rating. 2) Professional Technical Concentrator- this is a student in a Perkins program for at least two credits in the same program. 3) Student behavior tracking. Last year, the district was using more than one method to track student behavior. The Superintendent distributed the number of suspensions and expulsions in 2003/04 and 2004/05. 4) Identify and address sources of stress. The Superintendent reported the Labor/Management team is now meeting, and should help alleviate issues as they arise. Also, the five-year projecting/planning process is changing how stress is managed by approaching the future proactively, as opposed to reactively.

Evaluation forms are due from the Board and administrators by January 27th.

Discussion on Long Range Planning

This discussion will continue at the January 31st work session.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Chairman

Superintendent