

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors - Regular Session
Tuesday, April 25, 2006 – 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, Secretary; approximately 30 members of the staff, media and interested patrons

Call to Order- Establishment of a Quorum

Chairman Beck convened the meeting and called the session to order at 7:00 p.m. with a quorum of all five board members present.

Communications

Chairman Beck reported he and the other board members received invitations to Waldport High's prom.

Board Reports

Mr. Beck reported he and Director Turner attended the recent "Tsunami Summit" and viewed student produced videos on tsunami safety. Taft Middle won the "People's Choice" award for the second consecutive year.

Vice Chair Sue Ryan reported she attended a conference for her employment on courthouse safety, and said the same lessons could apply to the school district.

Consultant Report

Mr. David Bigelow addressed the Board in his capacity as Chairman of the IB (International Baccalaureate) Task Force at Newport High. The task force recommended the IB application be deferred one year to June 2007. The group also recommended confirming the commitment of NHS to completion of the application, and suggested a committee be formed to work with NHS staff toward that end. The NHS Site Council approved these recommendations.

Mr. Bigelow commented the task force, though deflated, felt this action was the best course. The additional year will give the school time to develop the six needed courses and determine how to accomplish goals of the IB program within the existing budget.

Vice Chair Sue Ryan asked if the intent for the IB program at Newport High is to be available to students throughout the district. Mr. Bigelow responded that this was the intent.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Tom Rinearson thanked Sodexo America LLC (food services) for their donation of \$2,000 for scholarships to graduating seniors.

The Superintendent also thanked ByteSpeed Computer Systems for their donation of three desktop computers. The computers were given away as drawing reward activities in the recent technology fairs.

Mr. Rinearson recognized the Oceanlake Emblem Club for their donation of \$1,000 to Oceanlake Elementary. The funds will be used for school supplies.

Superintendent Rinearson recognized the following middle school students for their excellent showing in recent geography bee competition: Corey Houck, Toledo Middle School winner; Taft Middle's Anne Marie Sketch, Isaac Newton's Logan Williams, and Waldport Middle's Santiago Bukovsky went to the state geography bee.

The Superintendent heralded Sam Case students for their "Jump Rope for Heart" activities. Students raised approximately \$1900 for the American Heart Association.

Mr. Rinearson reported the end of the six-week grading period is Friday, April 28, and said parent/teacher conferences take place next week. He wished Director Billie Jo Smith "Happy Birthday" April 26.

Approval of the Consent Calendar

Motion 05/06-54

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

- Minutes of the 4/11/06 Regular Session;
- Regular Personnel Items and Addendum dated 4/25/06;
- 2006/07, 07/08 and 08/09 School Calendars;
- Tax Anticipation Notes, Resolution 2005/06-10;
- Memorandum of Agreement, LCEA/LCSD- retiree benefits (added to Consent Calendar).

An early graduation request listed on the Consent Calendar in the April 25th board folder was removed from the calendar and will be considered at a later date.

Approval of K-12 Media Guide

Motion 05/06-55

On motion of Director Brown, seconded by Director Ryan, the Board unanimously approved the K-12 Media Guide as presented at the April 11 board meeting. The district's media program is coordinated by Doug Hoffman, District Media Specialist.

Director Billie Jo Smith said "they've done a wonderful job" on the guides, and noted one of the items keeping district high schools from being accredited is the lack of media specialists.

Closure of Taft Middle and Toledo Middle Schools

Motion 05/06-56

On motion of Director Ryan, seconded by Director Turner, the Board approved by a vote of four aye and one abstention (Director Brown) the closure of Taft Middle and Toledo Middle Schools next year to

implement changes in building alignments. In the north area, Taft High will house students in grades 7-12. In the east area, Toledo High will house students in grades 7-12, and students currently attending Arcadia Elementary will move to the current Toledo Middle site. Students in grades K-6 will attend that school next year.

Director Brown noted her feeling the Budget Committee should consider the budget, including these closures, prior to the Board considering closing two schools. Superintendent Rinearson responded the Board is the only entity that can, by law, close buildings.

Teacher Appreciation Week, May 7-14, 2006

Motion 05/06-57

On motion of Director Smith, seconded by Director Turner, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2005/06-9, proclaiming the week of May 7-13, 2006 as "Teacher Appreciation Week" in LCSD. Chairman Beck read the resolution, and thanked teachers for the critical work they do. The Board was enthusiastic in their praise for teachers.

Board Spokesperson, OR School Funding Lawsuit

Motion 05/06-57

On motion of Director Beck, seconded by Director Smith, the Board unanimously approved Vice-Chair Sue Ryan as spokesperson for the Board pursuant to the Oregon School Funding Defense Foundation lawsuit. At the last board meeting, the Board voted to join this lawsuit.

Information on 06/07 Student Fees

Operations Administrator Joe Novello recommended student fees remain the same as they currently are for the coming year. The fees may be accessed on the district website under "Policies," code JN-AR; each school also has at least one hard copy of the policy binder.

Discussion on Social Studies Guides

Curriculum and instruction administrator Sandi Williams and teacher Ruth McDonald presented the social science standards guide. A team of teachers developed the guides this school year: Mike Crow, Ron Hahn, Alice Warner, Bob Shindelman, Shelly Jones, Debbie Kilduff, Ruth McDonald, Paul Tucker, Matt Falby, and Kristin Lavy. Administrators on the project were Sandi Williams and Ana Gonzalez. The guides provide teachers with lessons to help teach state standards, and comprise much more than simply the textbook. Many textbooks are still adequate; other resources were identified, including updated maps and globes, and internet resources (including digital streaming). All guides will be accessible on the district's secure staff server after they are approved. The social studies guides will return to the Board for consideration May 9.

Discussion on Athletic Eligibility

The Board continued a discussion on requirements students must meet in order to participate in athletics and other extra-curricular activities. Currently, students must maintain a 2.0 GPA with no "F's". It was suggested this policy could prevent students from taking more strenuous courses in order to avoid failing grades. A letter from parent Tami Atkinson suggested a two-week suspension from the activity, followed by weekly progress reports for a total of six weeks.

LCSD's requirement is higher than the Oregon School Activities Association's (students taking classes seven periods must be passing five of them and making progress toward graduation).

Superintendent Rinearson asked for which group of students the policy is designed; "If it is for kids who are lazy, it may not be high enough. If it is for low IQ learners, the standard may be too high," said Rinearson. He stated his belief that more involvement in school activities usually results in higher GPAs.

Operations Administrator Joe Novello reported the initiation of the current policy did not have the intended result (GPAs did not go up). He will procure a recommendation from the Lincoln County Activities Association (LCAA), which will be sent to the Superintendent. The Board will continue their discussion at an upcoming meeting.

Information on Administrative Compensation and Leaves (CCH-AR)

Assistant Superintendent Len Geiger presented a revised administrative rule CCH-AR, "Building and Learning Support Team Administrative Benefit Guidelines." The rules define building administrator and Learning Support Team benefit and salary guidelines.

Discussion on Policies IGBAB, Records of Students with Disabilities; IGBAC, Special Education- Personnel; and IGBAF, Special Education- Individualized Education Program

Special Education Administrator Susan Van Liew presented three new policies recommended for adoption by the Oregon School Boards Association. The policies are necessitated by recent amendments to the federal "Individuals with Disabilities Education Act," and bring current practice into policy. Ms. Van Liew noted the policies provide a good reference for administrators. The policies will return to the Board for consideration at the next meeting.

Update on Buildings, Burgess Site

Director of Business and Support Services Rich Belloni reported the building housing Sodexo (food and custodial services) and Mid Columbia (transportation services) is complete. MidCo paid for some of the "extras" in the building, including a water fountain and roll up doors. Currently some district Facilities and Maintenance staff have offices in that building, until their own is completed. The cost of the building will be submitted to the state for reimbursement at 70% after hours from Facilities and Maintenance staff are added.

Mr. Belloni reported part of the Facilities and Maintenance building project included pouring concrete at a cost of approximately \$80,000. Though the Board approved the construction project overall (approximately \$480,000), the concrete bid was not brought forward for approval. He noted many factors, including the timing of the concrete pour and weather, contributed to this action.

Mr. Belloni noted many material remnants (e.g., tile and carpet) not large enough for use in classrooms were utilized. The Facilities and Maintenance building is scheduled for completion by June 15.

Discussion on Long-Range Plan: Student Performance

Superintendent Rinearson presented student assessment data over the past six years. He explained that an administrator asked, at one of the first administrative meetings last school year, what kind of change

in the district would be exciting. Mr. Rinearson responded that an improvement in test scores of three standard deviations would be “thrilling.”

Data Coordinator Mary Kelly was asked to determine what three standard deviations would look like in each school. (A standard deviation is a statistical way to measure change). She compiled this information, along with RIT scores and test result percentages for each school. A change of three standard deviations would indicate a positive change of significant proportions.

Discussion on Student Awards by Board

Superintendent Rinearson is considering developing a program to recognize students for their achievements starting next school year. In discussing this concept, he asked Board members if they also wanted to develop a program for recognizing students at board meetings. Board members will forward their ideas to the Superintendent’s office.

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

Chairman

Superintendent