

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors – Regular Session
Tuesday, June 13, 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; approx. 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.

Homeless Program

Homeless Liaison Senitila McKinley presented an overview of the District’s Homeless Program, and reported that 448 school-age children are homeless in Lincoln County at this time. She noted the obvious ill effect on students’ education, and urged the Board to continue supporting the program. She suggested making more staff training available, and emphasized the importance of working with community organizations including Samaritan House and Children’s Services.

A Waldport High student expressed her gratitude for the program, and said it helped her “tremendously.” Ms. McKinley thanked the Board for asking her to speak to them about homeless people in Lincoln County, and said it is her hope that sensitivity increases relating to issues facing the homeless.

Director Turner asked Ms. McKinley her sense of the percentage of homeless children counted in the number of 448. Ms. McKinley replied “We don’t have them all; we need more coordination between agencies.” She added early identification works “the best.”

Expanded Options, OCCC

School Operations Administrator Joe Novello updated the Board on the “Expanded Options” program, which allows high school students to take courses at Oregon Coast Community College for both high school and college credit. LCSD is one year ahead of a new law requiring such partnerships. Forty-six students enrolled in the program this year. Student Charlene Brossow shared her positive experience, saying she earned 38 college credits as well as her high school diploma through the program.

Communications

Director Billie Jo Smith noted the Board's receipt of the National School Boards Association newsletter, which included an insert titled "Federal Action Alert." The publication reports reductions to Title and No Child Left Behind federal budgets, and urges school boards to develop action plans sharing what is occurring in their own districts due to the reductions. The plan should then be shared with local legislators. Ms. Smith asked the Board to consider the idea at a future meeting.

Board Reports

Director Brown reported she attended Lincoln City Career Tech's graduation, saying staff there is "clearly connected to the students." She also visited one of the school based health center's open house, as well a closing ceremony at Arcadia Elementary. She expressed her hope that "staff there know how much we appreciate what they are going through."

Director Turner noted her attendance at Eddyville Charter School's graduation, calling it a "warm, wonderful event." She also attended Waldport High's graduation, with a large community turnout.

Director Smith attended Toledo High's graduation, the Let There Be Arts gala, an art show at Taft Elementary, the ceremony at Arcadia, and a school based health center open house.

Vice-Chairman Ryan stated she attended Taft High's graduation, and said it was a nice ceremony. She was particularly impressed with teacher Matt Love's speech, as well as the valedictorian's.

Chairman Ron Beck said Newport High's graduating class is "top-notch" and said it is nice to witness graduations, the culmination of all the Board hears about.

Insurance Carriers, Other than Health

Insurance Agent of Record Mark Collson summarized insurance carriers for property, liability, vehicles, errors/omissions, and workers compensation insurance for the coming year. He reported the two carriers providing most insurance for schools in the state of Oregon merged into a new company: PACE. The Board will consider carriers at the next Board meeting.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Rinearson congratulated the Waldport High softball team for their state championship win. This is the school's first softball state championship.

The Superintendent gave kudos to the Freed Gallery and "Let There Be Arts," a fundraiser for art in the north area held recently that raised approximately \$50,000 for arts programs in the north area. He also attended Taft High's "Literary Review" of student writing, an "incredible, standing room only" event.

Mr. Rinearson also congratulated Resource Development Specialist Lee Stuart for his efforts procuring the "Teaching American History" grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The three-year grant will provide American History teaching fellowships to 32 teachers.

The Superintendent recognized the Sizzler restaurant in Newport for their donation of 45 child-dinner checks to Yaquina View and Sam Case students.

Superintendent Rinearson reported graduations were held over the weekend (with the exception of Eddyville, whose ceremony was June 2nd), and went well. He attended the Eagle Feather ceremony June 12, honoring Native American graduates.

He reported a group of 10-15 people have been meeting each “first Thursday” to read and review thousands of free books donated by publishers. The best books are placed in LCSD media centers, classrooms and resource rooms.

The Superintendent shared data showing how much time students spend in physical activity, in response to a request from a representative of the Lincoln County Public Health Advisory Committee. Each school is unique, but nearly all are above the amount of time requested by the advisory committee.

Approval of the Consent Calendar

Motion 05/06-64

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

- **Minutes of the May 12, 2006 Work Session;**
- **Minutes of the May 23, 2006 Regular Session;**
- **Regular Personnel Items and Addendum dated 6/13/06;**
- **Special Education Policies: IGBAG (Procedural Safeguards), IGBAH (Evaluation Procedures), IGBAI (Private Schools); all three have accompanying administrative rules;**
- **06/07 Food Services Contract, Sodexo/School Meal Prices (elementary lunch will cost \$1.75- all other meal prices remain the same);**
- **06/07 Board Meeting Calendar.**

Approval of Siletz Early College Academy Charter Agreement

Motion 05/06-65

On motion of Director Brown, seconded by Director Ryan, the Board unanimously approved the charter agreement between LCSD and the Siletz Valley Early College Academy for the July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2009 time period, with a maximum of 100 students total in grades 9-12.

Superintendent Rinearson recognized Joe Novello for doing an “exceptional” job of working with attorneys and Siletz representatives to develop the agreement.

Certification of May 16, 2006 Election Results

Motion 05/06-66

On motion of Director Ryan, seconded by Director Turner, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2005/06-13, declaring election results of the May 16, 2006 Primary Election on Measure 21-106 as noted in the June 13, 2006 board folder. 6,831 Lincoln County voters voted “no,” with 5484 “yes” votes. Turnout in Lincoln County was nearly 49%.

Oregon Reading First- Arcadia Elementary

Arcadia Elementary received an Oregon Reading First grant this school year, which will continue through the next two years. The goal of the grant is for all students at the school in grade three to read at benchmark level. Principal Rosemary O'Neil along with teachers Sue McVeigh, Libba Sager and Sheryl Fewkes shared information on various aspects of the grant.

The systemic approach of the grant includes several facets, including: ?students have 90-120 minutes of uninterrupted reading each day; ?the school has a reading coach (Sue McVeigh); ?students' progress is assessed at least three times per year, with students at lower levels assessed every month and those at the lowest level, every week; ?the team at the school meets for a half day each month to analyze data. The data analysis results in instructional and grouping changes. Staff will continue to provide progress reports to the Board.

Discussion on 06/07 Alternative Education Programs

School Operations Administrator Joe Novello reported a list of alternative education programs must be approved annually by the Board. For the coming year, Newport, Taft and Toledo High Schools will offer alternative programs.

Director Turner noted the lack of an alternative program in Waldport; Mr. Novello said principals make recommendations regarding programs in their buildings. Ms. Turner asked for more information on this subject, noting her concern for students there who may be in need of services.

Discussion on Athletic Eligibility, Policy IGD

The Board continued their discussion on athletic eligibility. A revision in Policy IGD, Lincoln County Activities Association, is being developed and will return to the Board for further discussion at the next meeting.

Deletion of Policy IKFA, Early Graduation

The graduation policy in the district was revised in September, 2005. Before that time, Personal Education Plans were optional for students. If students developed a personal education plan (including a plan for graduating early) Board approval was required. With the new policy, all students now have Personal Education Plans, negating the need for Policy IKFA, Early Graduation.

Students may still graduate from high school before the standard four years if they meet all of the graduation requirements. Director Smith noted the graduation policy should be explicit regarding the availability of graduating early.

Name Change, Arcadia Elementary

Arcadia Elementary will be moving to the current Toledo Middle School site next year, with grade levels K-6. A new name for the school is being considered and support for changing the name to "Toledo Elementary School" has been expressed. The name change will return to the Board for consideration at the next meeting.

Financial Report

Fiscal Services Administrator Julie Baldwin presented the financial report as of May 31, 2006. Interest income continues to grow, and Ms. Baldwin has approached local banks to explore the possibility of investing funds there rather than in the local government investment pool. She will share information on this topic at an upcoming meeting.

Discussion on Decision Making Process/Working Agreements

Superintendent Rinearson presented a flowchart demonstrating the manner in which the Board makes decisions currently. He commented the Board needs to be very clear regarding what their decisions are about, and said this misunderstanding likely contributed to conflict about the local option issue. After a lengthy discussion, Director Smith stated “In the future, we need to clarify. We need to put this issue behind us and find a better way to clarify what we are voting on.” The Board asked to expand the decision making process to include a more structured one for complex or controversial decisions.

The Board also discussed “Board and Superintendent Working Agreements.” They revised the agreements, deleting a portion of Section V, Communication Agreements (removing “No individual board member, regardless of their position, has the authority to speak for the board.”). They also reached consensus to adjust Section VIII, Role of the Chair, slightly. The working agreements will return to the Board for their consideration at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Chairman

Superintendent