

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors - Work Session
Tuesday, October 24, 2006 – 5:30 p.m.
Newport High School
Newport, Oregon

PRESIDING: Sue Ryan, Chairman

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

Also Present: Tom Rinearson, Superintendent; Len Geiger, Asst. Superintendent; Cathy Russell, Joe Novello, Susan Van Liew, Administrators; Laurie Urquhart, Secretary

Call to Order- Establishment of a Quorum

Chairman Ryan convened the meeting and called the session to order at 5:30 p.m. with a quorum of all four board members present.

Introduction

Special Education Administrator Susan Van Liew presented an overview of the evening's topic, saying the "systems process" is known by many names, including "Quality Framework" and "Quality Concepts;" a proposed new name is "Building Bridges for Student Success." She asked the group to rate themselves on knowledge they have about "systems."

Consensogram

Board members completed the "consensogram" by placing yellow dots on three different graphs rated from one to 100, with "one" representing no knowledge and 100 as 'experienced tool user'. The three graphs were on Leadership, Systems Perspective, and Process Management. At the end of the training, attendees placed green dots on the same three graphs indicating where they felt their understanding was following the training.

Outcome

The hoped for outcome of the training was to understand the difference between strategic versus operational roles in an integrated learning system. The goal of the systems process is for each student to learn at high levels. Systems must be in place to allow this goal to occur.

Linkage

The "linkage" is a graphic model of categories of the Integrated Management System. Cathy Russell presented the model, explaining each portion of it. In this instance, the Board represents the "Leadership" portion, which creates constancy of purpose. Goals and measures fall into the "strategic planning" category. These categories are 'above the line,' and represent the "what."

Below the line (the “how”), are processes (how do we get things done?) and faculty/staff/student focus. Core values lie beneath the entire system and “bubble up” through all.

Systems Alignment

Joe Novello described varying systems and their alignment, including:

?Federal Level: Public Law or U.S. Code is the “what”
Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) is the “how”

?State Level: Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) is the “what”
Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) is the “how”

?District Level: Policies represent “what”
Administrative Rules represent “how”

Your Role

A “school improvement alignment” slide was shown demonstrating where the school board fits in the process. The Board develops policies based on state and federal mandates (as well as non-mandates). These are translated by the Superintendent and staff into administrative rules on the policies, which then translate to school goals and measures on respective SCIPs (School Continuous Improvement Plan). These are translated to the classroom, with goals/measures and results.

A slide on qualities of a leader was shown, stating a leader must have the: wisdom of an owl, courage of a lion, stubbornness of a mule, cheery industry of an ant, plodding endurance of a camel, meanwhile hiding the guile of a fox behind the charm of a kitten.

Key Learnings

A handout was distributed asking Board members to list the biggest “a-ha!” as well as questions/concerns from the training, and three key learnings. The group discussed the easiness and inevitability of crossing lines; the key is awareness when one is doing so. Visibility of board members was discussed. Superintendent Rinearson said visibility of board members is positive; the trouble comes when a board member tries to solve the problem for the stakeholder, rather than referring him/her to the proper channel. All agreed it is challenging and a delicate balance to be caring, yet not cross the line.

Chairman Ryan noted when constituents come to her with concerns, she refers them to the Superintendent. Mr. Rinearson noted the only authority the Board has is when it is convened in a meeting; individual board members have no authority.

Director Brown said when Board members receive calls, they need to direct them to the right place.

Plus/Delta

Board members listed “Plus and Delta” results of the meeting, including:

Plus

- ?Joe's description of laws, etc.
(nomenclature)
- ?Open discussion
- ?Everyone at the meeting is equal
- ?Awareness of different personal styles
(high and low talkers)
- ?Tom's example of another Board
- ?Expansion of vocabulary
- ?Effective process

Delta

- ?Put this information into the powerpoint presentation
- ?Sandi wasn't present
- ?No llama
- ?More examples of crossing the line
- ?Have group identify current examples of crossing the
line within the organization
- ?Present this training at OSBA convention next year

The meeting was recessed to regular session at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman

Superintendent