

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors- Regular Session
Tuesday, December 12, 2006 – 7:00 p.m.
Sam Case Elementary School
Newport, Oregon

Minutes

- PRESIDING:** Sue Ryan, Chairman
- Present:** Sue Ryan, Chairman; Brenda Brown, Vice-Chairman; Ron Beck, Jean Turner, Jana Cowan, Directors
- Also Present:** Tom Rinearson, Superintendent; Laurie Urquhart, Secretary; approximately 25 members of the staff, media and interested patrons

Call to Order- Establishment of a Quorum

Chairman Ryan convened the meeting and called the session to order at 7:09 p.m. with a quorum of all five board members present. New board member Jana Cowan was appointed in an earlier special session, and joined the group. She represents Zone 4 (east county) and replaces Billie Jo Smith, who stepped down in October.

Student Rep- Wendy Wilde

Newport High Public Relations Officer for student council Wendy Wilde updated the Board on activities at the school, including: ●thanks to Mr. Belloni and staff for remodeling the student store, planned to open in January; ●athletics are going well; ●cheerleaders went to all-state competition, and in the individual competition took 1st (Chelsea Capri, who won a \$600 scholarship) and 2nd (Morgan O'Donnell, with a \$500 scholarship);●188 students took part in fall sports- their average GPA was 3.36 for girls and 3.32 for boys; ●Tyler Carter and Saga Briggs were named Rotary students of the month this month; ●48 students and staff took part in a recent blood drive; ●Link crew, a program “linking” upper classmen with freshman students, is going well; ●students provided a Thanksgiving meal for an anonymous family; ●students at the school are giving gifts via a “giving tree” to students at Sam Case and Yaquina View.

Board Reports

Director Brown reported she attended the Yaquina View holiday bazaar, which she said was “wonderful.”

Chairman Ryan said she attended the first OSBA Leadership Oregon program, saying it was an interesting and worthwhile event. She thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend the training.

Friends of the Aquatic Center

Jim Protiva of the Newport Parks and Recreation Department and Claudia Webster, President of the Friends of the Aquatic Center reported the group has pulled together a grassroots collection of citizens interested in a new aquatic center. The group meets monthly, and has raised \$35,000 for a planning and design study. Mr. Protiva said many school groups use the current Newport pool, and suggested it is a good idea to continue/expand the current cooperative agreement between the city and the District. He distributed three handouts about the effort; one of them invited residents to a community meeting planned for December 14th.

Friends of the Aquatic Center are exploring grant funding opportunities to support the proposed center, and asked if the District's "grant writer" (Resource Development Specialist) could help them in their efforts. Several locations are being considered for the center.

Annual Audit Report

Kenny Allen, partner in the District's audit firm (Pauly, Rogers and Co., P.C.) reported the District received a "clean, unqualified" audit (the highest attainable) and distributed a two-page executive summary. He recognized Rich Belloni, Julie Baldwin and the business office staff for their professionalism and great work. "Their constant monitoring process addresses issues as they arise," said Allen. Board members thanked the Business Office staff for their professionalism and excellent work.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Rinearson recognized the Newport Swim Team (ages 5-8; part of USA Swimming Organization) for their donation of over \$500, along with gift cards, clothing, blankets and jackets to the District's Homeless program.

The Superintendent also recognized St. Augustine Catholic Church in Lincoln City for their donation of \$2,948 to the District Homeless program.

Mr. Rinearson thanked Bruce Durkee and the Newport Marathon for their purchase of a new sound system for the Newport High east gym, valued at \$7,300.

Superintendent Rinearson recognized Newport High students Logan Williams and Kevin Renfro for their receipt of a grant from NASA for \$6,000. The funds will be used to create the first NHS Robotics Club. Advisers are Mike Jakobsson and Brian Hanna.

Toledo Elementary teacher Nancy Beckham was appointed as a National GLAD trainer, reported Rinearson. GLAD stands for "Guided Language Acquisition Design."

The Superintendent thanked Doug Chase and Duane Bergevin of Chase Construction for their donation of \$2500 to Taft High's Materials Technology program. They have pledged additional funds in the coming months as well.

Mr. Rinearson reminded the Board of the upcoming Winter Break; no school for students from December 18 through January 1, 2007. School resumes Tuesday, January 2nd.

Approval of the Consent Calendar

Motion 06/07-26

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

- **Minutes of the 11/14/06 Work Session;**
- **Minutes of the 11/14/06 Regular Session;**
- **Regular Personnel Items and Addendum dated 12/12/06;**
- **Easement, City of Waldport.**

Acceptance of 2005/06 Audit

Motion 06/07-27

On motion of Director Turner, seconded by Director Cowan, the Board unanimously accepted the 2005/06 audit presented by Pauly, Rogers and Co. Board members thanked business office staff members for their excellent work.

Policy JECC, Assignment of Students to Schools

The Board “tabled” the vote on the “Assignment of Students to Schools” policy to the January 2007 meeting. Superintendent Rinearson will re-work one portion of the policy.

District administrators are working on administrative rules to accompany the policy.

West Area Report

Newport High Principal Suzanne Dalton and teacher Brian Hanna described their progress with community partnerships. Group focuses include science and math, beautification, arts, opportunities for students, animal husbandry, government/economics, Spanish, and literacy. Mr. Hanna reported he meets with Newport Middle math teacher Stephanie Zandoli each week to discuss curriculum alignment and best practices. He also reported he has contacted the Central Lincoln Peoples Utilities District to explore Career Related Learning Experiences (CRLE’s) for students.

Yaquina View Principal Kurt Smith described activities at the school during “geography week.” Students were able to locate their homes on aerial maps.

Newport Middle’s band concert was held the same evening as the board meeting, so Principal Marsha Eckelman was otherwise engaged.

Sam Case Principal Tom Zandoli introduced P.E. teacher Jo Rauch, who demonstrated a Palm Pilot project her 4th and 5th grade students recently completed. Board members used Palm Pilots to mirror what students had done.

Financial Report

Fiscal Services Administrator Julie Baldwin presented the financial report as of November 30, 2006. She reported the receipt of a large influx of property tax receipts for the month of November (so December's receipts will likely be less than projected).

Superintendent Rinearson reported the Governor's proposed budget of \$6 billion for schools in the next biennium will not allow an increase in services for LCSD. At that level, LCSD would be \$1.5 million short of current level funding due to decreasing enrollment and higher than average employee costs. "If it goes to \$6.3 billion, we are about \$300,000 shy," said Rinearson. He expressed concern regarding reports that certain programs will be put in place next year. "We can do those things, but we will still have to cut. It is my hope we acknowledge we still have some issues to deal with locally."

Director Turner noted that employee costs may be addressed through negotiations, but asked what could be done about declining enrollment. The Superintendent said one avenue to be explored is affordable housing. Regarding negotiations, Mr. Rinearson stated insurance and early retirement costs need to be examined as the District looks forward.

Ms. Baldwin presented information regarding students' usage of on-line courses. This year, 519 students have taken 757 on-line courses to date.

Information on Soccer Field, Lincoln City

Director of Business and Support Services Rich Belloni distributed a corrected agreement between the Lincoln County School District and Central Coast Soccer Association for possible use of a soccer field near Taft High School. The agreement reflects a scenario including removal of a hillside at the site. Another plan is emerging, which will be less expensive and will allow usage by several groups. If the second plan fails to materialize, staff plans to utilize the agreement noted in the board folder (and corrected). Mr. Belloni will report the outcome of the negotiations when they are finalized.

Criteria, Superintendent Evaluation

Each year, per policy and contract, the Board evaluates the Superintendent. The Board will use the same evaluation form as in previous years, and will seek input from district administrators as well. The forms will be distributed in January, prior to the evaluation in executive session. Director Turner noted she will not be at the February 13th meeting (the date for the executive session evaluation). Staff will poll board members regarding their date of preference.

Revised Board Meeting Calendar

A revised board meeting calendar was presented with one (rather than two) regular business meetings of the Board per month. The business meeting will take place on the second Tuesday of the month, with fourth and fifth Tuesdays reserved for possible work sessions. The calendar will return for consideration at the January 9, 2007 regular session.

Long Range Plan- Board Zones; New Board Member Orientation; Draft Strategic Plan; Possible Move from Taft Elem. to Old Taft Middle Site

The Board discussed current Board zones and possible rezoning based on the latest census, per state law. Board members are elected at large, though they must reside in their respective zones. They reached consensus to leave the zones as they are currently for now.

Directors Turner and Brown presented a new Board member orientation process. In addition to various written material, it was suggested new board members be mentored by a current board member, perhaps the vice-chair. Superintendent Rinearson suggested that the mentor position may not necessarily always be the vice-chair, saying “If you have someone that is a good mentor but not the vice-chair, you may want to take advantage of that. You don’t have to rotate everyone through all the different roles.”

Superintendent Rinearson presented a draft strategic plan format, with the idea of a one-page form distributed to the public and more in-depth information available on the district’s website. The Board will revisit this topic at an upcoming meeting.

The Superintendent also noted the District intends to move Taft Elementary to the former Taft Middle School site for next school year. The move will relocate Taft Elementary out of the tsunami zone. Staff hopes to have remodeling at the old middle school site completed by the end of this school year, to allow move-in by staff this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Chairman

Superintendent