

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors- Regular Session
Tuesday, May 8, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.
Taft Elementary School
Lincoln City, Oregon

Minutes

PRESIDING: Sue Ryan, Chairman

Present: Sue Ryan, Chairman; Brenda Brown, Vice-Chairman; Jean Turner, Director

Also Present: Tom Rinearson, Superintendent; Laurie Urquart, Secretary; approximately 50 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 three board members present. Directors Beck and Cowan were excused from the meeting.

Taft Elementary Students- Africa Unit

Students in Leanna Garrison's sixth grade class shared portions of their "Africa, A to Z" books. Ian Johnson, Felicia Nelson, Andres Rodriquez, Jhovanny Acosta-Lopez and Jason Alexander highlighted animals they studied in this research project.

Annual Report- Lincoln City Career Tech

Teacher Mark Peery and student Jessie Guarrera welcomed the group in English and Japanese, respectively. Student Falicia Mellon introduced students Jordan and Tyler Keck and Lilli Guarrera, who performed a short play about the knights of the round table. Their teacher, Mary Griffing, explained that education at the charter school is offered through project-based, integrated learning, which the play demonstrated. Student Leslie Fowler directed the play.

Teacher Chris Thompson introduced student Allan Harmon, who shared some of his experiences at the school. Other staff members in attendance included Donna Seeto and Susan Peters.

Several parents and grandparents in the audience spoke in favor of the charter school, saying it offered a diverse and varied education for their children.

Principal Marie Jones thanked the Board for the positive relationship with the school, sharing a quote that "no significant learning occurs without a significant relationship." She said the school is able to "take on the lives and energy of the kids we serve, due to our size."

Walt Ricks- Substitute Teacher of the Year

Sally Sue Cellars, representing the Oregon Substitute Teachers Association, introduced Walt Ricks, the Substitute Teacher of the Year in the state. Mr. Ricks, who calls himself a "teacher on call," gave kudos to the students in our schools for their energy and involvement. He reported he limits his assignments to the north area of the district in order to better get to know the students there.

Taft 7-12 Principal Steve Kilduff recognized Mr. Ricks for his caring and involvement with the school.

Taft High School Update

Principal Steve Kilduff summarized the traumatic events in the north area over the past two weeks, including the death of a former student in Iraq, a serious car accident involving four students, the shooting of one student by another, and a death of a student in another car accident. He said although none of the events occurred at Taft High, they all involved students there as well as the community.

Mr. Kilduff said the school has received a tremendous amount of support from a variety of sources, including the Oregon Department of Education, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Susan Castillo, school districts in other areas, and many cards, letters, and emails. He reported community leaders came together to provide desserts this week for all students in the school. He also thanked Superintendent Rinearson and other staff members for their “amazing support.” Yellow memory bands were distributed to the audience; “we are having school, and graduation will take place in about a month,” said Kilduff.

Communications

Career Tech ASB President Leslie Fowler expressed her concern regarding negative comments she has heard from city employees about the school and its students, and said she would like to change the negativity.

Sheltered Cove Estates resident Yvonne Welch noted the existence of a tall net in the flyway for several species of birds. The district owned net is adjacent to a volleyball court. Staff and Pacific Power reps have placed ribbons on the net to alert the birds, which is working but is a “temporary fix.” She suggested the District place pulleys and ropes on one section of the net, allowing it to be raised and lowered during use.

Board Reports

Board Chair Sue Ryan reported she recently completed an eight-day leadership training course offered by the Oregon School Boards Association.

Vice Chair Brenda Brown noted her attendance at the “sea art” artist-in-residence program at Toledo Elementary, calling it “wonderful.”

Food Services Presentation/Discussion on 07-08 Food Services Contract

Sodexo District Manager John Stone recognized the 11-year relationship with LCSD, beginning in 1996 with a Food Services Manager. He reported over 5000 meals are served daily in the district, and said several changes are underway to enhance nutritional offerings. Free breakfast is offered at ten schools.

General Manager Steve Kappler reported new programs include “Farm to Market,” scheduled to take place May 25 at Sam Case. He noted the company’s focus on improving nutrition, including the use of greener, leafier lettuce, low sugar cereals, pretzels rather than chips, low fat cheese, and the availability of more fresh fruits and vegetables.

Mr. Stone noted that meal participation has dropped, though not as far as the decline in enrollment would indicate. Different strategies are being tried to increase participation in the free and/or reduced meal program, including waiving the athletic participation fee for eligible students. For the future, Sodexo will be exploring local products, sustainability, continuing nutritional efforts, expansion of “farm to market” activities and A to Z salad bars. Monthly newsletters will continue, and a summer mailer will again be sent.

A trophy was presented to Chairman Ryan commemorating the more than ten-year partnership between LCSD and Sodexo. The food services contract must be reviewed annually per state law, and will be considered at the next meeting.

Chairman Ryan thanked Mr. Kappler and Marla Hawley for meeting with her recently; she had lunch at a school and visited another. Vice-chair Brenda Brown recognized Sodexo for their generosity in supporting the community, and said she appreciated the positive changes the company is making to enhance nutrition. She thanked the company for having a community/student forum in Toledo recently, and said another is planned for Newport May 17.

Director Turner also thanked Sodexo for the positive changes, and noted her desire to attend a forum in Waldport, if one is held there.

Director of Business and Support Services Rich Belloni noted the guarantee from Sodexo to LCSD for food services will be reduced from \$188,817 for the current year to \$179,358 for the coming year. The change is due to lower meal participation. “We cannot make money on our food program, per state law,” said Mr. Belloni. The funds from Sodexo pay part of Mr. Belloni’s salary, lights, water, power, cleaning, etc., thus alleviating a like amount from the general fund.

Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Rinearson congratulated Newport High students Emerald Hudnell-Almas and Walter Schille. Ms. Hudnell-Almas won the state contest and placed third in the nation for the National Career Poster Contest. Mr. Schille won the Oregonian “Design an Ad” contest; he designed an ad for the Portland Art Institute.

The Superintendent reported Toledo High’s Americorps representative will be back next year, thanks to a grant from the Northwest Service Academy.

Mr. Rinearson reported the Siletz Charitable Contribution Fund will fund the following items: clay for Newport High’s art program; scholarships for Newport Middle’s outdoor school; two Automated External Defibrillators for use by the District nurse; and a laptop and projector for Taft 7-12. The Superintendent thanked these benefactors for their generosity.

The Superintendent reported the last early release day of the school year is May 16. He noted he will be traveling to Wisconsin as part of a safe schools conference with the Newport Police Chief, and said his attendance was required in order for the Chief to attend.

Approval of the Consent Calendar

Motion 06/07-46

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

- Minutes of the 4/10/07 Work Session;
- Minutes of the 4/10/07 Regular Session;
- Planned Course Statements/Syllabi, Taft High Courses: Sports/Entertainment Marketing; Fashion Marketing; High School 101;
- Regular Personnel Items and Addendum;
- Policy GBED, Pre-Employment Drug Testing;
- English Language Learners (ELL) Plan.

PSA, Oregon Coast Council for the Arts

Motion 06/07-47

On motion of Director Brown, seconded by Director Turner, the Board unanimously approved a Personal Services Agreement for Oregon Coast Council for the Arts in an amount not to exceed \$20,000. The funds will provide staff, supplies, administrative support and staff development for art instruction as part of the 21st Century Community Learning Center after-school program.

Kindergarten Options/Opportunities

Superintendent Rinearson noted this agenda item was raised in an earlier meeting, and would be continued until the next. Discussions are ongoing around the District regarding expanded Kindergarten options for the coming year, but cannot be finalized until state legislators complete their work.

Information on Graduation Schedules

The Superintendent reported graduations around the District will take place as follows:

Eddyville Charter- June 1, 7:00 p.m.

Career Tech- June 8, 5:30 p.m., Council Chambers

Siletz Early College Academy- June 9, 11:00 a.m. at the Tribal Center

Waldport High- June 9, 2:00 p.m.

Toledo High- June 9, 4:00 p.m.

Taft High- June 9, 6:00 p.m.

Newport High- June 9, 6:00 p.m.

Unless otherwise noted, graduation ceremonies take place at the respective schools listed. Board members will be contacted regarding their attendance at the ceremonies.

Discussion on Policy IKF, High School Graduation

A revised Policy IKF, High School Graduation, was presented for the Board’s discussion. The policy will return for further discussion at the next board meeting.

Financial Report

Accounting Coordinator Susan Musgrove reported no significant changes to expenditures or revenues. She reported student ADM appears to be holding steady, which could mean district enrollment is stabilizing. A slight decline in some interest rates was reported.

Mid Columbia Bus Contract

The contract with Mid Columbia Bus Company for transportation services is slated to expire in 2008. A provision exists in the contract allowing a “roll-over” for an additional five years; the board will consider the contract at the next meeting.

The average bus age in Mid Co’s LCSD fleet is 6.5 years, and 59% of employees who moved from LCSD to MidCo are still employed by MidCo.

Several administrators expressed their satisfaction with Mid Co’s services, and Mr. Belloni reported other districts in the state have transferred their transportation contracts to Mid Columbia.

Addendum- Multi-Use Agreements

The Board has raised the issue of multi-use facilities agreements over the last several months. These are facilities used by an organization more than four times in a given year. The Board asked to continue the discussion at an upcoming work session, but indicated their consensus to continue the current practice of allowing staff to administer the agreements. Director Brown asked to see a list of organizations currently using multi-use agreements. Director Turner noted her comfort with leaving the process as is, and said she views it as an administrative function.

Long Range Planning/Board Self-Evaluation

The Board asked to continue the self-evaluation to a future board meeting. They reached consensus to meet in a work session on May 22nd to discuss quality concepts, the self-evaluation and a list of facilities with multi-use agreements.

Discussion on 07-08 Board Meeting Calendar

A draft schedule of board meetings for the coming year was presented for the Board’s discussion. Meetings are scheduled on the second Tuesday of each month at varying locations during the school year. Fourth and fifth Tuesdays are reserved for work sessions, should they be necessary. The calendar will return for the Board’s consideration at the next meeting.

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

Chairman

Superintendent