

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors – Work Session
Tuesday, August 21, 2007 – 5:30 p.m.
Newport Middle School
Newport, Oregon

Minutes

Present: Brenda Brown, Chairman; Jean Turner, Vice Chairman, Ron Beck, Jana Cowan, Amy Coulter, Directors

Also Present: Tom Rinearson, Superintendent; Susan Van Liew, Special Ed. Administrator, Kristin Takano, Community Liaison; Laurie Urquhart, Secretary

Call to Order- Establishment of a Quorum

Chairman Brown convened the meeting and called the session to order at 5:34 p.m. with a quorum of four board members present; Director Beck arrived 15 minutes later.

Overview of Quality Concepts

Special Education Administrator Susan Van Liew and Curriculum Resource Liaison Kristin Takano provided an overview of the quality framework system. Board members rated their current knowledge of the integrated learning system. The outcome for the training was for Board members to understand the difference between strategic and operational roles in an integrated system.

The system is based upon Baldrige criteria and contains seven categories: leadership; strategic planning, stakeholder focus, information and analysis; faculty and staff focus; educational and support process management; and organizational performance results.

Both Ms. Van Liew and Ms. Takano described each category. They discussed above (strategic) and below (operational) the line roles for different players and explained that one could be “above the line” in one scenario but “below the line” in another situation. Ms. Van Liew noted the difference between the “what” (from the leader) and the “how” (from the workers). A class will be offered for teachers to learn the system, but will not be mandated.

Superintendent Rinearson described the systemic approach as a “huge shift” in the organization. “The District Office used to tell folks how to do things. This new approach is the reason you see things being done differently in different areas,” said Rinearson.

Director Cowan asked how often results are checked; it varies from building to building. Decisions are based upon more data than simply that from state assessments.

The Superintendent noted one of the biggest struggles new board members have is the desire of people in the community for the board member to go below the line to solve problems. He also stated the last legislature changed education more than any in the last several years.

Ms. Takano reported 110 district employees, including teachers, administrators and others have been trained in the Quality Framework system, seven new trainers have been trained, and training is planned for new district administrators. She asked Board members to complete a 'Key Learnings' sheet regarding the evening's activities; they will be informed when the next Classroom Learning System training is scheduled.

The meeting was recessed to an executive session at 6:35 p.m.

Chairman

Superintendent