

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors- Regular Session
Tuesday, July 14, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.
Newport High School
Newport, Oregon

Minutes

- PRESIDING:** 08/09 Chairman Jean Turner; 09/10 Chairman Jana Cowan
- Present:** Jean Turner, Jana Cowan, Ron Beck, Brenda Brown; Directors
- Also Present:** Tom Rinearson, Superintendent; Laurie Urquhart, Secretary; approx. 40 members of the staff, media and interested patrons

Call to Order- Establishment of a Quorum

Chairman Jean Turner convened the meeting and called the session to order at 7:00 p.m. with a quorum of four board members present Director Amy Coulter was excused from the meeting.

Election of 2009/10 Board Chair

Motion 09/10-1

On motion of Director Beck, seconded by Director Brown, the Board unanimously elected Jana Cowan as the 2009/10 Chairman of the Board.

Election of 2009/10 Board Vice Chair

Motion 09/10-2

On motion of Director Brown, seconded by Director Turner, the Board unanimously elected Ron Beck as the 2009/10 Vice Chairman of the Board.

Communications

Yaquina View teacher Wren Clark shared thoughts on the proposed closure of Yaquina View Elementary and the many wonderful legacies of the school throughout its long history. “The continuity of staff has been one of the school’s strengths,” said Clark. “We are not just locking the doors of a school, but are seeing the end of a fine community, the heart and soul of the Dolphin family.”

Board Reports

Chairman Jana Cowan noted the Board met in a productive annual retreat over the weekend.

Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Rinearson congratulated Safety Coordinator Sue Graves for the award of the Readiness and Emergency Management for School (“REMS”) Program grant from the US Department of Education. The \$304,000 grant will be expended over two years and will improve and strengthen the district’s emergency management plan.

The Superintendent recognized Crestview Heights students for holding a coin drive in late spring, raising over \$200 for St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Mr. Rinearson congratulated Oceanlake Kindergarten teacher Jennifer Napoleon, who wrote two successful grant proposals to the Siletz Charitable Contribution fund. One grant will purchase sets of guided reading books, and the other will help purchase computers.

The Superintendent reported the Board will next meet on Tuesday, August 18th (7:00 p.m. at Newport High).

Approval of the Consent Calendar

Motion 09/10-3

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

- Minutes, June 16, 2009 Work Session;**
- Minutes, June 23, 2008 Regular Session;**
- 09/10 Alternative Education Programs;**
- Personal Services Agreement, Murray Lein, Occupational Therapist;**
- 09-10 Board Meeting Calendar.**

Approval of West Area Reconfiguration; Closure of Yaquina View Elementary

Motion 09/10-4

On motion of Director Beck, seconded by Director Turner, the Board unanimously approved the West area reconfiguration including the closure of Yaquina View Elementary, as described in the July 14, 2009 board folder. The new plan will see students in grades K-3 at the current Sam Case site, grades 4-6 plus Isaac Newton Magnet School at the current middle school site ("Newport Intermediate School"); and grades 7-12 at the Newport High campus. In that scenario, 7th and 8th grade students will attend Newport Prep Academy on the west campus of the current high school (a school within a school). Students in grades 9-12 will attend most of their classes on the east campus.

West area administrators proposed the plan after learning of an even larger budget shortfall for the 09-10 year. Though the decision was a very difficult one, the plan will preserve over four teaching positions and will put approximately \$375,000 back into the west area's budget this and subsequent years.

Director Jean Turner noted the reconfiguration plan was the "reluctant recommendation" of the west area staff after many long hours of soul searching about what will work. "It is a compelling report," said Turner. "We would lose even more teachers if we do not close a school." She gave staff kudos on the outstanding job they did explaining their decision to close the Yaquina View site.

Vice Chairman Ron Beck stated each school means so much to its respective community and said "there is an identity there. You can feel it when you go in." He said the proposed west area calendar sets aside time to honor buildings no longer being used in the same way, and the opening of new configurations.

Director Brenda Brown noted the administrators did a “great job in looking at it. It hurts when it is your building.” She recognized the time and effort put into the plan, and said it is unfortunate the district has to close another building.

Chairman Jana Cowan expressed her sadness that her first action as Chair was to close a building, and said she would like to share the positive things about the plan. “I know the west area administrators put a lot of effort into this and have answered many questions. They feel it is the best decision at this time. We go forward with hope and anticipation,” said Cowan.

Approval of Revised West Area Calendar

Motion 09/10-4

On motion of Director Brown, seconded by Director Beck the Board unanimously approved the Revised West Area Calendar as noted in the July 14, 2009 board folder. Due to the reconfiguration of west area (Newport) schools, administrators requested modifications to the west area calendar. Changes include giving teachers “transition days” to have time to organize their new classrooms, a day for opening and closing ceremonies, and students beginning school two days later than originally planned. The revised calendar will be posted on the District’s website.

Vice Chairman Beck asked if the Board had to act on the request from west area administrators regarding student transfers (variances). Superintendent Rinearson said that, with the vote in favor of the reconfiguration, the request to honor already approved transfer requests for students entering 4th and 7th grade was also approved.

Director Brown asked if the Board had to formally vote on renaming the buildings. Mr. Rinearson replied if it is needed, it will come to the Board in August.

Approval of 09/10 Organizational Resolution

Motion 09/10-5

On motion of Director Beck, seconded by Director Turner, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2009/10-1, Designation of District Officers, Clerks, Agents and Depositories of Funds. For 2009/10, the mileage reimbursement rate will decrease to 55 cents per mile (same as the IRS rate).

Director Brown asked staff to research the dollar limit related to selling surplus materials; this portion of the resolution may be reexamined at the next board meeting.

Information on Human Resources Questionnaire

Director of Human Resources Sara Johnson described results of an information gathering questionnaire she sent to LCSD administrators and other employees prior to her start date. She noted many positives shared by staff about the District, including a shared focus on student achievement and success. The returned questionnaires were remarkably aligned, said Johnson.

Addendum- Purchase of Backup Servers and Email Archive System

Motion 09/10-6

On motion of Director Beck, seconded by Director Brown, the Board unanimously approved the purchase of backup servers and an email archive system through Xiologix for \$101,775.41. This item

was included in the Technology budget and includes three servers in two locations for redundancy. The system is expandable and compatible with several email systems.

Technology staff circulated a Request for Proposal for the equipment and received three responses. Xiologix was significantly lower than the other two bidders, though will be providing the same equipment.

Though this item was added to the agenda as a discussion item, the Board approved it to allow time for the systems to be operational before school starts in the fall.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Chairman

Vice Chairman