

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Board of Directors- Regular Session
Tuesday, October 20, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.
Taft Elementary School
Lincoln City, Oregon

Minutes

PRESIDING: Jana Cowan, Chairman

Present: Jana Cowan, Chairman; Ron Beck, Vice Chairman; Jean Turner, Brenda Brown, Karen Bondley, 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 Cowan convened the meeting and called the session to order at 7:08 p.m. with a quorum of all five board members present. She introduced new board member Karen Bondley.

Introductions- Student Representative

Taft 7-12 student representative and senior class president Thomas Lovejoy updated the Board on activities at that school, including: •classes have changed to proficiency based and the school has gone to a four and a half day week; •spirit week prior to homecoming went well as did the dance; •behavior at the school is much better this year.

Communications

Board member Jean Turner noted the Board's receipt of a written communication regarding dispensing contraceptives from school based health centers.

Board Reports

Board Chair Jana Cowan reported attendance at Toledo Elementary is going great and kids are excited to receive gold and silver classroom banners for high attendance rates. Toledo Jr./Sr. High is enjoying spirit week this week and will play their homecoming game on October 23rd.

Census Activities

U.S. Census Bureau representatives Ping Khaw-Sutherland and Noelia Hernandez explained the census process and how it affects federal resources for schools. The 2010 census is important to schools as it affects funding in a number of ways. Congressional seats are apportioned based on census data as well. A letter regarding the census, then the form itself will be mailed to residents in March with a return date of April 1st. She asked for the Board's support of this effort.

Ms. Khaw-Sutherland spoke to privacy concerns, explaining that census workers must swear an oath they will not share information, and can face a fine of \$250,000 or five years in prison if they violate this law.

North Area Report

Taft Elementary Principal Dave Malcolm introduced Let There Be Arts Director Kaline Klaas, who was integral in procuring a grant from Trust Management to create murals at the school. Ms. Klaas explained the murals will be created based on student art work; all students at the school will have an opportunity to paint it. Students will also experience a classroom lesson on the mural. It is hoped the mural will be completed by winter break.

Oceanlake Principal Betsy Wilcox reported all students in grades 1-6 were assessed in reading during the first three weeks of school using three different methods. The students were then placed in appropriate groups; they will be reassessed in January and May. Teachers Jennifer Napoleon and Jim Kuoni have been instrumental in the effort.

Ms. Wilcox also reported the kitchen remodel at the school is nearly complete, and gave kudos to cafeteria and school staff members. She noted the traffic pattern for parents picking up students is being adjusted to make it smooth and safe.

Taft 7-12 Principal Scott Reed and Assistant Principals Julie Lafayette and Majalise Tolan reported the four and a half day school week and proficiency based learning expectations are going well. Students are expected to pass all the state and national academic standards for each course and to pass state tests (they must be at 70% or higher) before moving to the next grade level. To help students accomplish this, "Friday Intervention Day" has been instituted. Students needing help meeting the standards are assigned to Friday Intervention. The new schedule also assists high achieving students, including access to some courses at Oregon Coast Community College. Mr. Reed gave kudos to teachers' flexibility and willingness to do whatever it takes to help students be successful. Ms. Lafayette noted the new schedule has presented some challenges that teachers are meeting well.

Ms. Tolan described the "Gear Up" (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) grant, focusing on college readiness. The Gear Up program at Taft 7-12 is the only one in the state led by students. She also report the school's newspaper (the "45th Parallel") is entirely written by 7th grade students.

Administrators reported students' attitudes have been positive, and said several students have already completed courses they failed in the past.

Financial Report

Business Manager Julie Baldwin presented financial reports as of September 30, 2009. Activity is typical for this time of year; interest rates continue to decline slightly. Superintendent Rinearson reminded the Board that spending down cash has contributed to lower interest income (in addition to low interest rates). "If we continue to spend cash, we are building in forced cuts in the future," noted Rinearson.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Rinearson recognized Crestview Heights for their widespread participation in the Oregon Coast Aquatic and Marine Science Partnership (OCAMP) grant. At least one teacher at all nine grade levels is participating in grant activities.

The Superintendent thanked Newport resident Patricia Glau for her generous donation to the Homeless Program.

Mr. Rinearson recognized Waldport High School, who was once again awarded a bronze medal by U.S. News & World Report. This is the third time the school has been recognized by this organization in their "America's Best High Schools" report. Schools are rated based on how well they serve all of their students, not only those bound for college.

The Superintendent thanked the several organizations contributing school supplies to Toledo Jr./Sr. High, including the Good Citizens of Toledo (a local community service group), the Toledo Rotary, WalMart and the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz.

Mr. Rinearson congratulated Sam Case Primary, the first "capture the flag" attendance winner for the school year. He also noted passage of the "first six weeks of school" mark.

Approval of the Consent Calendar

Motion 09/10-17

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

- Minutes, 9/15/09 Regular Session;**
- Minutes, 9/29/09 Special Session;**
- Minutes, August 18, 2009 (correction);**
- Regular Personnel Items and Addendum.**

First Budget Committee Meeting Date (Continuous Improvement/ Budget Cycle)

Motion 09/10-18

On motion of Director Beck, seconded by Director Brown, the Board unanimously approved May 20, 2010 as the date for the first Budget Committee meeting for the 2010/11 budget. This date was listed on the Continuous Improvement/Budget Cycle plan.

The plan was developed to foster a better understanding of district processes and how departments work together to improve student achievement. Joe Novello and Julie Baldwin collaborated to merge documents from the business office and continuous improvement planning. Director Brown expressed her appreciation of the document, saying it provides clarity and information; Director Turner added it is a good checklist as well.

Resolution, American Indian Heritage Month

Motion 09/10-19

On motion of Director Brown, seconded by Director Turner, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 2009/10-5, proclaiming the month of November as "American Indian Heritage" month.

Chairman Cowan read the proclamation to the audience. The resolution will be distributed to schools to help honor Native Americans in our schools and community.

Math/Science Partnership Grant/Community Partnerships

Community Curriculum Resource Liaison Ruth McDonald and Curriculum/Instruction Administrator Sandi Williams updated the Board regarding partnership activities over the past year and those planned for the future. The list of community partners is extensive, and all activities as a result of partnerships are geared toward helping students meet standards. Ms. McDonald introduced Rachael Goetzelman, the new Aquarium School Liaison.

An update on the three-year Math/Science Partnership grant (“OCAMP;” Oregon Coast Aquatic and Marine Science partnership- approximately \$300,000 per year) was also provided. The goal of the grant is to increase content knowledge for science teachers and will focus on marine science, aquatic science and ocean literacy. Partners on this grant include Oregon State University, Hatfield Marine Science Center, Oregon Health & Sciences University, Oregon Coast Aquarium, Oregon Sea Grant, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Land Management (Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area) and Lincoln County School District. Ms. McDonald invited Board members to any teacher trainings associated with the grant they would like to attend.

Approval of Professional Services Agreement, OSU and Education Northwest

Motion 2009/10-20

On motion of Director Brown, seconded by Director Turner, the Board unanimously approved Professional Services Agreements with Oregon State University and Education Northwest as part of the OCAMP grant.

Approval of Out of Country Field Trip- NHS- Spain 2011

Motion 2009/10-21

On motion of Director Turner, seconded by Director Beck, the Board unanimously approved fundraising for a proposed Newport High field trip to Spain in June, 2011. Spanish teacher Brandeye Rawles shared information about the trip.

Approval of Out of Country Field Trip- Taft- Ireland 2010

Motion 2009/10-22

On motion of Director Brown, seconded by Director Turner, the Board unanimously approved fundraising for a Taft 7-12 trip to Ireland during Spring Break, 2010. Social Studies teacher Tyler Stiner presented background information on the proposed travel.

Policy JFCF/GBNA Hazing/Harassment...

Operations/Title Administrator Joe Novello presented a revised policy JFCF/GBNA, Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying/Menacing. Draft administrative rules have been added to the policy and were sent to the Board under separate cover. Changes in state law necessitated the revisions. The policy will return to the Board for consideration at the next meeting.

Policy GBEC, Drug Free Workplace

Mr. Novello also presented Policy GBEC, Drug Free Workplace. The revised policy aligns with that of Oregon School Boards Association and will return for the Board's consideration at the next meeting. Director Beck asked about the definition of "controlled substance" contained in the policy; Mr. Novello will explore other wording for the policy.

Budget Committee Vacancies, Zones 2 and 3

The Budget Committee for LCSD consists of the five school board members and five appointed citizens from each of the board zones. The school board appoints the other citizens to the Committee.

Vacancies exist in Zone 2 (Agate Beach, Depoe Bay, some areas to the east and north) and Zone 3 (central area, Newport). The positions are posted with an application deadline of November 6th. The Board member from the respective vacant zone (Brenda Brown or Ron Beck) will review completed applications and make recommendations to the Board regarding the appointments. The new Budget Committee representatives are scheduled to be appointed at the November 17, 2009 board meeting.

Applications are available at the schools in the respective zones, the District administration office in Newport, and on the District website, www.lincoln.k12.or.us.

2010/11 Revenue and Expenditure Projections

Business Manager Julie Baldwin presented projected revenue and expenditures for the coming fiscal year. The District is still experiencing declining enrollment, and employee costs continue to rise. Because of the still lingering slow economy, it is anticipated the state will not offer an increase in per student funding next year. The best case scenario pegs the District at \$3 million short from being able to offer the same level of service as the current year. If the January tax referendum election fails, the district could see an additional decrease in revenue of approximately \$2.8 million next year for a total shortfall of approximately \$6.2 million from the current level of service.

The district used approximately \$1 million in cash this year to balance the budget; the beginning fund balance on 7-1-08 was \$3,489,288 while it was \$2,426,900 on 7-1-09. A state revenue forecast is due in December; updated projected LCSD revenue and expenditures will be shared at that time.

Resolution, Amended Budget (Small Schools)

Ms. Baldwin presented a resolution to correctly state the function categories for the small high school grant. The resolution will return to the Board for consideration at the next meeting.

Approval of Board Goals, 09/10

Motion 2009/10-23

On motion of Director Brown, seconded by Director Beck, the Board unanimously approved goals for the Board, as amended, for the current year. Their number one goal is to acknowledge student achievement. (The amendment was under this goal; the Board added an additional way to recognize student achievement by exploring and supporting art programs for students.) They will also be working

to realign Board zones, analyze the licensed contract, and support initiatives already in place (i.e., curriculum alignment, mentor program, partnerships and school improvement plans).

Discussion on District Goals/Priorities, 2010/11

The Board examined District Priorities approved in January, 2008 and reached consensus to retain them. The eleven priorities may be found on the District website, under “School Board.”

Board Directives for Budget Planning

The Board began a conversation on directives for the budget in the coming year, given the information shared earlier on budget projections and District priorities. Director Turner noted the Board already approved Board goals and reaffirmed District priorities, and said budget priorities should be based upon these items. The Superintendent noted class size is being examined as part of the property inventory. Discussions about continuing to have schools in every community, and extra/co-curricular activities began at the meeting and will continue at the next board meeting.

Director Brown suggested Board members develop their own ideas and what questions they would like answered.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:08 p.m.

Chairman

Superintendent