

**LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Board of Directors- Regular Session**  
**Tuesday, August 24, 2010- 7:00 p.m.**  
**Yaquina View Building**  
**Newport, Oregon**

**Minutes**

**PRESIDING:** Ron Beck, Chairman

**Present:** Ron Beck, Chairman; Jean Turner, Vice Chairman; Brenda Brown, Karen Bondley, Liz Martin, Directors

**Also Present:** Tom Rinearson, Superintendent; Laurie Urquhart, Secretary; approx. 30 members of the staff, media and interested patrons

**Call to Order- Establishment of a Quorum**

Chairman Ron Beck convened the meeting and called the session to order at 7:09 p.m. with a quorum of all five board members present.

**Communications**

Waldport resident Cathy Sorensen addressed the Board regarding facilities planning in her role as a member of the south area steering committee. She suggested members from each committee visit other areas to see their ideas and proposals. Superintendent Rinearson replied she is welcome to do so, and to get the schedule from Mr. Belloni.

Patrice Clevenger of the Swindell Center thanked the Board and District for allowing the center to be housed in the Yaquina View building. The program recently relocated there and has experienced significantly more activity.

Barb Dougherty of the Commission on Children and Families thanked the Board and District for their support (they have also relocated to the Yaquina View building). She said allowing the several entities (the Commission, the Swindell Center, Early Intervention, the Homeless program) space in the same location makes Yaquina View a “one-stop shop” for families seeking help.

**Board Reports**

Director Brenda Brown reported she and Director Liz Martin attended the OSBA summer board conference and found it very useful.

Chairman Ron Beck noted the Board spent a day and a half in a retreat setting since the last regular board meeting.

Director Liz Martin noted the OSBA conference was especially timely for her as a new board member.

## **Homeless Program Update**

Homeless Coordinator Katey Townsend outlined the district's Homeless Education & Literacy Project (H.E.L.P.). The program, using Title grant funds, has been able to expand to include centers in four areas of the county (Lincoln City, Newport, Toledo and Waldport). Last year, 411 LCSD students were identified as homeless- the number is likely higher. Homelessness is on the rise in Lincoln County as a result of the economic downturn. The advocates at each center help to remove barriers for homeless students and link them with the appropriate help and caring adults. The centers are modeled after the Seashore Family Literacy Center in Waldport, initiated by Senitila McKinley.

## **Financial Reports**

Business Manager Julie Baldwin presented unaudited 09/10 year end information; the year will not be closed until after the district's auditors have completed their work.

She also presented financial reports as of July 31, 2010. Interest rates have stabilized, though are still very low. The 12-day reduction is not yet reflected in the financial reports, but will be in the future. Projections are based on four years of data.

The Superintendent noted the beginning fund balance has already been reduced by \$1 million, cash needed to maintain staff and programs.

Ms. Baldwin explained the federal "Edu-Jobs" funding, which will help the district by offsetting expected additional reductions in revenue from the state. Governor Kulongoski sent letters to all superintendents in the state saying Oregon will be facing additional declines in the months ahead, and to be prudent with the federal money.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Rinearson recognized Toledo Jr./Sr. High teacher Peter Vince and Video Production students for their production of a video for Bright Horizons Therapeutic Riding Center. This non-profit organization exists to improve the physical and emotional health of (primarily) riders with special needs.

The Superintendent also recognized the City of Lincoln City for exploring a system to allow its water customers to donate money to north county schools. The city council welcomed the concept and asked staff to return with more information.

Mr. Rinearson announced area breakfasts as follows:

**North-** Tuesday, 8/31/10, 8:30 at Taft 7-12

**West-** Wed., 9/1/10, 8:30 at NHS (MP room)

**East-** Thurs., 9/2/10, 8:30 at Toledo Jr./Sr.

**South-** Fri., 9/3/10, 8:00 a.m. at Crestview

He also reported teachers new to the district will begin their service on August 25<sup>th</sup>, with returning teachers arriving August 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **Approval of the Consent Calendar**

### **Motion 10/11-6**

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

- Minutes, 7/6/10 Regular Session;**
- Minutes, 7/30/10 Special Session;**
- Minutes, 7/30 and 31/2010 Work Session;**
- Out of Country Field Trip, NHS (London, Paris);**
- Policy IKFB, Commencement Activities/ Honors;**
- Planned Course Statement, Applied Algebra;**
- Regular Personnel Items and addendum;**
  - PSA, Paul Williams for Student Information System Services;**
  - PSA, Murray Lein, Occupational Therapy Services;**
- Board/Superintendent Working Agreements.**

### **Approval of Revised 2010/11 School Calendars**

### **Motion 10/11-7**

On motion of Director Turner, seconded by Director Bondley, the Board unanimously approved revised 2010/11 school calendars as presented 8/24/10. One of the methods LCSD will address decreased revenue from the state is by a reduction of 12 work days for employees. This reduction necessitated a change in the school calendars approved in April, 2010. The new calendars have the same 12 days reduced in all areas and reflect input received from both Associations.

Assistant Superintendent Sara Johnson explained the calendars presented at the August 24<sup>th</sup> meeting are different from those presented at the board retreat. They reflect the district's response to LCEA's request to move some of the four day weeks to the end of the school year, allowing teachers to maintain full weeks and instructional time in January and February to better prepare students for the Oregon state assessments. The Classified association requested to have the last three days of the school year cut as well as November 12, which were honored in the revised calendars. She noted some other ideas about the calendars are being discussed, but said it was important to finalize and distribute them at this point.

Unemployment insurance is not triggered by these calendars.

The calendars will be posted on the District's website and shared with all schools and the media as soon as possible.

### **Approval of Cooperative Agreement, Eddyville Charter/ Toledo Jr./Sr. Football (Added Item)**

### **Motion 10/11-8**

On motion of Director Brown, seconded by Director Turner, the Board unanimously approved a cooperative agreement between Eddyville Charter School and Toledo Jr./Sr. High for Eddyville football players to play on Toledo's football team for the 2010/11 season. Eddyville did not have enough players to field a team this year.

**Approval of Amended Interagency Agreement-  
Construction Excise Tax, City of Newport**

**Motion 10/11-9**

On motion of Director Bondley, seconded by Director Martin, the Board unanimously approved the Amended Interagency Agreement between LCSD and the City of Newport for the construction excise tax.

This agreement incorporates a law passed in 2009 by the Oregon legislature amending the construction excise tax to allow collecting agencies to keep higher fees for collecting the tax. Also, all agencies are required to collect the tax (it was optional before).

**Information on Adequate Yearly Progress**

Assistant Superintendent Sara Johnson and Data Coordinator Mary Kelly presented preliminary data for the District's Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) rating. Though the district does not "meet" overall, it is moving in the right direction with more and more students "meeting" or "exceeding" AYP targets. The percentage of students required to "meet" will go up each of the next few years to reach 100% in 2014.

Dr. Johnson explained AYP ratings are quite complex. She also noted that although Taft 7-12 did not meet, they are getting much better.

Vice Chairman Jean Turner asked for an explanation of "safe harbor." Safe harbor is a measurement of growth for a subgroup, comparing the current year scores with those of the previous year. Ten percent of students who did not meet a target the previous year must do so, plus must meet one other target criteria (graduation rate or attendance).

Superintendent Rinearson stated the district has four years of data and is seeing improvement. He also expressed concern regarding one of the district's charter schools, as they must meet the same gains as are required of the district and are not at that point currently.

"It will be interesting to see how the 100% plays out," said Rinearson. "This act helps us break things down into small groups, which is really positive."

Director Brown expressed concern about ratings for math. Dr. Johnson stated staff is looking at systemic ways to address it and bring achievement up.

**Discussion on Policy JFC, Student Code of Conduct**

During the board retreat held over the summer, a suggestion was made to revise the Student Code of Conduct policy to reflect options available to deal with students not complying with the district's rules. The policy now states that "discipline may include required interventions other than suspension, expulsion, etc." to give wider latitude to principals. The policy will return for the Board's consideration at the next meeting.

## **Proposed Facilities Improvements- Process**

Conversations about possible facilities improvements have been ongoing in all areas of the district for several months. Director of Support Services Rich Belloni posted draft architectural drawings of suggested improvements, and said a facilities study of each building is in process (to determine needs such as heating systems, electrical, plumbing, bells, structural, roofs, etc.). He noted a facilities study for every building should be ready for the October 5<sup>th</sup> work session.

Area presentations of ideas for facilities improvements will take place at the September 21<sup>st</sup> board meeting at Toledo Jr./Sr. High. Architects may also be presenting at the September and October board meetings. Most schools' plans are fairly firm.

Mr. Belloni stated one idea is for the school board to act as the Local Public Contracting Board. This would allow the use of local contractors and our own "Lincoln County stimulus package." Attorney Pete Gitner has been working with the Port of Newport, NOAA and OCCC on similar plans; he may attend the work session after meeting with the Superintendent and Director of Support Services.

The Board will meet in a work session October 5<sup>th</sup> in Newport to continue the facilities improvements conversation. Superintendent Rinearson stated a decision on whether or not to proceed with a bond measure should be made by late October or November at the latest.

Chairman Beck said Board members may want to consider an early start time at the next meeting to allow time for area facilities presentations. He asked them to send suggestions concerning this to Secretary Laurie Urquhart.

## **Discussion on 2010/11 Board Goals**

The Board began developing its goals for this year during a summer board retreat. Draft goals include:

- 1) Acknowledge student achievement;
- 2) Analyze the licensed contract;
- 3) Continue support of initiatives already in place;
- 4) Develop a new evaluation instrument for the Superintendent's evaluation in the 2011/12 year;
- 5) Explore the pursuit of a general obligation bond for facilities improvements.

The goals will return to the Board for consideration at the next meeting.

## **Discussion on District Priorities**

In January, 2008 the Board approved a list of priorities for the District designed to guide it for several years. During their recent board retreat, they reexamined the priorities to reflect current circumstances and future plans. The eight priorities are:

- Continue the alignment, both vertically and horizontally, of District curriculum, instruction and assessments;
- Continue to implement innovative uses of technology that lead to improved student learning;
- Recruit and retain highly talented employees;

- Improve facilities by: ensuring facilities will encompass the reduction of class size in grades K-3 to a ratio of 18-22:1; moving Waldport High out of the tsunami zone; and phasing out the use of portables;
- Continue building partnerships with local business, science and arts communities;
- Engage and expand communication with our communities;
- Negotiate employee contracts to focus on student achievement;
- Maximize all funding opportunities aligned with District Priorities.

The priorities will return for the Board’s consideration at the September 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

**Board Self Evaluation**

The Board discussed evaluating its own performance during a recent board retreat. In prior years, they have used the “Board/Superintendent Working Agreements” as the tool with which they accomplished this task. The last time they did so, they used an online survey of the agreements. Chairman Beck asked board members to consider doing so again.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

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Chairman

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Superintendent